



Via Electronic Filing

March 7, 2014

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 206554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

RE: WC Docket 10-90, Expression of Interest

Troy Cablevision, Inc. (Troy Cable) believes broadband is an integral part of any community's infrastructure. In the 21st Century, a high speed internet connection is as important as electricity, telephone, and water, as it relates to attracting new businesses to an area. Broadband will spur development in rural America with a similar impact the railroad had in the 19th Century by linking rural communities to the rest of the digitally connected world. Troy Cable's leadership understands broadband via packet switched technology based on Internet Protocol (IP) is the future of the telecommunications industry.

Founded in 1985 by William Harold Freeman, Sr., Troy Cable began by delivering analog video to Troy, Alabama and the surrounding area. Troy Cable remains family owned and operated and is currently training the 4th generation in the family business.

In 1993, Troy Cable hit an important milestone. After much examination, Mr. Freeman decided video transport could be handled by a relatively new product in the cable industry called fiber. He began a build out using fiber optic transport to Luverne, Alabama (24 miles from Troy), which allowed the Company to maintain one video headend and to save on costs required to build and maintain two separate headends.

Before Mr. Freeman passed in 1998, he laid the foundation for Troy Cable to become an Internet Service Provider. The passing of Mr. Freeman began the next big milestone as the torch passed to the current leadership of William H. (Dick) Freeman, Jr. Around this time, Troy Cable's next generation began a build out of fiber optic transport to the node, creating a fiber coaxial system to connect many rural communities in southeast Alabama. The Company also began to deploy cable modems and direct fiber connections to schools and businesses.

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By 2005, Troy Cable had become a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) approved by the Alabama Public Service Commission. The Company owns and maintains a Class 5 MetaSwitch in Troy, which delivers Voice-over-Internet-Protocol (VoIP) services.

In 2006, Troy Cable received funding from CoBank and constructed its first Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) build in Elba, Alabama using RfOG (Radio Frequency over Glass) technology.

In August, 2010, Troy Cable was awarded a federal grant, as part of the Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP), to build a 595 mile fiber optic network. The network provides high speed Internet and associated fiber routes between four southeast Alabama counties - Pike, Crenshaw, Coffee, and Dale, and key internet points of presence or "on-ramps" to the global Internet in Montgomery and Dothan, Alabama. The Southeast Alabama SmartBand Project (SmartBand) is the foundation of this award. SmartBand is a public-private broadband project leveraging technology and community support to raise the standard of living in low economic, underserved southeast Alabama. SmartBand's four county network covers 136,106 people, 53,809 households, 3,681 businesses and 673 critical community institutions and public safety entities. Community-serving organizations in these areas typically lack Internet access at the speeds necessary to provide key services like Next Generation 911, distance learning, and telemedicine. The SmartBand network has upgraded Troy Cable's Middle Mile ring to 10 Gbps (gigabits per second) connecting our master headend to nine remote hubs. New equipment at each site will allow for future-proof scalability of up to 400 Gbps by adding electronics. The network offers broadband transport, redundancy, diverse routing and business continuity for strategic community applications and wholesale services for Last Mile Providers.

All customers connected to the network will have a capacity of up to 1 Gbps, with the opportunity for upgrade to 10 Gbps by adding additional equipment. The overall infrastructure costs of the SmartBand network is \$32,612,412. Troy Cable is making cash contributions equal to 20% of the total project cost. This significant investment in our communities will stimulate economic growth, job creation and promote economic recovery. In order to leverage the SmartBand Project most efficiently, we need your assistance in the build out of last-mile connections to the residents in the area.

In addition to the awarded BTOP Project, Troy Cable is a recipient of the *Broadband Adoption Lifeline Pilot Program, WC Docket No. 11-42*. As part of this Program, Troy Cable agreed to provide a minimum Broadband speed of 4/1. In February 2013, Troy Cable moved all existing customers who were not receiving this minimum threshold to the 4/1 speed at no additional charge to the customer. Troy Cable's lowest available internet service speed tier is 4/1.

