

January 27, 2015

Jeff R. Derouen, Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Case No. 2015-00032

RE: Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity / Stoney Point

Dear Director Derouen:

Attached for your review is an application submitted on behalf of North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc. for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct fiber-to-thehome in Allen County.

Enclosed are one (1) original application and ten (10) copies. Also enclosed are one copy of the maps, plans, specs, and drawings of the proposed construction in a pdf format on compact disk, and two (2) copies on paper.

Please call or email me with any questions.

Sincerely,

tenblodemer

Eileen M Bodamer Consultant to North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Cc (email): Jim Steven, KY PSC Johnny McClanahan, NCTC

415 Hepplewhite Dr. Johns Creek, GA 30022 770-649-1886 / fax 770-645-654 wal COMMISSIC

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JAN 28 2015

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF NORTH CENTRAL)TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION, INC.)FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC)CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR THE)CONSTRUCTION OF FIBER-TO-THE-PREMISE IN)ALLEN COUNTY, KENTUCKY)

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FIBER-TO-THE-PREMISE IN ALLEN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Pursuant to KRS 278.020 and 807 KAR 5:001, North Central Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. ("NCTC") hereby submits this application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("CPCN") for the construction of Fiber-to-the-Premise ("FTTP") in the southern portion of its operating territory in Allen County, Kentucky.

1. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 14(1), contact information for NCTC is as follows:

North Central Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. 872 Highway 52 By-Pass East / P.O. Box 70 Lafayette, TN 37083-0070 Attn: Johnny McClanahan Tel: 615-666-2151 Email: johnny.mcclanahan@nctc.com

- 2. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 14(2) NCTC is a Tennessee Corporation chartered as a nonprofit cooperative association and in good standing. The company is registered as a foreign corporation with the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Registration and incorporation documents were provided in Case 2015-00011.
- 3. Pursuant to requirements of 807 KAR 5:001 Section 15(2)(a) the following information is provided to show that the proposed construction is required by public convenience and necessity:

NCTC proposes to place approximately 70 miles of new Fiber-to-the-Premise facilities in the Stoney Point Remote Serving Area ("RSA"). Approximately 40 miles is currently intended to be buried with the remaining facilities to be aerial or end user premise drops. These new facilities will provide fiber-optic service and broadband speeds of up to one Gbps to over 300 subscribers in the southern portion of Allen County. Once fully

deployed and converted, the new plant will replace existing copper facilities that currently serve the area and are at or beyond their useful life.

The majority of NCTC members in the targeted areas are unable to enjoy minimal broadband speeds as defined by the FCC as 4M up and 1M down ("4/1"). Those few able to achieve the 4/1 standard only do so because they are physically located in areas with short loop lengths and typically because NCTC has modified the network to support these speeds. Approximately 43% of area households have no access to broadband services. Remaining households have access to low broadband speeds that are limited based on the subscriber loop length.

- 4. In response to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 15(2)(b) NCTC states that does not require franchise approval from any public authority to deploy the facilities described herein. Any highway or railway permits will be obtained prior to start of construction. The majority of this construction will be on private right-of-way way however NCTC will also apply for KDOT permits should some private ROW be unavailable.
- 5. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 15(2)(c) NCTC provides the following information regarding the proposed construction:

The proposed location for this construction is the community of 351 households in the southern portion of Allen County in the company's Scottsville Rural exchange. This area is served exclusively by copper plant extending from three (3) existing fiber fed Remote Terminals (RTs). These RTs will be replaced by the new Stoney Plant remote Central Office. A map of the proposed construction is provided in Attachment A.

This construction is part of a Kentucky Regional Fiber Project and will enable NCTC to provide enhanced broadband services to a total of 351 household locations. When complete, subscribers in the affected areas will be able to achieve speeds of up to 1G in both directions with the majority expected to initially request speeds between 6 and 12 Mbps.

NCTC will deploy 69.95 miles of FTTH plant. The distribution plant will extend from a new remote Central Office which will be located at the intersection of Highway 100 with Highway 482, which is located in south Allen County.

Distribution facilities will be available to all households within the RSA boundary as shown in Attachment A.

End user premise equipment will be the Calix 716 GE line card. The equipment will allow for eight hours of battery back-up in the event of a power outage.

NCTC hopes to begin construction as early as July of 2015 and to be completed in approximately seven months. Customers will be migrated to the new FTTH facilities initially on an on-demand basis and then as warranted due to cost, maintenance, and other business considerations.

NCTC has no competition for fixed broadband services in the proposed construction area.

- Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 15(2)(d) two copies of the required maps, plan, specs and drawings are being included with this application as well as one copy in pdf format on compact disk.
- 7. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 15(e) the project will be financed as follows:

This project is funded by RUS financing and subject to their specifications for OSP and customer premise cable. The initial cost of the FTTH plant is \$1.4M. End user electronic equipment for each premise converted will be approximately \$400, inclusive of labor. Funding for customer premise equipment will be from a combination of RUS loans, general funds, and, *if applicable*, end user installation fees.

NCTC plans to finance the proposed construction, engineering, and electronics using the traditional RUS loan (Tennessee V-545), which was approved on September 11, 2011.

 In response to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 15(f) NCTC has not estimated an ongoing cost of maintenance of the fiber upon completion. Upon information and belief, the company anticipates that its ongoing maintenance and provisioning costs will be no more than and likely less, than its costs for its current network.

Based on the foregoing, and in accordance with KRS 278.020, North Central Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. respectfully requests that the Commission issue a CPCN for construction of fiber-to-the-premise in Allen County, Kentucky.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophy Mulerkow

Bobby Richardson, Attorney Richardson, Gardner & Alexander 117 E. Washington St. Glasgow, KY 42141 270-651-8884; 270-651-3662 (fax) <u>BHR@rgba-law.com</u>

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North Central Telephone Cooperative Stoney Point CPCN

Attachment A



Thursday, Oct 18, 2014 69 03 AM

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North Central Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Plan and Specs

The proposed location for this construction is the community consisting of 253 subscribers and 351 households in the southern portion of Allen County in the company's Scottsville Rural exchange. A construction serving area boundary is attached. This area is currently served exclusively by three existing fiber-fed remote central offices. Subscribers are provisioned using copper extended loops.

Total Construction Estimate

Drops	253
Route Miles Drop Miles (Est.) Total Miles	54.69 <u>15.26</u> 69.95
OSP Estimate	\$1,491,563
Electronics Estimate	\$92,500
Engineering Estimate	\$372,890
Total Estimate	\$1,956,953

This construction is part of a Kentucky Regional Fiber Project and will enable NCTC to provide enhanced broadband services to 351 households. Approximately 150 of these households are currently unable to subscribe to broadband because it is not available to them. Upon completion, subscribers located within the serving area boundary (attached) will be able to achieve speeds of up to 1Gbps in both directions. The are expected to request speeds between 6 and 12 Mbps.

The distribution plant will extend from a new remote Central Office (CO) which will be located near the intersection of Highway 100 with Highway 482 in South Allen County. The new FTTP plant will be provisioned using Calix Central Office Equipment (COE) and the Calix E-7 Service Access Platform. Buried cable will be placed at a minimum depth of 40 inches along KDOT Right Of Way (ROW) and at a minimum depth of 36 inches along private ROW. All construction activities will be completed in accordance with the current USDA, Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Bulletin / Specification. KDOT and Environmental permits will be obtained before the start of construction activity.



