

Public Comment Compilation on Starlink Belize, LLC Application for 'Class Licence – Internet Service Provider'

In October 2024, Starlink Belize, LLC of Belize City submitted an application to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for a Telecommunications Licence 'Class Licence – Internet Service Provider'.

The company's application, to provide internet services countrywide, is pursuant to the Telecommunications (Licensing Classification, Authorization and Fee Structure) Regulations 2020.

As per the process for applications for a Telecommunications Licence, interested parties were invited to comment.

Written public comments submitted via email and mail have been complied and shared herein for ease of reference.

Note: This is the final <u>official</u> comments compilation document shared by interested parties, as per PUC's public consultation process. Documents shared prior to November 4, 2024 should be disregarded.

No to Starlink!

1 message

Ravi Nandwani <ravi@btl.net>

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 8:39 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

We should not allow any foreign company to provide such a type of service. We have seen what they do. Especially this guy.

They will take over the market and if he is personally annoyed with our government's policies, he can deny us access to Internet if he feels.

He will also have access to our data. We vote no.

Best Regards,

Ravi

BTL'S OBJECTION TO ISSUANCE OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS LICENCE TO STARLINK BELIZE LLC

1 message

Lucita Juarez < ljuarez@livedigi.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 5:10 PM

To: "PUC, Telecom" <telecom@puc.bz>

Cc: Mark Lizarraga <m.lizarraga@livedigi.com>, Ivan Tesucum <itesucum@livedigi.com>, "Chairman, PUC" <chairman@puc.bz>, Kileru Awich <kawich@livedigi.com>

Dear Messrs..

We write with respect to the captioned matter.

Please find attached a soft copy of BTL's correspondence with reference to the foregoing. A hard copy of the same to follow.

Kindly acknowledge safe receipt of this email and its attachment.

We thank you for your kind attention hereto.

With kind regards,



<u> Lucita Juarez (Ms.)</u>

Paralegal at Belize Telemedia Ltd.

<u>Phone:</u> 501-223-8292 <u>Mobile:</u> 501-610-1419 <u>Email:</u> ljuarez@livedigi.com

Legal & Regulatory Affairs Office

Esquivel Telecom Center

St. Thomas Street, Belize City, Belize

www.livedigi.com

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BTL Letter to PUC Re Starlink Belize LLC Class License Application (20241023) Signed.pdf



October 23, 2024

The Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
2nd Floor Marina Towers
Newtown Barracks
Belize City, Belize

Subject: Objection to the Issuance of a Telecommunications License to a Satellite Provider

Dear Chairman Molina,

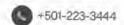
We write regarding the application for a class license by Starlink Belize LLC (Starlink) to provide internet services in the entire territory of Belize as found in the Amandala newspaper of October 11, 2024. We express concern over this application and hereby formally object to the potential issuance of a license to Starlink within our country's telecom market. While we appreciate the regulator's commitment to enhancing connectivity, we believe that the introduction of a satellite provider, especially within a market with a small population, could have significant negative impacts on the existing telecom ecosystem.

1. Broadband Coverage

Currently via BTL the nation boasts more than 90% broadband coverage with FTTH technology and mobile coverage stands at over 95%, a testament to the considerable investment and continuous effort made by BTL. Over the past 10 years BTL has invested over \$300 million dollars and Belize was the first in the region with an LTE-Advance network and the first with country-wide coverage with FTTH since 2017 in this region. These figures represent the foresight in fulfilling the core mandates of both the government and the telecom sector in ensuring connectivity and in improving the lives of our citizens while stimulating economic growth. Introducing a satellite provider in such a highly saturated market would offer minimal additional coverage benefits while duplicating existing services.

2. Ultra-Competitive Market Dynamics and Sustainability

The telecommunications market in Belize is already highly competitive, with 16 operators (PUC Website) contending for a share in a population of less than 400,000. The introduction of an additional player, particularly one with extensive financial backing, would distort this delicate balance and lead to unsustainable oversaturation in the marketplace. This can result in undermining long-term investments in local infrastructure and service quality. Price wars and reduced margins will lead to reduced investments in local infrastructure, impairing long-term service improvements and coverage expansion projects, and ultimately place the country at risk in its technological development roadmap.







3. Data Sovereignty Concerns

Starlink operates global networks thus inherently pose challenges related to data sovereignty. This is because significant amounts of local data could be routed and stored outside national boundaries which can be subject to foreign laws and regulations. This raises serious concerns about data sovereignty, national security, privacy laws and the security of national communications. The country has recently prioritized the safeguarding of national data and allowing Starlink to operate could undermine these efforts by compromising data governance and regulatory oversight.

4. Employment Impact on Local Workforce

The telecom industry is a significant employer of skilled and semi-skilled labor within the country contributing significantly to Belize's economy. Local operators support a robust workforce, both directly through employment and indirectly via partnerships with contractors and service providers. The entry of Starlink, which typically operates with little to none on-the-ground personnel, will result in a substantial reduction in demand for local telecom workers, thereby impacting employment and economic activity in the sector.

5. Infrastructure Investment Incentives

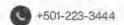
BTL has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in countrywide infrastructure with over 2,000 kilometers of backbone and distribution fiber, over 170 cell sites and 13 customer service centers to deliver widespread, reliable connectivity, including remote and underserved areas. A satellite provider, by contrast, does not require local infrastructure investments, which would disincentivize continued investment in the national broadband and mobile networks due to fiscal reduction. Reduced infrastructure investment would hamper long-term growth and innovation to Belize.

6. Impact on Investment by GOB and SSB

The Government of Belize (49%), The Social Security Board (34%) and over 1,500 small Belizean Shareholders have entrusted substantial funds as investments in BTL. The decrease in revenues and profitability from additional oversaturation will erode the investment the country has made in the National Telecom. The decrease in dividends would have an adverse impact on the entities and citizens who are once again beginning to receive benefits from their investments.

We respectfully recommend that Starlink be encouraged to partner with an existing licensed Internet provider acting as its reseller, as this model has already been successfully implemented in other countries.

We strongly believe that the current telecom market has successfully met the connectivity needs of the overwhelming majority of our population and that the introduction of a satellite provider would yield minimal public benefit while posing significant risks to national investments, national employment, data sovereignty, and rob BTL of scarce capital needed to invest in the technology space to ensure and keep Belize at the technological forefront. Considering these concerns, we respectfully request that the







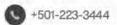
regulator prioritize the sustainability of the existing telecommunications ecosystem and reject the class license application.

We look forward to engaging further on this matter and provide any additional data or insights as necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.

/ Markhelm Lizarraga Chairman





Objection to Starlink's ISP Application in Belize

2 messages

Douglas Westby <douglas.westby@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 10:38 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz Cc: info@puc.bz

Dear Members of the Public Utilities Commission,

Please see attached letter with the above subject matter.

Submitted for your consideration.

Regards,

Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse





Objection to Starlink's ISP Application in Belize.pdf 152K

— 152K

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:39 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

[Quoted text hidden]



Objection to Starlink's ISP Application in Belize.pdf

152K

Douglas Westby

Registered P. Eng (Telecom. & Electronics) APEB 209-2017 12 Robin Street Ladyville, Belize douglas.westby@gmail.com

23 October 2024

Public Utilities Commission

2nd Floor, Marina Towers, New Town Barracks Belize City, Belize

Subject: Objection to Starlink's ISP Application in Belize

Dear Members of the Public Utilities Commission,

As a registered professional engineer specializing in Telecommunications and Electronics and as a telecommunications worker, I am writing to express my concerns regarding Starlink's application to offer services in Belize. While satellite-based internet can be beneficial in remote and underserved areas, this approval may introduce serious technical, economic, and market-based challenges to our country's telecommunications sector.

From an engineering perspective, Belize's telecommunications operators—especially Digi—have invested in fiber-optic and mobile network infrastructure, which adequately meets coverage demands in most areas. The entrance of Starlink into the market could result in unfair competition to local providers. Digi, being majority-owned by the government, plays a critical role in generating revenues that contribute to national development. Reduced revenues due to increased competition from Starlink would likely weaken the company's and the government's financial capacity to invest in future telecommunications improvements.

The above concerns align with actions taken by the French regulatory authority (Arcep), at one point which revoked Starlink's license due to market disruption concerns and vertical integration risks [1]. Likewise, the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently flagged anti-competitive behavior after Starlink achieved control of nearly two-thirds of all active satellites in orbit, warning that this monopoly limits competition and long-term sustainability in the telecommunications sector [2].

From a technical viewpoint, while Starlink's satellite services are appropriate for remote regions, terrestrial infrastructure such as fiber-optic networks offer better speed, lower latency, and higher reliability. Therefore, in the absence of implementing a moratorium to better evaluate the various risks highlighted, I propose that Starlink be restricted to areas

where existing providers cannot currently or feasibly offer coverage in the future. This approach ensures improved connectivity and fair access to Belizeans without undermining the investments made by local operators or jeopardizing economic stability.

The approval of Starlink's application without restrictions could lead to job losses within the local telecommunications industry and weaken Belize's economic framework. I urge the Public Utilities Commission to prioritize local development and limit Starlink's presence to areas where it can complement rather than disrupt Belize's existing networks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Douglas Westby

Registered P. Eng (Telecom. & Electronics) APEB 209-2017

douglas.westby@gmail.com | 501 610 6465

References

- 1. Pultarova, Tereza. "French Court Revokes SpaceX's Starlink Internet License, Citing Monopolization Concerns." *Space.com*, 5 Apr. 2022, www.space.com/spacex-starlink-license-revoked-france.
- 2. "The Register." *Musk's Starlink Dominance Sparks FCC Competition Concerns.* 18 Aug. 2023, www.theregister.com/starlink-fcc-competition-concerns.

BCWU's Objection to Telecommunications License Application by Starlink Belize LLC

1 message

BCWUEXEC

com@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Cc: BCWUEXEC

cbcwuexec@livedigi.com>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 12:17 PM

Dear Messrs.,

Please find attached the BCWU's correspondence in relation to the captioned subject matter. A hard copy of the attached letter will also be delivered to the PUC's office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to future updates from the PUC on this matter.

Best Regards,

Harrison August

General Secretary,



BCWU Executives

Belize Communications Workers Union

501-223-4809

bcwuexec@livedigi.com

6067 Corner Manatee Dr. & 4th Street

P.O. Box 1291

Belize City, Belize

Through God & Unity| Strength in unity power in numbers!

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BCWU Object	ion Re Starlink Belize LLC Telecommunications Licence Application 23 10 2024.pdf



Through God & Unity! Strength in unity! Power in numbers!

REF: BCWU/EXEC/2024 (002)

October 24, 2024

Public Utilities Commission 4 Princess Margaret Drive Marina Towers 2nd Floor, Belize City, Belize

Dear The Public Utilities Commission.

RE: SUBMISSION OF OBJECTION TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS LICENCE APPLICATION BY STARLINK BELIZE, LLC

We write on behalf of The Belize Communications Workers Union Executives and its members (hereinafter referred to collectively as "BCWU"/ "We"/ "Our"/ "Us"/ "BTL Employees") and refer to the captioned matter.

