

December 27, 2017

CBRS Comments / Concerns

1. Operate a WISP in rural NW Iowa – in operation 2 full years. Added WISP services due to woeful lack of quality Internet to rural farm families / business what had little or no choice.
2. Serving 130+ customers today – 10 mile radius - but gaining new customers quickly as the word spreads we are providing a quality Internet experience.
3. Historically, many of these rural families had speeds of 1 or 2 meg. Today, we offer them 4, 10 and 20 meg service.
4. Good news? They are FINALLY able to watch Netflix, Hulu, Playstation Vue, SlingTV, etc.
5. Better yet? School kids bringing home their laptops from school to do their homework assignments. ***As one (rural farm family) mother confessed to me: “I was forced to pay north of $200.00 a month using my cell phone data plan so my daughter could do her homework assignment.” Today, we pay $79.99 p/mo. For your 10 meg service and we are very happy with your service and savings.”***
6. **My FRUSTRATION TODAY?** We are sharing the 3.65 with another WISP who is operating older, slower service. They operate on the lower side, we’re on the upper side. That leave me 25 mhz. We’re forced to keep our AP’s at 10 Mhz. WE DO NOT HAVE THE ROOM TO EXPAND IT TO OFFER FASTER SERVICE. Why should our rural families be kicked to the side while the metro areas have a multitude of choices, speeds, etc.? I missing something?
7. **IF WE HAVE ACCESS TO AN EXTRA 100 MEGAHERTS OF MID-BAND SPECTRUM**…..it will remove restraints of limited 10Mhz channels we transmit on. On our 5Mhz equipment, those are opened up to 20Mhz channels and able to provide faster, quality speeds. (Cambium ePMP).
8. Our main tower site (Cambium PMP450) 3.65 – we are boxed in, **no room to expand** and reach out with faster speed choices. **If we have access to an additional 100 Mhz spectrum** – it removes our major frustration. These rural farm family/businesses deserve every consideration metro city customers are currently entitled to. Not tossed under the bus. We are willing to make that investment in private capital to help these people. FCC is the glass ceiling at the moment preventing this from taking place. Please, Please help us to help others.
9. The IoT is only going to continue expanding. New refrigerators, washer/dryers, home lighting controls, ‘gamers’, school homework connectivity, exponentially – its growing by leaps and bounds.
10. We are located in zip code 50536, Emmetsburg, IA. very, **VER**Y rural America. We have 2 stop lights in the entire town. Don’t think the big players, shareholders, stake holders have any plans to invest out here, they are driven by R.O.I. F**or those of us who live and work out here in rural America – we are trying hard to level the playing field by offering faster Internet speeds.** We have many who are working from home and connected back to corporate offices. **One works for John Deere Financial in West Des Moines, IA. She got the approval to move with her husband and family back to the farm – providing she was able to get at least a 20 meg connection. My company made that dream come true.**
11. **Summary:** I oppose the proposals to increase the size of PAL’s or lengthen the term of licenses. Please – allow us to continue to keep up with the demands coming for our rural farm families. They have been left behind, until 2 years ago, when I took a risk, a chance, to reach out and help these hardworking, honest rural farm families and business owners. Many conduct business via the Internet, machine live auctions, ordering supplies, feed, fertilizer, seed, fuel, etc.

***I sincerely thank you for reading my comments & concerns.***

***The FCC is holding the key to opening up the Internet to rural America and shift things into high gear.***

***Sincerely,***

***Mike Scott***

***STT Rural Net***

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