

This document will most likely fall on deaf ears

Two things I have noticed on those who take in the CAF funding and also make promises on any expansion:

1. Most time if not every time they only meet the bare minimum to cover the promises they make for acquisitions and or take funding for any capital improvement and use it for something that is either very low oversight or does nothing to help the customers who most likely have degraded copper wiring.
 - a. Case in point the SBC/ATT merger: their promises were never kept to provide broadband access to 100% of their customers. This never happened.
 - b. ATT/Bellsouth merger: Same promises made and nothing happened.
 - c. The process continues and no regulators have any objection to the tactic of “bait and switch” with claims of having “fiber” but is just another dsl delivery over copper that has a very limited reach leaving most of their “covered areas” ignored by the management.
2. Their solution for areas that don't have a large population density is either satellite or cellular.
 - a. This is another form of fraud being perpetrated by the majority telcos
 - i. Sandvine Mean Data usage for fixed home: 52GB/MO as of 1st Half 2014
 - ii. This does not include those who would be considered “cord cutters” which would result in 210-230GB/MO.
 - iii. Data plans from these companies do not meet the minimum for “broadband” nor do they accommodate the usage.
 1. Cellular is \$335-375 for 50GB/MO plus taxes and then \$10-15 per GB depending on carrier. For those who are cord cutters the cost will be \$710+1650 for a total of \$2,360 for Verizon or \$375+2400 for a total of \$2,775 for ATT to include overages at 210 GB/MO.
 2. Satellite blocks access or throttles speed after you reach this microscopic “cap” which is something around 5-20GB which would be a violation of the recent decision for so called “net neutrality”
 3. The most interesting thing about is that the most **basic** wired connection gets an allotment of 150GB/MO for ATT.

My questions to the FCC/FTC would be these:

1. Has there been an audit on all of the federal funding on these promises (CAF and otherwise) that the telco/cable companies made?
2. Have you considered revising the Telecommunications Act of 1996 since these companies have absolutely no interest in offering any of the promised products they claimed would be in place by now?

These questions and what most likely will be ignored and will most likely be avoided to shovel through another terrible deal bought and paid by lobbyists of the said companies which makes nearly zero sense to the consumer who is stuck in a widening “digital divide” with those in urban and suburban areas getting broadband while the smaller cities and rural areas are ignored and left without any access. The companies that receive the funding do not have to report back on where they made these phantom improvements while claiming satellite or cellular technologies are “fine for anyone” but should be considered “fraudband” and not considered in the internet connection lists.