

I am a wireless internet service provider who is facing some tremendous challenges. To give adequate coverage to my whole rural population base using current equipment and policy is extremely cost prohibitive. Modifying two policies in particular would help my company - and others -facing similar circumstances:

1) Open up the 700 MHz band to unlicensed technology. The longer wave-length is much better at penetrating foliage than the shorter 2.4 GHz.

2) Raise the output power limits in rural areas. There are a number of good reasons to do this:

- a. there is a much lower population density. In the city where there are population densities of over 3000/square mile even a small percentage of users can cause significant interference problems.
- b. Add to that the natural attenuation that is mentioned in item 1, and interference becomes nearly a moot point.

The rural WISPs of this saw a need for broadband access in rural communities and have built an industry filling that need. Using copper wires to deliver high speed access to most rural areas is not an option. The expense is simply too much and the distances too great. Wireless Internet provides the opportunity for Americans in rural communities to have the same access as those people in urban areas. As in urban areas the demand for high speed access is constantly growing. With wireless small businesses have found an affordable way to have high speed access to keep them competitive with larger urban centers.

By allowing the above changes the FCC has the opportunity to level the playing field between rural and urban dwellers in Internet access.