I saw a request for input to the issue of rural high speed internet access in our local electric coop news letter. it hope the following is helpful to your deliberations.

relevant location information:

mail address:

Eminence, Missouri, 65466

Physical location:

Round Spring, Missouri within 2 miles of the Ozark Scenic Riverways National Park, Round Spring ranger station and within 3 miles of the currently under development Missouri state park at the former Camp Zoe (on the attached start is the residence, ! is the national park)

we have a 325 acre farm with no land lane, we do have electric with poles coming directly across our property and to our residence. Even though the poles are in place CenturyTel wants \$22,000 to run a 1 mile typical phone line extension from the closest end point of their service to our residence.

we have NO cell coverage as we are too far from the nearest towers in Summersville and Eminence

In addition to farming, I do consulting for the oil and gas business in geophysics developing computationally intense algorithms for data analysis. I recently moved here from rural Texas where cell coverage and high speed internet are far more available. My clients are located in Texas, Europe and South America.

Current solution:
Satellite internet is the only option and this has severe cost and physical limitations in terms of speed and data volume compared to fiber or other land line options. One particular problem is the inherent latency of all uplink communications to the satellite which makes voip almost impossible.

fiber is located within 2 miles and serves the national park ranger station and we are 1 mile from the nearest conventional telephone line but there is no solution available to us.

for rural business to succeed there must be access to high speed internet that is cost effective and does not have the limitations of satellite uplinks.

we look forward to any recommendations you may make for improvements to the rural access problem. I am sure my case is not unique.

paul stoffa

professor emeritus, UT Austin

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