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Interlakes Wireless LLC

Madison, SD 57042

Joel Brick, Owner

I’ve been a WISP for three years, a single person business, now with over 700 subscribers. I use mostly 5Ghz spectrum and also have approximately 75 customers using 3.65Ghz under my nationwide 3.65 license. I use all 20Mhz channel blocks as that’s what’s necessary to deliver 40-50Mb wireless Internet to my lake area and rural customers. As I build my wireless network, I’ve invested entirely my own money building my system. I’d like the FCC to realize that I’ve made a substantial personal and monetary investment to provide rural broadband in my community. I’d also like the FCC to understand that additional spectrum will be required to keep up with the customer demands, as I’m already using multiple sectors looking in the same direction and each using 20Mhz of bandwidth on each sector to balance the traffic loads. I’m quickly running out of 5Ghz spectrum, so I’ve also begun using my 3.65Ghz license, but there’s only capacity within that license to accommodate two 20Mhz channels, so access to additional 3700-4200 spectrum would be extremely beneficial to my company and my rural customers. As a single person business owner it is not possible for me to compete with the big companies for spectrum in an auction, nor do I consider it fair for only the big telephone companies to be eligible for grant money to build rural broadband, but unfortunately that’s the way it’s administered. To conclude, small operators like myself are making things happen, but unfortunately are not highly visible or even noticed by the FCC. Fair access to the 3700-4200 band could really make a difference here with my company in rural South Dakota….Hopefully the FCC will take a look at what small Operators like myself are actually doing and providing, and help them gain access to additional broadband spectrum.