



PERSON COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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To: Prospective Cell Phone Carrier
RE: Cell Phone Service in Hyco Lake Area

The Economic Development Commission of Person County would like to go on record in strong support of the provision of cell phone service to the Hyco Lake area of Person County.

Presently, cell phone coverage in this area is virtually non-existent resulting in numerous communication issues for the companies with which we work as well as problems for company officials who choose to reside in this area. This is an ongoing problem and is a major issue for lake residents as well.

Northern Person County is rapidly becoming industrialized with recent locations by Spuntech Industries, a manufacturer of non-woven fabrics; British Plaster Board, a manufacturer of wall board for the housing industry and Carolina Sunrock, a producer and manufacturer of stone products. Other industries in the area include the Louisiana Pacific Corporation, the Georgia Pacific Corporation and Progress Energy. I have witnessed first hand the lack of cell phone coverage in these areas and the ongoing frustration of industry officials with this issue.

It should be noted that Hyco Lake is one of the fastest growing areas in Person County. The future growth and development of our business community in that area is contingent upon our companies having adequate cell phone coverage. From the perspective of our Economic Development group, this is considered to be a business as well as a safety issue which needs to be addressed.

Many of the current homeowners commute to and from this area and require adequate cell phone coverage. With the continuing growth in this area, dependable and reliable business communications is vital.

A recent survey indicated that the majority of the people who live and work in and around Hyco Lake would switch to the carrier who serves this area. Most indicate their desire to have the "push to talk" or walkie-talkie type technology provided by the carrier.

Our Commission works with all of the industries in Person County and makes every effort to address any concerns which they may have. Adequate cell phone coverage in the Hyco Lake and Northern Person County area has been a continuing issue for the business as well as the residential community.

We believe that there is considerable support and market share for the supplier who chooses to serve this area. We look forward to your response and expansion into our community.

Please feel free to contact our office at (336) 597-1752, if additional information is needed or if we may be of assistance in any manner.

Sincerely,

Glen Newsome
Executive Director