The BCWU wish to express our concerns and objections to the Telecommunications Licence Application submitted by Starlink Belize, LLC ("Starlink"), as published in the <u>Friday</u>, <u>October 11</u>, <u>2024</u>, issue of The Amandala newspaper. The BCWU believes that if the Starlink application is approved, it could have significant negative impacts on the telecom industry, the broader community, and current and future job security in Belize.

As BTL Employees working in the telecommunications sector, the BCWU believes it is our responsibility to participate in this process and therefore take this opportunity to present to the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") our concerns with the Starlink application if approved by the PUC. Our concerns with the Starlink application if approved by the PUC are itemized below.

A. Threat to Job Security and Local Employment

We are deeply concerned that allowing Starlink to enter into our already saturated telecom market could undermine the job security of local



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employees at Belize Telemedia Limited ("our Company"/ "BTL") and other Service Providers in Belize. Our Company has embedded a culture that recognizes Return on Assets ("ROA") and Return on Equity ("ROE") as important metrics to guide decision-making in the investment to BTL Employees. Extensive investments have already been made in our Company's network, infrastructure, and future expansion plans which have created and continues to provide Us with job security. Most importantly, should the PUC grant Starlink a Class Licence, it is highly probable that our Company will find it extremely challenging to achieve its planned ROA and ROE. This would have serious financial implications, forcing our Company to reevaluate its existing and planned people costs. Starlink, with its satellite-based model, does not offer the same commitment to local employment as our Company and other Service Providers, leaving many of Us and others in the telecom industry vulnerable to job losses if Starlink is granted a Telecommunications Licence.

B. Impact on Government Investment and Employee Benefits

We are particularly concerned that a decrease in revenues due to Starlink's market entry will negatively impact the investments made by our Company's major shareholders, the Government of Belize (49% ownership) and the Social Security Board (34% ownership), respectively. As BTL Employees, We are direct beneficiaries of these investments, either through services provided by the Government or through Our pension funds. A decline in revenues could harm these vital services and financial support systems.

C. Market Collaboration

Starlink's proposed entry into the Belizean market, while more suited to rural areas, presents an opportunity for collaboration with local providers such as our Company. BTL is open to fair competitive practices and welcomes the potential for BTL to act as a reseller for Starlink in those regions where BTL currently does not provide coverage.

As it stands, BTL's fiber-to-the-home broadband connectivity covers 90% of homes and businesses countrywide. BTL have made extensive investments already in its mobile and fiber networks, alongside future expansion plans. For the marginal difference in coverage, particularly in rural areas where BTL is currently unable to, We do not oppose Starlink accessing these areas. However, We respectfully request that the model Starlink has utilized in other markets, where local service providers act as resellers, be adapted



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here in Belize. This would ensure balanced competition and continued local involvement.

Additionally, BTL has established a robust redundancy link and truck rolls system to ensure connectivity during incidents. In contrast, Starlink's satellite-based model lacks the foregoing essential features, which could compromise employment longevity, service quality, and reliability.

D. <u>Displacement of Skills</u>

As employees of a local telecommunications company like BTL, We value Our specialized skills that enables Us to quickly maintain and restore mobile and fiber services during incidents. Should Starlink enter the Belizean market as proposed, the highly technical and specialized skills of BTL Employees, which are unique to the telecom sector, may not be easily transferrable to other industries. While telecom employees may have general skills like problem-solving, analytical thinking, and technical aptitude, these might not be sufficient to qualify them for roles in other industries without additional training or experience. This could further destabilize Belize's already fragile economy and social system.

E. Lack of Investment in Local Communities

We believe that local telecom service providers are crucial to the long-term growth and development of our communities through employment-related programs as well as sponsorship and community relations. Our Company directly contributes to local economies, invests in infrastructure, and creates employment opportunities through scholarships and internships. We anticipate that Starlink's satellite-based approach will bypass these local investments, leading to reduced development and less support for youths, schools, prospective applicants, local businesses, and services.

F. Data Sovereignty concerns

Starlink's data centers are primarily located outside of Belize, meaning Belizean users' data would be stored and processed on foreign servers. This potentially subjects the data to the laws and regulations of those jurisdictions making it difficult to enforce Belizean laws or regulations in case of legal disputes or data breaches. Additionally, there is also a risk that foreign governments could also potentially gain access to Belizean users' data stored on Starlink's servers, violating local privacy laws. Belizean authorities may have limited oversight of Starlink's data practices, increasing the risk of unauthorized access. The transfer of Belizean data to



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foreign servers raises concerns about data localization requirements and potential foreign surveillance or censorship. Ensuring Starlink's compliance with Belizean data privacy laws, like the Data Protection Act, could be challenging given its foreign operations.

We, urge the PUC to carefully consider Our concerns as part of the application for a Telecommunication Licence to Starlink. The risks to local jobs and community well-being are too significant to overlook. We are passionate and committed to the future of our industry and the communities We serve, and We ask that Our concerns be given careful consideration during the PUC's review process.

We respectfully request acknowledgment of this notice and updates to bcwuexec@livedigi.com on any developments regarding the Starlink application.

Your prompt attention to this critical issue is much appreciated.

Respectfully,
THE BELIZE COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS UNION

Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.

Jermaine Williams (Mr.)
President

c: Mr. Lupito Acosta – Vice President, BCWU

Mr. Harrison August – General Secretary, BCWU

Ms. Lucita Juarez – Assistant General Secretary, BCWU

Ms. Tamara Ramsey - Treasurer, BCWU

Mr. Said Ayuso - Trustee, BCWU

MR. Kimar Sampson – Trustee, BCWU

The BCWU Membership

Starlink application

1 message

Miguel Neal <mneal@livedigi.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 2:17 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

I'd like to declare my objection to the gazette APPLICATION FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS LICENCE NOTICE concerning Starlink Belize LLC from 11 October 2024. It is my sincere position that this company's objective does not align with the best interests of information and telecom workers in this country. Primarily, as I understand it, this company's infrastructure is not one that is or will ever be something that supports the same number of jobs and careers that currently exist in telecom in Belize. If this company is allowed to pursue its profit motive in this country, its growth could directly correlate to a decline in available jobs for workers in telecom that would not be offset by the jobs Starlink itself would provide. The nature of its satellite based main infrastructure is certainly not something that can offer work to line workers from our ground teams who may find themselves without jobs if Starlink gains a significant majority of market share. Additionally, we should strongly consider what negative economic effects Starlink may have on a country that has a national telecom. This sort of disruptive technology is not one that drives growth for the rest of the country but will instead lead to an export of once domestic revenue. To be clear, as a worker in the telecom industry I believe that change is the nature of our industry and many changes that I have witnessed in my 25 years have been for the benefit of all. Yet not all change and shifts in market share are inherently for the benefit of Belizean workers or consumers. This is why I must firmly object to this particular change as the disruption is not one that will ever benefit our country. Please consider that in this case, the personal benefit of each of us is also the long-term collective benefit of all of us. There is no growth that can come from this company. In regard to Starlink, there is no entrepreneur that will help build this country's infrastructure, and there is no exceptional Belizean that will get their chance to shape this country for the better. There is only an international company that will be a source of lost revenue for our economy and workers in this sector. Sincerely,

Regards
Miguel Neal
Senior Retail Representative
DIGI Caye Caulker Branch
Ph +(501) 223-8565

THE TELECOM INDUSTRY OBJECTION TO THE LICENSING OF STARLINK IN BELIZE

1 message

Lucita Juarez < ljuarez@livedigi.com>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 4:44 PM

To: "PUC, Telecom" <telecom@puc.bz>

Cc: "Chairman, PUC" <chairman@puc.bz>, Mark Lizarraga <m.lizarraga@livedigi.com>, Ivan Tesucum <itesucum@livedigi.com>, Kileru Awich <kawich@livedigi.com>, "etorres@speednet-wireless.com" <etorres@speednet-wireless.com>, "tench@wirelesscommsbz.com" <tench@wirelesscommsbz.com>, "selvin@allianceip.biz" <selvin@allianceip.biz>

Dear Messrs..

We write on Belize Telemedia Limited's instructions and refer to the captioned matter.

Please find attached a soft copy of the telecom industry stakeholders' correspondence regarding the matter above.

A physical copy of this correspondence is being delivered to the PUC's office today.

Plese confirm receipt of this email and its attachment.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

With kind regards,



<u> Lucita Juarez (Ms.)</u>

Paralegal at Belize Telemedia Ltd.

<u>Phone:</u> 501-223-8292 <u>Mobile:</u> 501-610-1419 <u>Email:</u> ljuarez@livedigi.com

Legal & Regulatory Affairs Office

Esquivel Telecom Center

St. Thomas Street, Belize City, Belize

www.livedigi.com

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Telecom Industry Letter to PUC Re Starlink (20241023).pdf 1564K

October 23, 2024

Public Utilities Commission Chairman 2nd Floor, Marina Towers Newtown Barracks Belize City, Belize

Subject: Objection to the Licensing of Starlink in Belize

Dear Chairman Molina,

We write to express our concerns regarding the potential licensing of Starlink Belize LLC (Starlink) to operate in Belize as per application for a telecommunications license to provide internet services in the Amandala Newspaper page 18 dated October 11, 2024. We write as the key stakeholders in the telecommunications sector invested in the industry's growth and the nation's digital future. We see this application posing significant industry challenges that warrant thoughtful consideration and our objections are based on the following points:

1. Undermining National Infrastructure Investments

Reliable telecommunications services are crucial for the national security and the seamless operation of businesses. The telecommunications industry in Belize has made substantial investments in the hundreds of millions of dollars to ensure continuous service availability and access to the latest technology. This also includes the establishment of two geographically diverse redundant IP transit routes.

Enabling Starlink to operate in Belize will undermine these investments by diverting customers away from services that contribute to the resilience of our national infrastructure. Belize has a small population distributed over a large land mass in urban pockets. This results in a high capital investment model in an economy with GDP per capita of \$6,500 USD which is half of the worlds average.

2. Erosion of Industry Profits and Impact on Rural Expansion

Introducing another player into an already ultra-competitive market will further erode profits for local Internet providers. This financial strain will diminish revenues in the industry's capacity and of essential capital to invest in rural expansion and adoption of new technologies, hindering efforts to bridge the digital divide and our collective goal of nationwide connectivity. Additionally, erosion of industry profits will impact adversely the investments made by Government of Belize with a 49% ownership of BTL and Social Security Board owning 34%.

These potential adverse impacts would impact directly the citizens of Belize given the diminished dividends to these institutions.

3. Potential for Market Dominance

Starlink, backed by the SpaceX Conglomerate, has the potential to dominate the Internet market in Belize due to its ability to offer services directly to consumers at lower prices even subsidizing below cost to gain market share. This poses a risk of creating an uneven playing field, disadvantaging local providers who have invested heavily in infrastructure to deliver comparable services. This could lead to a scenario, ultimately harming consumer interests in the long run.

