

Frontier Communications Northwest, LLC

Technology and System Design – Initial Overview

Frontier Communications Northwest, LLC ("FCN ") is an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier that already offers voice and broadband services in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. FCN is a wholly owned subsidiary of Northwest Fiber, LLC dba Ziplly Fiber and is a member of Ziplly Fiber RDOF Consortium, an applicant qualified to bid in Auction 904. Ziplly Fiber RDOF Consortium assigned some of its winning bids in Idaho and all of its winning bids in Oregon and Washington to FCN.

FCN will satisfy its RDOF public interest obligations to provide gigabit service with latency below 100 milliseconds by expanding its existing broadband network. Using a combination of RDOF funding, revenue from operations and investor-provided funding, FCN will upgrade its existing network in Census Block Groups ("CBGs") assigned to it in order to provide gigabit broadband service that measures 100 milliseconds or less network round trip latency to locations in the assigned CBGs.

FCN will upgrade the access layer of its network using fiber-optic cable technology except where deployment of fiber-optic-cable is infeasible.

- In deployments of fiber-optic cable, the access layer will consist of single-mode fiber to serve users.
- In areas where fiber-optic cable deployment to the premises is infeasible, FCN will deploy fiber-optic cable connected to fiber-to-the-node electronics which will connect to customer premises over copper facilities.

The distribution layer will use principally native 100 gigabit Ethernet interfaces. In smaller markets, some devices will be connected to the distribution layer using 10 gigabit Ethernet.

FCN will provide voice services based on a VOIP platform that will support voice services across the entire project area.