

Realizing Opportunity with Broadband Infrastructure Networks (ROBIN)

Comment and Objection Process

Frequently Asked Questions

November 15, 2023

If we are objecting to both existing service locations and locations in which construction will be complete and service offered within 12 months for the same project location, can we submit one objection for the project or should we submit a separate objection form for each type of objection?

Both objections can be submitted on the same form. Please check both applicable boxes and submit all necessary documentation for each type of objection.

Is MIHI seeking additional comments to support our project? If we reach out to community anchor institutions, businesses, and residents for comments of support, will those be reviewed and considered in the final award?

No, additional comments of support will not influence the final award. The only impact on the project going forward are valid objections based on the criteria set forth in the legislation.

Re: Attachment 6. Our existing network data/information is extremely confidential – is there an alternative solution for this attachment (does the State have a license for the BDC Cost Quest fabric, could we potentially supply that information instead)?

We need evidence that is more granular than FCC BDC data to confirm that service is available to the objected locations. As an alternative to submitting GIS-compatible files of the network, you can submit PDF maps of the objected locations that includes the location of the network nearby that can serve them. The scale of the map should be no greater than 1 inch = 100 ft. An example is below.



Re: Attachment 9 – for RDOF area. Is it possible to just provide the polygons for the RDOF Census Blocks? If we are obligated to serve the entire CB, then the proposed network design is not critical and would like to see if we may provide a SHP or KMZ file of the RDOF census blocks in question.

For the RDOF areas, yes, a file of the census blocks is fine. Also include whether the blocks will be entirely served or not in your objection filing.

The format of the addresses as they were provided to us (the columns on the spreadsheets) is different than how they are asked to be returned in an objection. Is it possible to have the objection format changed to match the format the addresses were provided in?

Yes, you can use the same format as the addresses were provided to you.

I noticed that [ISP X] listed several CAIs in their application that we already serve, however, the addresses are not included in their spreadsheet of locations to be served. Are those CAIs considered part of their proposed project?

Only addresses included in the spreadsheet of locations submitted with the application will be considered part of the proposed project. If CAIs were listed in another part of the application but not included in the spreadsheet, they are not to be included in the project and cannot be added at a later date.

There are addresses in spreadsheet that are incomplete, not containing either a street address, or a city and zip code. How should we handle those addresses if an objection is warranted?

If there are lat/long for these addresses, those locations should be used instead in the objection. If the locations are included on the ROBIN map, you can use the Draw Polygon/Download Addresses feature of the map to extract the locations to which you would like to object.

There are nearly 100 addresses in the [ISP X] application where the provided street address and the lat/long for that address do not align. All of these have street addresses scattered all over the state but have a lat/long that is located in our service area. How should we handle these as we review for an objection?

The lat/long should be used instead of the address.

Objectors are asked to provide the type of location (residential, business, etc.), but that info was not provided on the spreadsheet on the website.

If the objector knows the type of location (i.e., residential, business, CAI), include it, if not, then it does not need to be provided.

We do not want to disclose our network information to the public, is there a confidentiality form we can complete so that it is exempt from FOIA requests?

The Michigan Attorney General's office has determined that geospatial files of network facilities are not subject to disclosure under the exemption found in MCL 15.243(1)(z):

(1) A public body may exempt from disclosure as a public record under this act any of the following:

...

(z) Information that would identify or provide a means of identifying a person that may, as a result of disclosure of the information, become a victim of a cybersecurity incident or that would disclose a person's cybersecurity plans or cybersecurity-related practices, procedures, methods, results, organizational information system infrastructure, hardware, or software. [MCL 15.243(1)(z).]

The term "person" includes a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, firm, organization, association, governmental entity, or other legal entity. MCL 15.232(g).