4. Cherry-Picking Customers

The pricing model of approximately \$270 USD for the antenna/router kit and \$23 USD for monthly Internet packages (based on Nigerian pricing), Starlink is likely to attract businesses and high-end residential users. These customers represent about 60% of the local Internet providers' customer base. The loss of these customers would lead to substantial revenue declines for the local providers, while rural communities may still find these prices unaffordable.

5. Lack of Infrastructure Investment in Belize

Over the past decade, individual licensees and class licensees have invested approximately \$400 million in broadband and mobile Internet infrastructure in Belize, with plans to invest an additional \$150 million over the next five years to extend services to unconnected regions. In contrast, Starlink plans to leverage its existing assets without making significant infrastructure investments locally, leading to an uneven competitive landscape.

6. Implications for Foreign Currency Reserves

Granting Starlink a telecommunications license will mean a significant portion of its earnings will be repatriated to its parent company abroad, leading to an unnecessary outflow of foreign currency. Local providers, conversely, require foreign currency primarily for purchasing equipment that enhances services within Belize thereby contributing directly to the growth of the national economy.

7. Minimal Contribution to Local Employment

Starlink's business model involves direct customer contracts and self-installation kits, requiring minimal local staffing. This contrasts sharply with local operators who collectively employ about 1,000 personnel for installations, maintenance, and customer service, significantly contributing to local employment.

8. Affordability Issues for Rural Customers

The initial cost of \$300 USD for the starter kit places Starlink's services are out of reach for most rural customers, the very demographic that could benefit most from Internet access. This raises concerns about the provider's ability to contribute meaningfully to Belize's national connectivity goals.

9. National Security and Data Privacy Concerns:

In allowing this foreign entity to control part of the communications infrastructure, this will raise issues regarding data sovereignty, security risks, and compliance with local data protection laws in Belize.

Considering the above, we respectfully request that the PUC denies Starlink's application for a telecommunications license to operate in Belize. We believe that protecting the investments and viability of local Internet providers is in the best interest of Belize's economy as it ensures continued investment in infrastructure, technology, and services that benefit all our citizens.

We look forward to further engaging to discuss these concerns in more detail and work collaboratively towards a solution that benefits all stakeholders.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Signatures hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.

Mark Lizarraga Chairman B.T.L. Dean Boyce Chairman Speednet Evan Tench Chairman B.C.T.V.O.A. Selvyn Hernandez C.O.O. Alliance IP Belize Ltd.

Elon Musk's Starlink in Belize

1 message

Courtnée Staine <courtneemstaine@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:29 PM

To whom it may concern,

Good Day.

I write to you to strongly express my hesitation to allow this man to operate in our country independently.

With his operation in the country as a private entity, and not under contract under the existing telecommunication companies in our country, we risk the possibility of loss of jobs and a monopoly.

Furthermore, while Elon is a brilliant mind, his care for humanity and his morals are highly lacking. Does Belize really want to live through another possible Ashcroft situation?

I strongly advise the officials dealing with this situation to consider the pros and cons very carefully. I believe it would be better for our existing telecommunication companies to make a deal rather than have him operating in our country as a private entity.

He can still be taxed as a contractor with our telecommunications companies, which would bring money into the country.

While, as a private entity, Starlink can still be taxed, majority of the money will not be invested into the Belizean community.

Why do we want to take more money out of our country and in the hand of foreign investors?

Thanks for giving the public the opportunity to share our thoughts.

I hope you take my words under deep consideration.

Best,

Courtnee Staine.

PETITION AGAINST TELECOMMUNICATIONS LICENSE APPLICATION BY STARLINK BELIZE LLC

1 message

Lucita Juarez ljuarez@livedigi.com>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 10:47 AM

To: "PUC, Telecom" <telecom@puc.bz>

Cc: "Chairman, PUC" <chairman@puc.bz>, Ivan Tesucum <itesucum@livedigi.com>, Mark Lizarraga <m.lizarraga@livedigi.com>, Kendra Santos <ksantos@livedigi.com>, Kileru Awich <kawich@livedigi.com>

Dear Messrs..

We refer to the aforementioned matter.

Attached is a soft copy of BTL's correspondence regarding this subject. A physical copy will follow.

Plese confirm receipt of this email and the letter.

We thank you for your timely attention hereto.

With kind regards,



<u> Qucita Juarez (Ms.)</u>

Paralegal at Belize Telemedia Ltd.

Phone: 501-223-8292

Mobile: 501-610-1419

Email: ljuarez@livedigi.com

Legal & Regulatory Affairs Office

Esquivel Telecom Center

St. Thomas Street, Belize City, Belize

www.livedigi.com

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BTL Petition Against Telecomunications Licence Application by Starlink 23 10 2024.pdf 9359K



October 23, 2024

Public Utilities Commission Belize 2nd Floor, Marina Towers Newtown Barracks Belize City, Belize

Dear Chairman Molina,

RE: Petition Against Telecommunications License Application by Starlink Belize, LLC

We, the undersigned employees of Belize Telemedia Limited ("BTL" or "Company") wish to collectively express our concern and objection to the telecommunications license application submitted by Starlink Belize, LLC ("Starlink"), as announced in the Amandala newspaper on October 11th, 2024. We feel that this application if approved, could have significant negative impacts on our industry, the broader community, and our current and future job security.

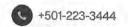
As employees working in the telecommunications sector, we believe it is our responsibility to participate in this process by raising the following concerns:

1. Threat to Job Security and Local Employment

We are deeply concerned that allowing Starlink to enter our market could undermine the job security of local employees. Our Company has embedded a culture that recognizes Return on Assets (ROA) and Return on Equity (ROE) as important metrics to guide decision-making in the investment to BTL employees. Extensive investments have already been made in our BTL network, infrastructure, and future expansion plans which have and continue to provide us with job security. Most importantly, should the PUC grant Starlink a license it is highly probable that BTL will find it extremely challenging to achieve its planned ROA and ROE and the financial implications will be significant as the Company will be forced to look at the existing and planned people cost. Starlink, with its satellite model, does not offer the same commitment to local employment, leaving many of us and others in the industry vulnerable to job loss.

2. Impact on Government Investment and Employee Benefits

We are particularly worried that a reduction in revenues due to Starlink's market entry will negatively affect the investments made by the Government of Belize (49% ownership) and the Social Security Board (34% ownership). As employees of BTL, we are direct beneficiaries of these investments, either through services provided by the Government or through our







pension funds. The decline in revenue could jeopardize these vital services and financial support systems.

3. Market Collaboration

Starlink's proposed entry into the Belizean market, while more suited to rural areas, presents an opportunity for collaboration with local providers like BTL. Our Company is open to fair competitive practices and welcomes the potential for BTL to act as a reseller for Starlink in those regions where we currently do not provide coverage.

As it stands, Digi's fiber-to-the-home broadband connectivity covers 90% of homes and businesses countrywide, with extensive investment already made in mobile and fiber networks, alongside future expansion plans. For the marginal difference in coverage, particularly in rural areas where BTL is unable to provide service at this time, we do not oppose Starlink accessing these areas. However, we respectfully request that the model Starlink has utilized in other markets, where local providers act as resellers, be applied here in Belize to ensure balanced competition, and continued local involvement.

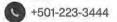
Additionally, BTL has established a robust redundancy link and truck rolls system to ensure connectivity during incidents. In contrast, Starlink's satellite model lacks the foregoing essential features, which could compromise employment longevity, service quality, and reliability.

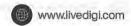
4. Displacement of Skills

As employees of a local telecommunications company, we take pride in our acquired skills that enable us to maintain and restore mobile and fiber services during incidents. Should Starlink enter the Belizean market as proposed, the highly technical and specialized skills that employees of BTL currently possess will be eroded, as they are not easily transferable to other industries in our Belizean market. This will certainly degrade an already strained economic and social system in our country.

5. Lack of Investment in Local Communities

We believe that local telecommunications providers are essential to the long-term growth and development of our communities through employment-related programs as well as sponsorship and community relations. Our Company contributes directly to local economies, invests in infrastructure, and creates employment opportunities through scholarships and internships. We anticipate that Starlink's satellite-based approach will bypass these local investments, leading to reduced development and less support for youths, schools, prospective applicants, local businesses, and services.







Conclusion

We, the employees of BTL, urge the Belize Public Utilities Commission to seriously consider our above points as part of the application or telecommunication license to Starlink. The risks to local jobs and community well-being are too great to ignore. We are passionate about the future of our industry and the communities we serve, and we ask that our concerns be given careful consideration as part of the review process.

We have attached the signatures of BTL employees in support of the contents of this letter.

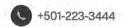
We respectfully request acknowledgment of this petition and updates to <u>dcwest@livedigi.com</u> on any developments regarding the application.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Signatures hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse

Chief Executive Officer
Belize Telemedia Limited





Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Jerny Pech Kanen. K. Cal KAHDINE SALAHAR THOUCIS Commodee Thesha Pelayo Paula Haylock Norclyn Uno Ohistian Malloch Maria Hamilton Michael Phillips Exlette Hyatt Teesha Singh Danica Blake Trania Maria Dave Leal Shadine Broadel	Signatures hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24-0ct-2024 24-0ct-2024 24-0ct-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
RAYMOND Gillett I meen Ken Omando Sagun = £25101 GLEnn Chaha X Giovanni Taylor Reginald Rodriguez Denton Barron	Signatures hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24
Michael Richard's < Irfaun Nu Man Jorge Aun! Erienne Burgess Jewelle Wought		24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Employee Name (Printed) Hirsty Segura Maria Ramos	Signatures hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	Date 24 ^m -oct - 244 24.10.2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Moshea Suite Jodi Smith Dianney Vanen Kemani Hilliams Jiselle Vega Guitio Manin Gisselle Rodriguez Teresta Vardla Sharla Coc Desivee Santos Anita Young Risa Elliott Ashley Brown Andy Vaca Hannel Captillo Gragon Segma Krystal Price Tiffany Wagner	Signatures hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Erika Hernandez		October 24,2024
Marty D. Castillo		October 24,2024
Nestor Publo		
Cosaria Cuéllar		October 24,2004
Erick Lopez		October 24, 2024
Abigail Neal		October, 24, 2024
Lonera Martina		October 24, 2024
Axel Magaña		October 24, 2024
Dawen Young		October 24, 2024.
Armando Suarez		October 24, 2024.
Naya Bodden		October 24, 2024
Monique Williams		October 24, 2024
Brittary Young		October 24, 2024.
Kyanna Talbert		October a4, 2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Employee Name (Printed) Jerelyn Young Abigan Rus Kamirra Turner Kenisha Stuart Stacey Haylock David Castillo	Signatures hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	Date 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Curlene Mathurs Bergino Langer. Brion Heubrene Dwain Wagner Curwen Arthurs Monique Wloodye Hervera Kristie Young Magdale no Chub Anwai Bradley Jonathan N. Martine Kabeesh Bungred Denviit Bevairs Inailly Denis	Signatures hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24.10/24 24.10.24 24-10-24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Employee Name (Printed) Ackelm Hores Edward Jones Tania Welch Jasmine Reyes Rucky Yucyb Leeann Ayala Alfonzo Guzman Jay J. Chapkina Shalamar Castill HARRISON August Heeyah Williams Josce Alvarez Jeffrey lacab Diego Pich Kenya Bernard Elbridy Cher Doen Older Diego France in Lagy,	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	Date Det 24th 2024 11 11 11 11 11

