

Public Notice Submission

Provider Name: Washington County Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Summary: The census tracts listed in this Service Provider Response are currently served by Washington County Rural Telephone Cooperative (Washington County) in accordance with the broadband definition in the NOFA. Washington County responds by providing documentation to prove that these proposed overlapping areas currently served by Washington County are in fact adequately served with fiber optic facilities. Washington County is part of the Indiana Fiber Network (IFN) which has diversely routed fiber optic cable throughout the state of Indiana. IFN has deployed a number of transport network rings, each with a capacity of 2.5 Gbps or 10 Gbps. The IFN network provides high reliability and resiliency from a potential fiber optic cable cut. This existing fiber optic cable infrastructure and transport network electronics provide adequate transport facilities to serve the needs of Washington County service territory as well as the other locations within Indiana. All households located in the designated overlapping census tract areas that are served by Washington County have access to adequate and affordable middle mile transport facilities as well as last mile broadband service . The proposed service areas contained in the BTOP applications that are currently served by Washington County should not be eligible for funding.