**REF -** CC Docket No. 02-6

The following are excerpts from USAC forms, Inquiries and Responses. If you require the complete version of any of these please contact me at rbay@mc-wildcats.org

This is from the original 470 (170052913) Filed 12/6/2016– Note the Service Request is for Lit Fiber Service. This is from the available options in a drop down box as of time of filing.

**Category One Service Requests**

Lit Fiber Service 10 Gbps 10 Gbps 1 1 Circuits Yes Yes 21575

**Description of Other Functions**

**Id Name**

**Narrative**

10 GB Fiber is connection between High School and Middle School separate buildings same campus

**Based on the Service Options in the 470, as of 12/6/2016, Lit Fiber Service was selected as a generic description covering all Lit Fiber Options including Self Provisioned Broad Band Service, Leased Lit Fiber or Maintenance / Upgrade of Self Provisioned Network**.

If the drop down Service option had been Leased Lit Fiber Service, as it is currently on 470 forms, it would have been clear that a different service option was necessary.

**Based on this submission we did receive bids for Self-Provisioned Broadband Service / Maintenance – Upgrade of Self Provisioned Network and Leased Lit Fiber. This would indicate that interested vendors interpreted the “Lit Fiber Service” the same way we did.**

Following review of bids and selection of a vendor Form 471 #171007226 was filed on 3/30/2017

The first Inquiry we received (10/25/17) follows-

**Eligibility of Maintenance and Operations**

Issue

Issue USAC’s Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) team is currently reviewing your FCC Form 471 application, and we have identified an issue that we need you to help us resolve. What is the issue? On your form, you requested funding for Maintenance and Operations of dark fiber or self-provisioned network on FRN 1799020699. Maintenance and Operations may be eligible for funding under Category One if it is used for leased dark fiber or self-provisioned broadband service. (For reference, please read USAC’s information on eligible services at https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs\_public/attachmatch/DA-16-1023A1.pdf). Before we can proceed with processing your form, we must determine if this Maintenance and Operations request is for pre-existing leased dark fiber or self-provisioned broadband service in order approve your request.

**Response**

The original fiber line was installed prior to year 2000 an Invoice for repair of this original line is attached.

We verified that there was a fiber service in place prior to this application and our current project is an upgrade

**On 11/10/2017 we received the following Inquiry**

**Other Issues**

Issue

Please advise us on who will own the $2,996.64 worth of fiber being installed?

**Response**

We verified that MCR2 will own this fiber, etc.

**On 11/13/2017 we received the following Inquiry**

**Other Issues**

Issue

It was determined that FRN 1799020699 is for Self Provisioned Dark Fiber (with Special Construction) service type. On your FCC Form 471, you listed the products and services in this FRN in the Fiber Ethernet service type. As a result, FRN 1799020699 will be cancelled and new FRN 1799113412 will be created in order to change the service type to Self Provisioned Dark Fiber (with Special Construction) to accurately reflect the products and services indicated in the FRN Product and Service details or other supporting documentation. If you disagree with our determination and you have alternative information to support your position, please provide the supporting documentation. If you would like to provide any additional explanation to support your position, type your explanation and attach the explanation and/or documentation into your response by using the Add Document button. If you agree with the proposed action, click the “Submit” button to clear this item from your Pending Inquiries.

I did not object to the cancellation of the original FRN and adding the new one as it appeared to me this would still define our installation.

**While we did not see this modification as significant it seems unreasonable that the USAC reviewer made this change and denied the revised application the next day, as indicated in the following inquiry.**

**On 11/14/2017 we received the following Inquiry**

**FCC Form 470 Posting Issues**

Issue

It was determined that FRN(s) 1799113412 will be denied because: It was determined that FRN 1799113412 will be denied because: Applicants who pursue bids for a Self-provisioned network must also solicit bids for comparable fully managed third party technology neutral network solutions. The FRN is denied because the applicant did not seek bids for fully managed third party technology neutral network solutions in the FCC Form 470 that established the competitive bidding process for this FRN.

**470 Posting Issues Response**

As presented in response to your first item – The item selected in the drop down box on the 470 was “Lit Fiber Service” not “Self-Provisioned Network”. The RFQ was written to solicit bids in a generic manner to obtain the best technical and economic solution.

The RFQ resulted in us receiving two bids (there was a third vendor at the site walk-through but they decided to “No Bid” the project due to potential problems with the existing conduit)–

* One from Provision Data Systems. This bid provides a Self-Provisioned solution at a total one-time cost of $7,486.64.
* The second bid is from AT&T. This bid provides for a Leased Lit Fiber Solution for a monthly recurring cost of $3,570.00
* The fact that our RFQ resulted in two bids, offering different technical solutions, would indicate the RFQ did meet our goal and did result is a viable competitive bid situation.

**On 11/14/2017 we received the following Inquiry**

**Competitive Bidding**

*Issue*

It was determined that FRN(s) 1799113412 will be denied because the products and services that are requested on this FRN are Self-Provisioned Fiber Network. This is substantially different than the products and services posted on your FCC Form 470. On your FCC Form 470, you posted for Leased Lit Fiber. The FRN is denied because the services (or products) requested on this FRN were not posted on your FCC Form 470. Program rules require applicants to seek bids for similar and comparable services to evaluate the cost effectiveness of all solutions offered. (For reference, please read USAC’s information at http://usac.org/sl/applicants/step01/requirements-for-fiber.aspx).

**Competitive Bidding Response**

Our intent in filing the 470 was to solicit bids providing the best technical, and most economical, 10 GB link between two buildings. The drop down option of Lit Fiber Services was selected as it appeared to provide the most generic option allowing for Self-Provisioned Fiber or Leased Lit Fiber. Our specific requirements are clarified in the following excerpt of the related RFQ –

**In our 470, utilizing the generic Service of “Lit Fiber Services” we did solicit, receive and consider bids from all available technologies**.