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Miguel Nead Daniel Raquena Phillip Franklin	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	Oct 24, 2024 Oct 24, 2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
CALVERT STAINE Fallet Plowers Macin Ledge Danlens Cofe Earl Teffories	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	0ct 24 oct 24 2024 oct 24, 2024 RY/10/24 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Nigel Stenferd MATTHEW HAYlak RByKhulison Jael Ottleg Jesus Alvarez Hector Cache Belmont Back JASON GIDSON Filberto Rivero Kimar Sampson Maxlee Garb utt Gilford Perez Ryan Broaster Molcolm Longsworth Ewart Young Clarence Tilett	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Hary Heighan		October 24, 302
Juan Marin		CkAsber Eyr 2824
Kirk Sutherland		october 24th, 2024 24th October 2021
Yusef Usher		2944 CCIODEV 2021
Emost Ellistt		24th Oct- 2024
Karyesa Reyes		October 24th, 2004
Edmar Gonzalez		October 24th 202
DAVID Price		October 24,20
Julio Gracias		oct 24,2024
1		Oct, 24et, 2024
Abner Generalez Douglas Robinson		Oct, 24th, 2024
		Uct, C.,
Sherene Ramharak		October 24, 2024
Tyra Zuniga		October 24,2024
Ezron Morey		October 24, 2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Employee Name (Printed) NECSER CASTATEON Viulli Nue o Lijael Romano Iran Mananilla Colia Chie Saray Correa (Jatel Barrean Shawn Gonguez	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	Date 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Mark Velosgooz Joir Martiner Zulma uh	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24/10/24 24/10/24 24/1024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Kenroy Palacio Signal Desburn Palacio un	gnature hidden for rotection against nauthorized ccess and misuse.	24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024

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Employee Name (Printed) RyAn Cus. Miro Norberto Coya Abimael Mendozo androw Pelly Brandon Copez Tarott U.S Cu DENZIL BARNAN Allan Stuard Akeem Rynolds Kayla Meyla (Mayla Meyla (Mayla Meyla)	against unauthorized access and misuse.	October 24, 2024 October 24, 2024 24-Oct-24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Anton Pandy Terrace Morina HILTON MOREY John King Jr Keyon Cabral Acka Bonnell Esmin Camillo Ivor Though Dead Mitchell My Casto	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Erwin Aragin Said Ayusu Amairani Coock. Fernando Novelo Elisa M. Novelo Rigoberto Novelo Omar Ayuso ABELLO ctto Javrence Breckett. Maritze Osorio John Ayuso	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24-0ct-2024 24-0ct-2024 Oct 24th 2024 Oct 24, 2024 Oct 24, 2024 Oct 24, 2024 Oct 24, 2024 Oct 24, 2024 Oct, 24, 2024 Oct, 24, 2024 Oct, 24, 2024 Oct, 24, 2024 Oct, 24, 2024 Oct, 24, 2024
Maritze Osoria		Oct. 24th, 2024.

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Michael Muschamp Courtney Garcia Karl Tulcey Sharon Revez	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24/10/24 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 34/10 2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
David Romers From Russen Cain Arelee Parham Janelle Arzu Trenton Marin Donield Chiffin Anastacio Chelsey Convett Etton Quett- Reece Wade Narvey words Adrian Gill Daniel Musching Reman Woody's Keegenn Ack Jerry wicholas Devon Baizer	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24-10-24 24-10-24 24-10-24 24-10-204 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024

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Alessandra Carrillo Alessandra Carrillo Joshua Ave Luis Castellanos Afthur Hyr Odan waight Yesenia Briceno Gustan Morriquis Luis Zuniga Jose Tesucum Jose Tesucum	24/24/24 10-24-2024 10/24/24 10/24/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Janey Alegrica LESSICA Elley Joaquin Chi Granik Bracket Edward Thompson Lintord August Mores Varguer Scott Westbil Recark Austerly Demen Corcamo Lais Reques Giovanni Taylor Elston Glenn Kirk Williams Ryan Hislop Andrew Eghosen Justin Moody	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	10-24-24 10-24-24 10-24-24 24/10/2024 24/10/24 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-2024 24-10-24 24-10-24 24-10-24 24-10-24 24-10-24 24-10-24 24/10/24 24/10/24
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Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Employee Name (Printed) Renan Bernard Edgar Garcia Jaycie Talbert Marco Riverall John Quemeil Ric Lowgor Dorian Andrews R. GARBUTT D. Westby Tan Hemsley Bedro Fernander Renell Alamilla Dennis Surke Durir Cruz	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024 24/10/2024
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Signatures		
Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Chery Bosch Douid Guerra Brewdon Reymond Heidi Cruz Trvin Williams Zare Gibson Ray Main Elias Torres Shelwadine Penez Ashdon D. Zuniga	Signature hidder for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	0.1.24 2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Emily Turner Christopher Aguilar Nick Rhabin Michael Cooper Keenen Berure Johan Hoare	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Employee Name (Printed) KILERU AWICH Aucita Gualoz Marquisha Butler	Signature Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24 OCT 2024 24 Oct. 2024 24 Oct. 2024

Roxanne Berry Adrian Guerrero Signature Signature	Date 24 10 2024
Neidy Cantum Carmen Huschamp Rujaun Baptist Stephanie Contreras Mariely Trimining Ronnie Canto Stacy walker EARL VERNON Anitha Turton Herman Busher George Herbert Shoshana Mordy Miriam Juarez Amparo Asevedo Andred Braun Kerrick James Loretta Lucas	24/10/2024 24/10/2024

Employee Name (Printed) Signature Signature	gnature Date
Linsworth Graham	24/10/24
awal M. Strales	24/10/24
Tyrone Crewford	24/10/24
Primrose Augustine	24/10/24
Shannon alwarz	24/10/24
Karen Dongal	24/10/204
Knoten Matthews	a4 10 (2024
Kristie Codd	24/10/2024
Lexan Flowers	24/10/2024
Shajira Martinez	24/10/2024
Manissa Chilhany	i. I. is
FERNO RIVERO	10/14/24.
	10191/9091
Verrie Gladden	10/24/2024
tichael Muschamp	10/24/2024
Choniece Hyde	10/24/2024
Docum Rene Puga	10/24/2024
shayida Berry	10/24/2024
amara Ramsey	10/24/2024
auguelis Theren	10/04/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Employee Name (Printed) Kyle C. Gillett Kjarra Talbert Britany Black Romaldo Sutable Ariana Cairi Trava Gentle Glorey Kisting Vanessa Vidal Chadrack VS gum Tifara Nicholson hozano Samuel Sclassie Erin Brackett Ernesto Salam Vanessa Harua Luwana Lino Benedico Romas Diedra West	Signature hidde for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Alyssa Hoare Delfin Munoz Ariadne Gomer Erica Novelo Vanique Songle Monique Songle Monique Ford Vicente Kengen Wright Sarah Mchaushy Kentan Lina Melanie Blake Julie Dera Vivian Courtenay Kendra Conorquia	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024 10/24/2024

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Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Alfonso Muñoz Alexir Ellis Shakeura arnold Jonine Samuels Lisha Young Lashonde Rhodas Geovanni Chin Floren tino Cal Anito Belishe Shara Poscascio Lisbeth Ayusu Caus Roy Pose Camel Chin KENDRA SANTOS Khaliya Unoc Joretta Lucas Linsworth Graham Janel I Paulino Cadine Rhamdas	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24 Oct 2024 24 Oct 2024 24 Oct 2024 24 Oct 2024 24 Oct 2024 24 10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24
THE WHOLKS		24th Ochober, 2024

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Deborah Lord Emma Overlano Selia Lewis Conduda Ullima	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24/10/24 24/10/24 24/10/24
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Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Pearl Sawers Potricia Requence Cody Chan Vosri Reves Cristophene Supaul Ian Middleton Elvis Dominguez Tyme Ro Lingus Hughson Baptist Dwayne Moody Russal & Muschamp Jordan Herrera Mark Bowman Robert Fraser RAUL GAMAS	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24 25/10/24

Employee Name (Printed)	Signature	Date
Stephanie Hall Amary Samos Lupita Blanco Annel Lemus Rusen N. Vargas MARIO PLUINOZ	Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.	24-0ct-2024 24-0ct-2024 24-0ct-2024 24-0ct-2024 24-0ct-2024 24-0ct-2024

Employee Name (Printed)

Fourt McFadzean

WICHEM ECLIOTI

VIONIE Selgado

Sylvia Clarke

Elvis Borland

Jordan Santos

MARSHA HAMLOCK

IND CLEVEZLY

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protection
against
unauthorized
access and
misuse.

24-001-2024 24-001-2024 24-001-2024 24-001-2024 24-001-2024 24-001-2024 24-001-24

telecom telecom <telecom@puc.bz>

Belize Business Bureau objects to Starlink Belize LLC application for a Telecom License

1 message

Business Bureau <businessbureau.bz@gmail.com> To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 10:50 AM

Dear Public Utilities Commission,

I attached Belize Business Bureau's letter objecting to the application for a telecommunication service provider license for Starlink Belize LLC.

Kind regards, Arturo Lizarraga

BBB objects to Starlink.pdf 570K



Dear Public Utilities Commission

President:

Arturo Lizarraga **Vice President:** Enrique Rosado **Treasurer:** Raymond Cox

Directors:

Secretary:

Gloria Meza

Alfredo Ortega Ernesto Perera Michelle Cox Daniel Matus

Past President:

Misael Flores Meliton Auil Dr. Cardo Martinez Lourdes Smith Rosalie Staines

Foreign Office Representatives:

Juan Carlos Sepulcre Spain Anthony Vandervelde **Belgium** Jorge Valencia México

Mike Godoy **USA**

Belize Business Bureau objects to the granting of a telecommunication service provider license to Starlink Belize LLC and request that their application is rejected. The BBB, as the nationally chartered productive sector organization confirms that the losses will far outweigh the gains.

Deterioration of National Investment: Digi \$100 million in FTTH will not be recovered and this will affect Social Security and government investment in a constitutionally established company. This means less return for the contributors' fund. Profits from this new provider will be repatriated—a return to colonial economic imperialism.

Threat to Sovereignty and National Security: Personal internet data will be owned by the foreign provider with no control by the regulatory agency. Citizens have a right to their data and how it is used. Today there is high market penetration with national coverage at 95% by Digi Mobile alone, so the new entrant will be motivated to lower prices to drive out the two local providers, our national investment in telecom infrastructure will be lost. A nation without control over its communication is exposed and its sovereignty threatened. The new provider will be out of reach of national compliance and regulatory control.

