

VIA ECFS

March 6, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554
Attn: Wireline Competition Bureau

**Re: WC Docket No. 10-90
Rural Broadband Experiment Expression of Interest – Rate-of-Return Areas
Bixby Telephone Company**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Bixby Telephone Company hereby expresses interest in participating in the Commission's rural broadband experiments to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband to unserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America funding.¹ Bixby Telephone Company is a rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carrier serving rural areas of Oklahoma, and proposes deployment as follows.

Proposed Service Area

Bixby Telephone proposes to build out broadband to approximately 1,809 premise locations within the regulated service territory.

Proposed Broadband Service

Voice and Broadband services with broadband transmission speeds of 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream provided over fiber facilities.

Funding

Bixby Telephone Company estimates construction costs to be a total of approximately \$764K. Bixby Telephone Company requests \$764K in funding from the Connect America Fund in a one-time funding and will fund the remaining capital and ongoing expenses to operate the system prospectively.

Bixby Telephone Company expects service to be upgraded at all premises within 90 days after construction commences. This estimate is based on provisioning to the first customer from the point construction begins and then bringing additional premise locations online from that point forward.

¹ See *Technology Transitions et al.*, GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014).

Bixby Telephone Company appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Rozell', is written over a horizontal line.

Robert R. Rozell, President/CEO