



Ohio Revised Code

Section 122.4031 Evidence sufficient to successfully challenge.

Effective: October 3, 2023

Legislation: House Bill 33

(A) To successfully challenge an application, a challenging provider shall provide sufficient evidence to the department of development demonstrating that all or part of a project under the application is ineligible for a grant. The challenge shall, at minimum, include the following information:

(1) Sufficient evidence disputing the notarized letter of intent submitted with the application that the eligible project contains eligible addresses;

(2) Sufficient evidence attesting to the challenging provider's existing or planned offering of tier two broadband service to all or part of the eligible project, which evidence shall include the following:

(a) With regard to existing tier two broadband service, a signed, notarized statement submitted by the challenging provider that sufficiently identifies the part of the eligible project to which the challenging provider offers broadband service and the aggregate number of eligible addresses to which the challenging provider offers tier two broadband service;

(b) With regard to the planned provision of tier two broadband service by a challenging provider as described in division (B) of section 122.4016 of the Revised Code, both of the following:

(i) A signed, notarized statement submitted by the challenging provider that sufficiently identifies the part of the eligible project to which the challenging provider will offer tier two broadband service;

(ii) A summary of the construction efforts that includes the dates when tier two broadband construction is expected to be completed and when tier two broadband service will first be offered to the part of the eligible project being challenged.

(B) To demonstrate that all or part of a project under the application is ineligible for a grant, a challenging provider shall present shapefile data and residential addresses identifying each



challenged residential address and the basis for such challenge. Census block or census tract level data shall not be acceptable as evidence of ineligibility of all or part of a project.

(C) The department shall reject any challenge regarding a residential address where the provision of tier two broadband service is planned to be provided if the challenging provider has also submitted an application for funding for the same residential address.