In India and Africa Starlink, a unit to SpaceX is a significant threat to local ISP and telecoms who have spent millions is laying cables and building mobile towers. The Association of Telecommunications Companies in Nigeria have called for sanctions to Starlink's unapproved subscription price increases. FFCC Chair Jessica Rosenworcel called Starlink "a monopoly" with it 7,000 satellites. She further added, "Our economy does not benefit form monopolies." The regulatory body, Indonesian Competition Authority announces an investigation into PT Starlink Services Indonesia (Starlink) over alleged unfair competition.

BBB was at the forefront in the battle to get BTL to provide affordable VOIP. It continued its opposition to monopolies (butane) and it is once again recommending to the People's Constitution Commission that fair competition becomes a protected right in the new constitution.

Elon Musk, founder of X com merged with Confinity and was a part of the PayPal Mafia. The founder of PayPal, author of Zero to One, Peter Thiel and Musk, the founder of SpaceX share the philosophy that "striving for a monopoly, is crucial for a business's success." SpaceX has established itself as a monopoly within its advanced technologies and market control (Chinese lithium batteries), so much so, that buyers no longer own their electric car but are paying for a subscription.

Starlink, a unit of SpaceX is a giant with no cage. Forewarned is forearmed.

Best Regards,

Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.

President

Cc: Hon. John Briceño, Prime Minister

telecom telecom <telecom@puc.bz>

Social Security Objects to License to Starlink

1 message

Dr. Leroy Almendarez <laimendarez@socialsecurity.org.bz>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 4:57 PM

To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Cc: Nigeli Sosa <nsosa@socialsecurity.org.bz>

Dear Public Utilities Commission,

Attached is Social Security Board's formal objection to the granting of a license to Starlink.

REgards



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HEADQUARTERS

October 25th, 2024

Bliss Parade, Belmopan (501) 822-2163

(501) 822-2513

P.O. Box 18

Dear Public Utilities Commission:

www.socialsecurity.org.bz

Concerns: (501) 822-0084 License, as Internet Service Provider (ISP), to Starlink Belize LLC.

BRANCH OFFICES

Facebook: ssbbelize

Belize City

(501) 224-5025 (501) 224-5392

Belmopan

(501) 822-0085 (501) 822-0086

Corozal

(501) 422-2276

Dangriga (501) 522-2101

Independence (501) 523-2083

Placencia (Sub-office) (501) 523-3619

Orange Walk (501) 322-2217

Punta Gorda (501) 722-2076

San Pedro

(501) 226-2625 Santa Elena

(501) 824-2178

info@socialsecurity.org.bz The Social Security Board (SSB), established in 1981, has at its core, the mandate to provide social insurance for employed persons; as a result of the growth in population compounded by an increase in number of benefits, the SSB is required to explore investment avenues that will contribute to the long-term growth and sustainability of the fund. In this regard, SSB is a significant shareholder in Belize Telemedia Limited, owning 34% of the Company. Thus, any issue that affects BTL, is also felt by the SSB and ultimately our beneficiaries, which are the working people of this country. SSB's response therefore places greater emphasis on the social impact based on financial and market analysis, rather than on the technological impact of satellite services

Subject: Social Security Board's (SSB) strongly objects to the granting of a Class

These could have more impact upon the market share movements than the material pros or cons of the technology.

- a. SSB's primary interest is, as a significant Telemedia shareholder, maximizing revenue and stemming risks to positive revenue growth from this investment.
- b. This investment contributes to the continued growth in reliable and sustainable internet services, creating greater efficiencies in the way we do business in Belize and engagements with countries across the globe. This reliability results in increased uptake of Telemedia's Internet and other services bundled for a greater business experience.
- c.SSB is also a consumer of Internet Service Provider (ISP) services and the potential impact upon resiliency and business continuity and alternative paths to its platform that has evolved into a significant cloud presence. SSB relies heavily on a stable and available internet for its core operations. Maintaining reliability and availability of its services requires not only stable architecture but also redundancy.
- d. The financial analysis and security of investments in its Associate, Belize Telemedia Limited, contributes to ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Social Security Scheme which allows for timely provision of benefits to the people of Belize. This year our investment in BTL generated \$3.8M.
- e. Satellite internet is very convenient and allows for mobility and accessibility in remote areas. On the other hand, and with all other things equal, a wireless connection is less stable than a wired connection.

- f. Wireless connections are subject to various forms of interference. The characteristics of a satellite service make it technologically advantageous, if the primary need is remote access, and intermittent degradation in performance is not a significant concern. Just as with solar power concerns in Belize, satellite-based services will have to contend with the high percentage of cloud cover experienced in Belize.
- g. Cloud cover can degrade satellite service, at times significantly. Nevertheless, an exodus of consumers over to the new service, even for a temporary period, will take a toll on the market share and revenue of the existing providers and their shareholder,
- h. In essence, granting of the License to Starlink will result in lost market share for Belize Telemedia Limited that would lead to a reduction in investment income to the SSB.

Sincerely,

Dr. Leroy Almendarez Chief Executive Officer Social Security Board

cc: Social Security Board of Directors

telecom telecom <telecom@puc.bz>

Objection to license of Starlink

1 message

Hubert Enriquez <cubat2020@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sun, Oct 27, 2024 at 11:55 PM

Dear sSr/Madam

Please find attached letter of objection to the granting of license to starlink. We shall be grateful for your consideration of this request

Hubert Enriquez



PUC re objection license to Starlink.docx 103K

Association of Beneficiaries and Retired Public Officers 14 Baldy Beacon Street

Belmopan, Cayo District, BELIZE

Telephones: 501 610 1383; 501 601 8094 Email: cubat2020@qmail.com; marjorieparks58@qmail.com
President: Hubert Enriquez Secretary: Marjorie Parks Vice President: Evan Dakers Assistant Secretary: Rosalie Saldivar
Treasurer: Peter August

Public Utility Commission Belize city Belize

27th Oct, 2024

Dear Sir/Madam;

Application for license Starlink Belize LLC

Reference your advert in local media re abovenamed subject.

The Association of Beneficiaries and Retired Public Officers (ABRPO) is a registered not for profit company whose membership is comprised primarily of retired public officers with substantial joint ownership of shares in BTL.

On behalf of its members the association hereby expresses its objection to the granting of license to Starlink for the provision of internet services in Belize.

Sincerely,

Hubert Enriquez President



MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, LOGISTICS & E-GOVERNANCE

Second Floor. Toucan Plaza Building, 7299 George Price Boulevard Phone: 822-0810/822-0401 Fax: 822-2394

My Ref: ENG/06/01/24(56)

October 24, 2024

Mr. Dean Molina Chairman Public Utilities Commission Marina Towers, Belize

Dear Mr Molina.

Re: Starlink Belize LLC's Class License Application

The Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy, Logistics, and E-Governance extends its warmest regards and respectfully brings to your attention the Ministry's views on the Starlink Belize LLC's application for a Class License to provide internet services within Belize.

Starlink's innovative satellite technology, which traditionally operates without the need for extensive physical infrastructure, offers the potential for competitive pricing that could impact the local telecommunications market. In light of this, the Ministry would kindly recommend that, should approval be considered, Starlink's operations in Belize be facilitated through a local agent, ensuring alignment with local industry dynamics and subject to our national tax regime.

To do otherwise would be to create an unfair market advantage over existing ISP's who have had to invest heavily in "on the ground" infrastructure.

We trust that these recommendations will contribute to a balanced and equitable solution, ensuring both the enhancement of national connectivity and the continued growth of our local telecommunications sector.

Please accept the assurances of our highest esteem and consideration.

Signature hidden for protection against unauthorized access and misuse.

HON. MICHEL CHEBAT Minister of Public Utilties, Energy, Logistics and E-governance

Starlink Belize LLC – Class Licence Application – Internet Service Provider

Allan Romero <micallan.17@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Thu, Oct 17, 2024 at 9:15 AM

I Allan Romero fully support the granting of service provider license to Starlink Belize LLC, my reasons are as follows:

- 1. Provide internet service to very remote areas of the country including remote villages in rural areas where the current ISPs are unable or unwilling to provide service due to there being no incentive in doing so. This also includes areas where our armed forces are stationed, having a satellite internet service would be beneficial in any type of emergency situation for our troops which currently have to rely on very old 2 way radio communications. Having modern connectivity is best as it is less prone to failures.
- 2. For urban areas, Starlink can provide a backup internet service to compliment consumers' ISP needs in a very fast changing environment. As a country that has a high percentage of employed citizens in the BPO industry that work from home, having a backup internet service is crucial in the business to remain connected to work in the event of a local ISP having issues. This also helps with being business friendly as businesses can also benefit from a backup internet service and also an incentive for more foreign business investments in the country once they know options are available.
- 3. Having more ISPs is beneficial to consumers as this creates more competition and citizens have more options to choose to support their internet needs. Having competition would lower internet services which would allow people with no access to the internet to finally be able to afford a service entry. Our Belize is a small country yet less than half of the population have access to the internet, it's crucial for work, school, business and so many other benefits it can provide.
- 4. Climate change is a serious thing and because of this, Belize is prone to more powerful storms, If a strong storm was to hit and local ISP infrastructure is damaged, having a service such as Starlink can get people back online after a storm very quickly as it does not require to be connected to fiber or copper wires that Local ISPs use. After a storm, local ISP infrastructure can take weeks to months to be fully restored. Starlink would allow people to stay connected in these types of scenarios. As the USA experienced 2 major hurricanes recently, all over the news we can see the ways starlink has been able to maintain people connected.

Lastly this is a great opportunity for the country of Belize to join the rest of the world with modern day technology and for its people to have options to be connected to something so essential as Internet connectivity.

Thanks
Allan Romero
+5016292503
Sent from my iPhone

Starlink

Cheryl Kirk <cherylkirk@sbcglobal.net> To: telecom@puc.bz

Thu, Oct 17, 2024 at 3:44 PM

Please approve the Starlink License Application!

Your consideration is appreciated.

Regards, Cheryl Kirk 613-3630

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Application for Telecommunications License Starlink Belize, LLC

Daniel Henrich <dhenrich@ymail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Fri, Oct 18, 2024 at 12:55 PM

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

it has come to my knowledge that Starlink Belize, LLC has applied with the PUC Belize for a telecommunications license to provide internet service in the entire country of Belize.

As a resident of a very rural part of Belize, I would very much appreciate a positive decision on granting Starlink Belize, LLC the license of offering internet services throughout Belize. For over a decade my family and me have been struggling to get by with internet on our property. Multiple attempts to reach out to the established internet providers in Belize in order to improve availability of their service have been in vain.

This was especially painful during the Covid pandemic when work and school and much of social interaction was shifted to virtual working/learning/meeting. As the internet and related fields are becoming increasingly important to the daily life routine, a non- or barely existing availability of internet in certain regions of Belize becomes a serious disadvantage.

