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From: <no-reply@iowa.gov>

Date: Thu, Apr 11, 2019 at 10:02 AM

Subject: Public Comment Received on 302089

To: <bryan.dreiling@iowa.gov>

Cc: <bgannon@westelsystems.com>

A new public comment has been received on **302089**. The comment and contact information are listed below.

Comment

West Iowa Telephone Company, dba WesTel Systems, has been building Fiber to the Premise (FTTP) to customers in our exchanges beginning in 2010. We constructed FTTP using Active Ethernet to all urban customers allowing them to receive symmetrical Internet speeds up to 1 Gigabit per second. The rural customers are being constructed using a combination of Active Ethernet and GPON service. With GPON technology it is possible for our customers to receive 100Mbps symmetrical Internet service. Attached are maps that show in orange the rural customers we currently serve with FTTP. You will notice some overlap with the Evertek application. FTTP construction to the remaining rural customers in Remsen and Marcus is underway and we will complete the construction of FTTP to all rural Marcus and Remsen customers in 2019. In 2020 we will complete FTTP construction to all rural Sutherland, Calumet and Quimby customers. When complete, we will have at least 100Mbps to all of our customers. These FTTP builds have been 100% financed with internal funds. We believe it is not in the best interest to use grant funds where WesTel Systems has already build FTTP. In areas that WesTel already has plans to build FTTP offering 100Mbps service, using internal funds, we would request discretion in granting these awards.

Contact Information

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