

The idea of defining broadband is a tricky business. I would like to weigh in as a consumer against Big Cable. I have never, even with one machine running the internet at extreme off-peak hours been able to have the advertised connection speed. I have done this now with two service providers, Comcast and Optimum Online, and will soon test with Verizon. It would be completely misleading to the general public for broadband to be defined in advertised terms. I believe that a position of the Free Press in establishing "acceptable terms" would be the best approach. Furthermore basic dial up connects provide the ability to do basic web searching, use instant message applications, and write email. Broadband service should provide applications at a much higher demand level than this, namely console video games, large file transfers, etc. If broadband is not defined as such a case cannot be made against it being on a "higher" level than dial-up services. Finally, the FCC's old definition of basic broadband would not cover the lowest advertised level of broadband from most service providers. These advertised levels are rarely if ever attainable at any time, a new definition of basic broadband should reflect actual speeds within a range over 1.5mps.