Starlink is globally renown for their technical ability to provide internet service to even the most remote places of the planet. Belize is a sparsely populated country, with many residents living in areas of poor or no internet service at all.

Hence, I humbly request your kind consideration of please granting the license to provide internet services to Starlink Belize, LLC. It stands to reason that none of the established internet providers in Belize will be able or even willing to serve those remote areas of the country, thus their probable objection to grant this license to Starlink Belize, LLC as another competitor in the market should be challenged by this rationale.

Your effort to make decisions on behalf of all citizens and residents of Belize is highly appreciated.

Very respectfully, Daniel Henrich

Support for Approving Starlink in Belize

1 message

Luis <hello@kwiqpass.com>
To: telecom <telecom@puc.bz>

Sat, Oct 19, 2024 at 4:09 PM

To Whom it may concern,

As KwiqPass expands to offer event services across various locations in Belize, reliable internet access has become critical for our operations. Starlink's satellite internet solution would significantly enhance our ability to deliver seamless experiences, especially in remote or underserved areas where traditional internet services are limited. Approving Starlink and granting it a license would not only benefit businesses like ours but also increase connectivity for countless others across the country, fostering greater accessibility and technological advancement.

Best Regards,

Luis Aguilar Jr. Director KwiqPass www.kwiqpass.com +501 638-6776

Support for Starlink

1 message

Andrew Page Intertek <andrew.page@intertek.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 8:32 AM

Dear Sirs,

I would like to express my support for licence for Starlink to provide Internet service in Belize. It would be of great benefit to businesses and individuals, particularly remote workers in Belize. It would attract people and businesses to the country in the knowledge that they could access fast, reliable Internet in any location. Kind regards

Andrew Page

Mile 21, Hummingbird Highway, Belize

Total Quality. Assured.

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This email may contain confidential or privileged information, if you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient then please notify us by return email immediately. Should you have received this email in error then you should not copy this for any purpose nor disclose its contents to any other person.

http://www.intertek.com

In support for STARLINK approval

1 message

Robert Marek <robson13@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 12:43 PM

Hello,

I would like to voice my support in approval for STARLINK in Belize.

We live in the Harmonyville area and we cannot use any internet services offered by Belize internet providers. No service is available to us since we are off the grid.

Thank you, Robert Marek robson13@gmail.com

Please approve STARLINK in Belize

1 message

carla neal <sanpedro1999@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: carla neal <sanpedro1999@yahoo.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 12:45 PM

Hello,

I would like to voice my support in approval for STARLINK in Belize.

We live in the Harmonyville area and we cannot use any internet services offered by Belize internet providers. No service is available to us since we are off the grid.

Thank you,

Carla Neal

Starlink

1 message

Aaron Juan <executivedirector@belizekarst.org> To: telecom@puc.bz

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 3:25 PM

I think its a great Idea to get this kind of service in Belize. It would be nice to have internet connection for Protected Area managers like Belize Karst Habitat Conservation. Working in the wilderness of the Tapir Mountain Nature Reserve we lack internet connection in most places of the reserve which makes our job much more difficult.

I say yes to Starlink.

Starlink

1 message

Bernhard Krahn btkrahn@icloud.com

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 4:49 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Please give them the license. We need internet service for remote/ rural areas. Thanks Bernhard Krahn Sent from my iPhone

Starlink

1 message

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 5:03 PM

I support this move. Bring Starlink to Belize.

Sent from my iPhone

Starlink Belize's application

1 message

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 5:49 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Hello...

I'm writing in response to the announcement seeking comments about the pending application to permit internet service in Belize.

I live in Sarteneja where I've had internet service through 2 different service providers over the past 2 years and the 3rd (Diginet) is not available. As unfortunate as it is, my service is interrupted, 2-3 times per month for a host of reasons, non of which relates to weather.

I have done a lot of research into this company (Starlink) and their up-time is 99%. I highly recommend approving their application and do not believe it will conflict with the service provided by other providers

Respectfully,

Preston Allbritton.

Starlink application

1 message

Ralph_Christina Mueller <rcadventures@hotmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 5:56 PM

Good day.

I would like to provide support to the granting of an operating license to starlink to provide satellite internet in Belize.

While supporting local businesses is of the utmost importance in Belize, there are areas where neither Digi nor Smart are able or willing to provide internet service.

Our location is but one of those, and there are many that are too isolated to provide Fibre optic or even copper wire service and are too far from a service tower to receive wireless service.

If these local providers offered services, I am certain customers would prefer the less expensive and local providers over the more expensive Starlink. That said, since the local providers elect not to offer service to many isolated and sparsely populated areas, one could rightly surmise that there is no profit lost to any Belizean companies if starlink is permitted to provide services to those locations.

Far flung locations will be aided in both personal security and opportunity through this connectivity. This will include many rural schools poorly served at this time.

None of these statements are intended to critique the current providers as sound business decisions need to be made for a return on investment.

If the license to starlink is denied, the PUC should consider mandating the current providers to serve all locations and citizens of Belize.

Ralph Mueller 3 miles east of Gales Point

Unable to provide service from Digi or Smart despite numerous requests

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

Star link internet

1 message

davis cardenas ek <daviscardenas2012@gmail.com> To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz> Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM

I am delighted that this service has come to Belize...at last we going to have good internet service...I have used it when I went out of the country...how can I be able I getting this service...

Starlink Belize LLC

1 message

Maurice Bol <bol_maurice@hotmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 6:35 PM

To whom it may concern,

We believe that it is a good idea for Starlink to be in Belize so that everyone can benefit. Only concern is will it be affordable for our Belizeans of low income.

We are for it and hopefully the PUC will be able to make sure that it is affordable for all Belizean.

Thanks,

Maurice

Starlink Support

1 message

Erica Cormier <cormierrei@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sun, Oct 20, 2024 at 7:55 PM

Good evening,

I'd like to submit my support and recommendation that Belize allow the use of Starlink. Frequent disconnections, poor networks and slow service is not conducive to growing the Belize economy especially in the digital growth being seen worldwide. I have a new business for a coworking office space that will bring remote workers from around the world to discover Belize and they're #1 requirement is reliable internet access. Digital nomads and business professionals want to come to Belize and stay connected so they can stay longer. Help grow the economy by allowing another service provider that stands out globally in quality and reliability so people can stay connected.

Thank you,

Erica Lacasse 501-611-6002

Starlink application

1 message

Curtis Brager <curtis.brager@gmail.com>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 12:21 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

I am a property and business owner in Belize and I fully support Starlink's bid to offer internet services within Belize. We are underserved, particularly in rural areas, and increased competition will only benefit Belizeans.

Curtis Brager 1.5 Mile Macaw Bank Rd San Antonio Village Cayo District

(no subject)

1 message

James <chucjames224@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 7:19 AM

To whomever it may concern,

I very well accept the idea of introducing another company to provide a much needed service to Belize especially in remote areas.

Please grant the license immediately without any consultation.

Thanks in advance

Best Regards, James

Public Comment - Starlink application

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 7:43 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Please see below communication for your attention:

----Original Message-----

From: Gary <ggibbonshh@yahoo.ca> Sent: Sunday, 20 October 2024 21:24

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: Starlink application

Good day,

I live in sittee river where there's a jungle separating me from the towers in Hopkins. I have not been able to access internet as a result. I have been waiting for several years for starlink to finally be approved here only to see every other country in Central America get it besides us. Belize is one of only a few in all of the Americas still without starlink.

Starlink will not hurt any existing internet companies as it will be mostly used by people that can't get internet any other way.

Please finally bring internet to everyone in Belize by accepting starlinks license application.

Thank you

Gary Gibbons

Sent from my iPhone

Public Comment - Starlink application

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 7:45 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Please see below communication for Starlink Application your attention:

From: Hideaway Caye <hideawaycaye@yahoo.com>

Sent: Saturday, 19 October 2024 20:45

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: Starlink application

To Whom it may concern,

Thank you in advance for accepting general inquiries and concerns about bringing Starlink to this beautiful country. I believe Starlink would be a great asset to the country. Many of us live in areas that Digi and Smart do not have coverage. I live on the cayes and homeschool my child and would really appreciate better internet to do so. Many of the neighboring cayes struggle with the same issue. Please consider Starlinks application it will really better the lives of many. Thank you

Kim Ingersoll

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Support for Starlink Application in Belize

1 message

David Santilli <dsantilli@doggedsavvy.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 8:17 AM

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a Belizean citizen who owns multiple properties where the internet is unavailable from BTL or Smart, I would encourage you to approve Starlink's application to service Belize.

Development of the rural south especially would benefit from the ability to conduct business from anywhere in the country.

Sincerely, David Santilli

--

David Santilli Principal, Dogged Savvy, Ltd.

Plan, Brand & Grow Your Business Washington, DC: 202-738-4038 Toledo, Belize: +501-610-0341

https://doggedsavvy.com

Starlink

1 message

Aaron Pershing <pershing400@gmail.com>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 8:31 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Good day ..

After see the great news about starlink apply for a license in Belize i felt the need to voice my opinion ..

I'm in total support of starlink being able to provide it's services in Belize..

As I live in some watt of a remote area of country both phone signal and internet connection from ant of the local providers are not available in are community.

For many years the community has tried different methods of getting a network in the area. But all efforts are for the most part not working..

That being said I see starlink as are only real solution..

I' would hope that u guy make the right decision..

Have a blessed day.

Aaron Pershing

www.wildtracksbelize.org

telecom telecom <telecom@puc.bz>

Starlink 1 message	
office@wildtracksbelize.org <office@wildtracksbelize.org> To: telecom@puc.bz</office@wildtracksbelize.org>	Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 9:22 AN
Good Morning,	
Whilst not a fan of Elon Musk, I'm writing in support of Starlink's application to pro-	vide internet service here in Belize.
Situated nearly two miles from Sarteneja, Wildtracks is outside the range of both E their antennae do not point in this direction. We therefore obtain our internet servic Stellar Links' service is generally OK, it does not have any emergency power back so whenever there is a power blackout, we lose internet service, as we do with ba any telephone service here either, this leaves us without communication moderate case in severe weather conditions.	ce from Stellar Links in Corozal. Whilst c-up system in Sarteneja (or Corozal?), d weather conditions. As we barely have
As a satellite system, Starlinks should remain unaffected by these factors and their provider, especially in times of emergencies like hurricane events. If Starlinks is gresorice in Belize, Wildtracks will sign up for the service at the earliest opportunity communications in times of emergency, and secondarily throughout the relatively weather that plague our current access via Stellar Links. In all likelihood, we would Starlinks would be additional to, rather than replace our current ISP.	ranted a license to provide internet – primarily to ensure that we retain frequent power outages and inclement
Best regards,	
Paul.	
Paul Walker.	
Director,	
Manatee & Primate Rehabilitation Centre,	
Wildtracks - a Belizean registered non-profit organization.	