Through funding from the FCC's Next Generation Network Experiments Program, Troy Cable is proposing to construct approximately 600 miles of fiber providing high speed internet connection in the following unserved census tracts via a FTTH solution. Troy Cable would like to express its interest in the following census tracts:

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 01031010700, 01031010800, 01041963400, 01041963500, 01041963600, 01041963700,
 01041963800, 01041963900, 01045020000, 01045020100, 01045020200, 01045020300,
 01045020802, 01045021200, 01045021300, 01045021400, 01069040100, 01109188600,
 01109188700, 01109188800, 01109188900, 01109189100, 01109189200, 01109189300

The fiber deployment would use underground deployment subject to an environmental assessment, with aerial deployment attaching to existing electric infrastructure, if required to avoid wetlands or protected areas. The optical splits would be made in the field using a tap system rather than at the central office (CO) to reduce fiber costs. Troy Cable proposes using a Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON) architecture with the only active electronics being Optical Line Terminals (OLTs) deployed at the CO or in cabinets and Optical Network Terminals (ONTs) attached to the customer premise. The maximum capacity of the GPON design is 2,500 Megabits per 25 to 32 homes, based on density of homes per mile and the optical link budget. Potential bandwidth per home is up to 1 Gbps. This architecture delivery is completely packet based using Internet Protocol (IP). Troy Cable currently owns and operates the back office equipment to deliver internet, voice and video along with the needed billing and provisioning platforms.

Should Troy Cable secure funding from the FCC's Next Generation Network Experiments Program, intentions will be to have construction completed in 24 months, not to include 30 days allowance for permitting and environmental assessment if required. Troy Cable will begin construction shortly after obtaining materials. The majority of the design and planning is complete, and once awarded, only materials procurement will be needed. Troy Cable operates an internal construction crew with two bore rigs, three plows, a hydraulic fiber trailer, fiber blowing machine, three splice trailers, various bucket trucks with reel trailers, installation vans, and multiple ribbon and single fusion splicers, which renders a literal shovel-ready operation. Should additional contractors be warranted, Troy Cable will hire as needed. Below are the primary milestones and estimated completion dates of each milestone. More detailed schedules will be provided upon submission of a formal proposal.

Milestone	Estimated Completion Date
Materials Procurement	Completed during environmental assessment. If no environmental assessment necessary, then 60-90 days.
OSP Construction Two (2) miles per week per crew	Based on final mileage.
Line activation and testing	Two (2) weeks after each route construction.
Customer premise install	After line activation and based on pre-sales. (Sales process shall not be supported with Federal funds.) The sales process to begin during the OSP construction phase.

Troy Cable is committed to offering advanced broadband, voice, and video services at affordable rates with superior reliability. This commitment will continue to all customers within the proposed project service area. Rates below detail recurring pricing of broadband and voice services offered to current subscribers and to those throughout the proposed region.

Service	Rate (plus applicable taxes)
GPON Internet - Residential 15/5	\$ 48.95
GPON Internet - Residential 20/5	\$ 61.95
GPON Internet - Residential 25/10	\$ 79.95
GPON Internet - Residential 40/20	\$ 99.95
GPON Internet - Residential 80/40	\$ 199.95
GPON Internet -Business 10/2	\$ 78.95
GPON Internet - Business 20/2	\$ 134.95
GPON Internet - Business 20/5	\$ 199.95
GPON Internet - Business 25/5	\$ 250.00
GPON Internet - Business 35/5	\$ 299.95
GPON Internet - Business 50/5	\$ 499.95
Voice - Residential - Unlimited	\$ 39.95
Voice - Business 120	\$ 49.95
Voice - Business 1000	\$ 64.95
Video - Residential & Business - Delivered via Troy Cable's IPTV headend.	Due to annual increases in programming costs, video services will be offered at the then current rates.

Troy Cable's Federal Registration Number (FRN) is 005017298. Troy Cable is currently designated to receive support from the High Cost and Low Income programs in the State of Alabama.

Troy Cable requests one-time funding to be used for capital outlay during this proposed FTTH build out. The following construction model is based on 8 to 10 homes per mile. Troy Cable will secure 20% non-federal match from CoBank. Detailed bills of material

have been created by mile and will be supplied upon formal proposal submission. Detailed mapping of proposed fiber routes will also be supplied during final submission.

Gigabit Fiber to the Home Budget

Outside Plant Construction and Engineering	\$25,112.00
Optical Electronics	7,238.87
Management, Compliance and Environmental	<u>1,617.54</u>
Cost Per Mile	\$33,968.41
Project miles	<u>600</u>
Total Project Budget	<u><u>\$20,381,046.00</u></u>

Troy Cable appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest. Should you have questions after review, please contact me via electronic mail at jake.cowen@troycable.com or by phone at (334) 770-3328.

Sincerely,
TROY CABLEVISION, INC.



Jake Cowen, CPA
Chief Financial Officer