

WyoLink Support Manager's Report to the PSCC

March 10, 2009

WyoLink now has 40 sites active, with the addition of Copper Mountain on March 4th. Coverage from these 40 sites has been very good, and we are enlisting both WYDOT Maintenance and the Wyoming Highway Patrol to perform informal, documented coverage testing. As volunteers drive and test WyoLink, they will be making notations of where they observe a lack of coverage. These reports will be compiled by WYDOT Telecommunications and submitted to the WyoLink Support Office for investigation.

Testing of a proposed new coverage enhancement tower location in the Elk Mountain Exchange area was completed on March 2nd. We were very fortunate to have use of Wyoming Office of Homeland Security's portable tower to perform these tests. Having this tower made this test possible, and Jim Archerd and Jim Frank from WOHS were very helpful. The data that was collected from the two days of testing in this area will be analyzed by Motorola engineers, and we hope to learn quite a bit when the results are available.

WyoLink and WYDOT met with the Bridger Teton, Big Horn and Shoshone National Forests in Jackson on Monday, March 2nd. We discussed the procedures involved in acquiring special use permits for WyoLink sites on National Forest lands, and made excellent progress toward streamlining this process. Many questions were answered during this meeting, and WyoLink and WYDOT Right of Way continue to work with the National Forest to supply the documentation and information required to obtain these permits.

The Cheyenne Water Tank Coverage Enhancement site is waiting for the power to be upgraded by Union Wireless to handle the additional load to their AC supply and generator. Union has ordered the necessary equipment, and WyoLink has agreed to pay a portion of the upgrade. I will continue working with Union Wireless to accomplish this as quickly as possible. As soon as the power is upgraded, Motorola can begin installing the RF equipment. The building, antennas and feed line have already been installed.

During coverage testing in Campbell County a possible problem was identified with Rozet Hill. The WyoLink Support Office is working with the Campbell County Sheriff to verify there are no problems with the programming and alignment of their radios, but it is becoming apparent that Rozet Hill will need to be examined to verify it is working properly. The WyoLink Support Office will attend to this in the coming week or so.

The WyoLink Support Team is transitioning from construction and turn up of WyoLink sites to working with agencies to bring them on to WyoLink by designing their talkgroup plans, creating codeplugs and solving the inevitable operational issues that arise from the transition to WyoLink.

During February, the WyoLink radio system supported 142,569 calls for a total air time of 444 Hours and 46 minutes (18 ½ days). During this time, there were 9 busies, with an average duration of 4 seconds. That amounts to 0.006% of all calls receiving a busy. The WyoLink Support Office is aggressively monitoring busies on a weekly basis to determine the cause of each busy and what might be done to reduce or eliminate them.