REF: STARLINK BELIZE, LLC TELECOMMUNICATION LICENCE

1 message

Robert Garcia <rsgarcia1105@hotmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 11:43 AM

Good morning,

I write on behalf of **myself** to place on record my support for the granting of a Telecommunication Licence to Starlink Belize LLC. I currently serve as an Systems Development manager for one of the larger banks in Belize.

Services such as Starlink's are no longer a luxury but instead fill critical gaps in the services that are currently available in Belize. I refer you to the case of hurricane Beryl on the island of Carriacou in Grenada. One Starlink mini served as the only link to the outside after the passage of the storm (https://youtu.be/WOy62qojiFg?t=577).

Starlink would also serve as a third layer in the event of Cyber attacks on our local networks. We have already seen cases in Belize where a single DDOS attack has caused simultaneous disruptions to services of two local ISPs.

While I appreciate the importance of protecting our local providers, I see no reason why Starlink should not be allowed to operate in Belize. Licenses can be granted on the condition that consumers must also have contracted the services of local providers if there is a concern on the impact to local ISPs.

Thank you, Robert Garcia

Starlink

1 message

David Brenchley <david.s.brenchley@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 9:46 AM

Considering recent events in North Carolina where Starlink was the sole means for authorities to communicate in devastated areas it would wise for Belize to give this license request serious consideration.

Starlink satellite

1 message

s.w. killick <s.w.killick@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 11:05 AM

Hello PUC,

I live 'off-grid' in Belize and struggle with a slow satellite internet connection. The BTL radio connection is so unreliable as to be unusable. I strongly support the granting of Starlink a license to operate - the sooner the better.

Regards,

Stephen Killick (tel. 610-4360)

Starlink Application - Comment

1 message

john powers <srewopnhoj@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 12:21 PM

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the public notice of the application and the opportunity to offer comments. I am an active member of the QRP program. I'm currently renovating a property on the island of Caye Caulker. The property is not connected to the island's power, telecommunications, or water systems. I hope to eventually create an eco-friendly and sustainable business on this property and take advantage of the Retire and Invest program. However, this investment is much less attractive without a proper internet connection.

I've already built a large cistern to support my water needs and installed solar panels to help my power needs. But I need to find a way to solve the problem of a lack of internet connectivity. Enabling Starlink for properties like mine that can't take advantage of the infrastructure installed in Belize's more densely populated parts would be an excellent motivator for more investment. Given the price difference, there would be little incentive for people already connected to the local internet providers to switch to Starlink, thus resulting in no revenue loss.

The portable nature of the connections and the ability to take on a boat for trips around the coastland of Belize would also be very beneficial for tour operators. I suspect that it's not allowed to use Belize as a port of call because Starlink is not allowed to operate within Belize. This is a great business opportunity for the country, with a foreseeable downside for the current providers.

Best regards,

John Powers Caye Caulker

Starlink in Belize

1 message

Wilson Lake Campground & Resort WLCR <wilsonlakecamp@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 12:43 PM

Starlink in Belize would be wonderful, as we typically spend October-March in Belize, and still have businesses in the US. We have tried to work with Digi and Smart to get better service where our house is located and they have not/will not assist to make our coverage better. We at best get 2 bars of service with Digi, typically we only get 1 bar. It makes it impossible to do any work at our house for our businesses, even to call family we normally do not have good enough service to do so at our home. We have had a home in Belize for the last 8 years, we love being there and if we could get better service with starlink as a provider, we may consider staying longer and eventually making Belize a full time home. Please consider allowing Starlink to be used in Belize, as there are places that simply cannot get coverage from the cellular providers that are existing there currently. Thank you for your time.

Kim Zinecker Mayacan Beach Community

Yes love the idea

1 message

Karl Reimer <karl@graincleanseed.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 1:08 PM

I would like a steady stream of internet directly to my business. Get on with it. Eventually we will need it anyway so why not now.

Karl

Starlink application

1 message

Anatoli Poujai <anatoli.poujai@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 1:15 PM

Good day,

I would like to respond to your invitation to express comments regarding Starlink application.

I would like to support this application. I sincerely hope that availability of this service will greatly contribute to further development of reliable internet services in Belize.

Thank you very much and have a nice day.

Anatoli Poujai

Sent from Outlook for Android

Starlink

1 message

Mark Slichter <markslichter501@gmail.com>

Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 5:27 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Allison Slichter <allisonlee206@gmail.com>, Bea Slichter <slichters@gmail.com>, ak2az2002 <ak2az2002@gmail.com>, jeromie gmail <s8nzweb@gmail.com>

Greetings,

I am writing in favor of allowing Starlink into Belize.

As a resident of Sittee River Village I find it untenable that Starlink has not already been allowed. There is no internet available where I live on the river.

All the citizens of the surrounding countries are already able to take advantage of the Starlink system. The fact that the GOB has not allowed the citizens of Belize is tantamount to criminal.

Please allow rural Belizieans the same access to internet as the rest of Belize and the world.

Thank you, Mark Slichter Sittee River Village, Belize, CA 501-614-7241

Support license Starlink

1 message

Marco Numan <marco.numan@talpanetwork.com>
To: "Telecom@puc.bz" <Telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 5:50 AM

Dear Mrs./Sr.

I strongly support the submission to allow Starlink in Belize. To date, many areas are not serviced by national ISP's while Internet connectivity is paramount for future development of our educational system, tourism, and business in general.

Best regards,

Marco Numan

Deze e-mail en de inhoud daarvan zijn vertrouwelijk en uitsluitend bestemd voor de persoon of entiteit aan wie deze is geadresseerd. Indien deze e-mail niet voor u is bestemd, verzoeken wij u ons daarover te informeren en de e-mail en eventuele kopieën daarvan volledig te verwijderen. Talpa Network is niet aansprakelijk voor de juiste en volledige verzending van de inhoud van deze e-mail of voor de tijdige ontvangst ervan. Talpa Network garandeert niet dat deze e-mail vrij is van virussen, intercepties, of de tussenkomst van onbevoegde derden en is niet aansprakelijk voor eventuele schade als gevolg daarvan. Talpa Network B.V. is geregistreerd bij de Kamer van Koophandel onder nummer 72013176.

Public Comment - Starlink

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 7:46 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention, below please see comment received regarding Starlink's application:

From: Norma <normajeanchin@yahoo.com> Sent: Monday, 21 October 2024 14:22

To: info@puc.bz Subject: Starling

Please make it affordable to all . As it is costly to provide decent internet service that is reliable currently.

The local population can barely afford rent, the kids require WiFi to complete homework for school.

Please consider charging residents less than hotels and businesses.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ms.Chin

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Public Comment - Starlink Application

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 7:48 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention, below please see comment received regarding Starlink's application:

----Original Message-----

From: Kennett Husseman < khusseman@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 21 October 2024 18:01

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: Starlink Application

I am writing in support for the application submitted by Starlink. This would be beneficial for those of us who cannot be provided service by the other internet providers of Belize. I was in Digi last week and was told that they do not service my area. Another option for rural/off grid locations would help many in this country.

Thank you, Kennett

Sent from my iPhone

Please allow Starlink in Belize

1 message

Richard L <lawrerc@gmail.com>
Reply-To: lawrerc@gmail.com
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 9:10 AM

I am currently residing in a remote area in Belize that has very poor service from the cell towers and no access to cable internet for miles. My fear is that I may not be able to contact the emergency services if needed.

Having access to Starlink would enable me to have the internet access needed in the event of an emergency situation.

Please allow Starlink to have a license to operate in Belize.

Regards, Richard Lawrence

Starlink Satellite Internet for Belize

1 message

Jan Wilson <jan256wilson@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 11:18 AM

Hi,

I live in Corozal Town so I can get Digi FTTH. But I know people who live outside its coverage, and I really think we should offer them the chance to connect via Starlink.

Thanks

Jan R. Wilson

24 Third Ave Corozal Town

Starlink application

1 message

jeff andle <mr.jeff.andle@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 11:32 AM

Good day,

I am writing in support of Starlink's application to provide internet services in Belize. I feel this would significantly benefit rural residents of Belize.

Best Regards,

Jeff Andle

StarLink

1 message

Marvin Vanzie <mvanzie@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 11:48 AM

Hi

I write in support of StarLink's application. As a business owner, I've encountered multiple situations where Digi and Smart are not positioned to provide Net Service in remote areas of Belize.

Marvin S. Vanzie

Floralia supports the Star Link Application

1 message

Info <info@floralia.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 11:50 AM

To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Hello,

We write in support of this application. As a company that traverses the south, we can see where a satellite service like this would support business growth in Belize.



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the sender. If you received this message by mistake, please reply to this email and promptly delete it to prevent any inadvertent disclosure. Thank you.

Star Link Application

1 message

Info <info@swordandshield.bz>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 11:52 AM

Hi,

We heard that Star Link is applying to provide their service in Belize. We provide Security Services in some remote areas and a service like this would benefit our business and others like us, a lot. We support this.

Thank you Sebastian

Starlink Application

1 message

Susana Vanzie <susana.d.vanzie@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 11:58 AM

Hello,

I am writing to show my support for the approval of Starlink in Belize, no restrictions. Our country needs this service. I request that their application is approved without delay.

Kind regards,

Susana Vanzie

SUPPORT FOR STARLINK IN BELIZE

1 message

Patty Stevens <plstevens4367@yahoo.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 12:02 PM

To Belize PUC:

I am an American and also a Belizean Permanent Resident.

My husband and I are in full support of Starlink being given a license to operate in Belize. This would provide the ability for vital communications to ALL of the people of Belize living in Belize.

We respectfully encourage this license to be provided to Starlink without delay.

Thank you

Patricia Stevens Hopkins/Sittee Point Belize

Starlink In Belize

1 message

Sibun Forest Reserve <sibunforestreserve@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 12:19 PM

Dear PUC,

I would like share our support for Starlink in Belize. We are Southern Forest Product Limited and we operate in the Sibun Forest Reserve, where internet and phone service is not available. We would like for you to approve their application with no limitations.

Kind regards,

Southern Forest Company Limited

Starlink

1 message

brodie pope <discrenu@hotmail.com>
To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 12:26 PM

Dear sir/madam

I am in full support of bringing another internet option to belize. Some of us do not have high speed internet availability or any internet availability. I personally am on smart as it's the only option. It is OK but constantly goes up/down or on/off. It is not stable and tge max speed I can achieve is 40mgbs. I think it would be beneficial for tourist, digital nomads and business to have a high speed option. It would definitely benefit tourism.

Thanks Jason Pope

support	the	Starlink	Appli	cation

1 message

Daryl Jones <jones@mun.ca> To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 12:38 PM

Good afternoon

I support the Starlink Application

Starlink will not directly compete with the current Land based internet providers

Starlink is not the best choice for everyone

Land based internet providers, especially with fibre-op are fast and more economical

Starlink requires the purchase of equipment, and a monthly charge.

For Clients in remote and rural areas with no land based service, Starlink is essential.

The Application includes Community Gateways for under-serviced remote communities

"Community Gateways, Starlink satellites can deliver fiber-like speeds with local providers distributing connectivity to homes, businesses, and governments using last-mile fiber, fixed wireless and mobile wireless. The Community Gateway traffic transits through Starlink's global laser mesh network and utilizes our high bandwidth Gateways operating in a dedicated Ka spectrum band."

Thanks

Daryl Jones

We support Starlink Internet

1 message

Hattieville Village Council hattieville.vc@gmail.com To: "telecom@puc.bz" telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 12:41 PM

To whom it may concern

We at the Hattieville Village Council hereby support the Starlink Satellite Internet as this will aid many residents that have access to none.

We applaud this initiative and look forward to having multiple customers as some have already voiced thier interest from the time they saw the post on social media.

Regards

Dwayne Castillo Chairperson Hattieville Village Council

Starlink

1 message

Green Hills Butterfly <greenhillsbutterflyranch@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 12:51 PM

We write this email to show our support for Starlink's application to provide internet service in Belize, especially in rural areas where the local companies are unable to cover.

Thanks, Ervin Tzib Manager

Starlink

1 message

From the Desk From the desk <reisrogroupinc@hotmail.com>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 1:05 PM

To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Absolutely 100% this is needed. Coverage for places in the jungle.

Forest rangers , BDF, police, emergency personnel. During electrical outages.

And remote communities are not serviced by digicell.

This is an absolute must and we are 100% in support of Starlink.

Sent from my desk to yours

Please for Belize

1 message

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 1:08 PM

Would love to see SpaceX Starlink in Belize. How can we support??

Sent from my iPhone

Support for Starlink in Belize

1 message

David Rider <dave@winjama.net> To: telecom@puc.bz Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 1:29 PM

I support Starlink being available in Belize.

Dave Rider

Fwd: Starlink Application to Operate

1 message

Richard Keady <rkeady1@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:06 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

To Whom it May Concern:

>

- > I'm sending my support for the Belize Public Utilities Commission to support the Starlink application to operate in Belize. We are working toward relocating from the US to the Corazal area in the next 6 months to a property that is off the grid. while internet is available it is week and intermittent. I am using Starlink currently and already have an account and the equipment. Please support the application for people in my situation as well as others. It can also work when the power grid and cell towers are down (reference the latest hurricane tragedy in North Carolina).
- > I would appreciate your approval of this application.

>

- > Thank you !!
- > Richard Keady

>

> Sent from my iPhone

Starlink Application

1 message

patjaggers patjaggers@aol.com>
To: "Telecom@puc.bz" <Telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:13 PM

Good Afternoon:

My name is Patrick C, Jaggers and I have purchased and developed a property in Corozal District. It will be an eco-resort, as we are totally off grid with solar (Tesla) and water wells. We really need the services that Starlink have to offer and I totally support their application to provide their services to the country of Belize. In fact, Belizean's should be proud that Starlink wants to expand to our country. Their goal is to provide access to the internet worldwide and it would be very embarrassing to Belize were to decline this application. There are many remote places in this country that need and deserve this opportunity.

Thank you for you consideration.

Patrick C, Jaggers CrystalBayBelize.com

Starlink telecommunications License Application

1 message

thomasdoerrlawoffice@verizon.net < thomasdoerrlawoffice@verizon.net >

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:16

PM

To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

I am writing to enthusiastically support the issuance of a telecommunications license for Starlink.

First off, I am a recently naturalized Belize citizen. I live full time with my Belizean wife and son in a remote area of Cayo. Although all three of us have either DigiCell or Smart cell phones, none of us can get a phone or internet signal at our home. For a while we were able to get internet service through Infinite, but tree growth blocked their wireless signal from Bengue almost a year ago. We are therefore in a dead zone, without the ability to contact emergency health, fire, or police services when we are home. We also have no electronic entertainment, no access to news and weather reports, and no ability to communicate with friends and family. This can be critical when the road to our home floods

I can't see how Starlink could negatively affect existing telecommunications in Belize. As you can see from below, I have an office in San Ignacio where I practice U.S. law over the internet. I use DigiCell at work, which is far less expensive than Starlink, and will continue to do so even if we were to get Starlink for our remote home.

Thank you for considering my and my family's interest in this issue.

Thomas S. Doerr, Esq. Attorney I.D. 028671984 Thomas Doerr Law Office 387 Herbertsville Road Brick, New Jersey 08724 Telephone: (973) 691-4774

Telephone: (973) 691-4774 Facsimile: (973) 691-4884

E-Mail:

thomasdoerrlawoffice@verizon.net

Belize Office

Manzanero Building, Suite 204 Savannah Street San Ignacio, Cayo, Belize CA Telephone: +501 627-2671

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Styarlink in Belize

1 message

Shane Zahar <shanez@d16.ca>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:27 PM

Hello,

I hope you are well. Please be advised that I support Starlink being allowed to operate in Belize. I believe it will be an asset to the great country of Belize.

Best regards,

Shane Zahar

Senior Sales Associate

Division 16 Technologies Ltd.

Port Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada

Phone. 604 318 1366

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Support for Starlink's Application to Operate in Belize

1 message

Kris Kringle < kris.kringle 2000@gmail.com > To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:46 PM

To whole it may concern,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for Starlink's application to operate in Belize.

As we continue to embrace advancements in technology and connectivity, the introduction of Starlink's services represents a significant opportunity for our nation. Improved internet access can enhance educational resources, stimulate economic growth, and bridge the digital divide in underserved areas. Given Starlink's commitment to providing high-speed internet globally, I believe their presence in Belize will greatly benefit our communities, businesses, and overall development.

I appreciate the efforts of PUC Belize in evaluating this application and recognizing the potential positive impacts of satellite internet services. Supporting Starlink's operations aligns with our goal of fostering innovation and ensuring that all Belizeans have access to reliable communication tools.

Thank you for considering my support for this important initiative. I look forward to the positive changes that Starlink can bring to our nation.

Best regards, Kris Little

Support of Starlink Internet application

1 message

DL Roberts <filippians3.8@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:57 PM

Good afternoon,

It is my understanding that Jaun David Velez recently submitted an application for Starlink internet service to be available / approved in Belize. This is something I would be very grateful for if it was approved. I am building a home just outside the town of Buena Vista Cayo and both Horizon and Infinite Wireless have told me I would need a 70 foot tower to get any internet at this location. Unfortunately this is not a feasible option considering the cost.

I have also reached out to both cell providers Smart and Digi to see if they had an internet plan for rural areas and at this time there are no options for my area.

Having Starlink as an option would really help as the internet is essential for my business and for my children as they go through school and have different projects.

We hope this is approved soon as I know many neighbors and friends who have limited or no access to the internet.

Greatly Appreciated Daniel Roberts

Public Comment: Starlink

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 4:26 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>, Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention, below please see comment received regarding Starlink's application:

From: Ardis Ramclam <aramclam@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 22 October 2024 15:06

To: info@puc.bz Subject: Starlink

Fully in support of this initiative 100%..

Ardis Ramclam

Starlink

1 message

doug <doug@stradm.com>
To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 4:45 PM

Dear Sir/Madame

Apparently Starlink is under consideration in Belize. I presently use Starlink in Canada at an underserved location. DSL is available at 2Mb. Starlink at 250 Mb is amazing. I have a property in Belize where I would very much like good internet. The nearest Internet however is 5 miles away. Cell service only works with a repeater.

The critical point to get across is that Starlink is not competition to Belizean internet providers. Land based internet in towns is much cheaper, and probably better in capacity and latency. If quality land based internet were available I would not pay the Starlink premium. Starlink shines where these services don't reach. It actually helps local internet providers as they can focus on the denser populations and don't have to invest to services the sparse or geographically isolated locations. Those last 5% of customers are extremely expensive to service, so they are ignored, or heavily subsidized. Starlink will help rural Belize.

Please consider allowing Starlink Doug Renton 513 226 6002 Lark Caye Range.

Starlink Application

1 message

Frank McKenzie <frank.mckenzie.sr@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 5:12 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am asking the PUC to grant Starlink access to operate in Belize. Starlink is very much needed in areas of limited or no internet access. The high speed internet connection enhances the ability for many expats living in Belize to be able to work their homes in Belize. I believe this will only help foster more growth in Belize from those wishing to relocate to your beautiful country.

Sincerely, Frank P. McKenzie QRP member

Starlink application

1 message

Amy Mckenzie <amyjmckenzie@aol.com>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 7:16 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

To Whom It May Concern:

>

>

> I am asking the PUC to grant Starlink access to operate in Belize. Starlink is very much needed in areas of limited or no internet access. The high speed internet connection enhances the ability for many expats living in Belize to be able to work from their homes in Belize. I believe this will only help foster more growth in Belize from those wishing to relocate to your beautiful country.

>

- > Sincerely,
- > Amy J. McKenzie
- > QRP member

Sent from my iPad

Starlink

1 message

PETER HANSEN < hansenbox@icloud.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 9:10 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

To whom it may concern,

Please allow Starlink internet to do business in Belize. This will be an important advance in communication in our country. Thank you for your consideration.

PETER HANSEN via iPhone

Starlink support

1 message

Maria Corridore <mtw0a0@yahoo.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 9:49 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

We own an off grid home on Ambergris Caye and support starlink in Belize

Thank you! Maria Corridore

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Support for Starlink Belize, LLC's Application

1 message

Bulridge Ltd. <management@bulridgebelize.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 9:51 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: juandavid.velez@spacex.com, exportsales@bulridgebelize.com

Good morning:

We write in support of Starlink Belize, LLC's Application for a Class License to Provide Internet Service across the entire territory of Belize. Please find letter attached.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Kind regards,







management@bulridgebelize.com +501 672 1023 +501 832 8888



October 23, 2024

Public Utilities Commission 2nd Floor, Marina Towers New Town Barracks Belize City, Belize

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Support for Starlink Belize, LLC's Application for a Class License to Provide Internet Service

I am writing on behalf of Bulridge Ltd. in support of the application submitted by Starlink Belize, LLC for a Class License to provide internet service across the entire territory of Belize. As a company operating in remote areas such as the Chiquibul Forest Reserve, we have experienced first-hand the significant challenges posed by limited communication networks.

Our operations in forest management, sustainable extraction, and environmental conservation often require our staff to work in isolated and remote areas. Ensuring reliable communication for the safety and well-being of our employees in such areas has proven almost impossible with the current telecommunication services available. These limitations have also delayed our ability to respond effectively to emergencies and coordinate logistics in a timely manner.

We believe that the introduction of Starlink's internet service will be beneficial, particularly for organizations like ours. It will not only improve operational efficiency but, more importantly, allow critical communication in case of emergencies.

Given the importance of reliable communication infrastructure for companies and organizations working in remote parts of the country, we respectfully urge the PUC to consider the approval of Starlink Belize, LLC's application.

Thank you and we look forward to the advancement of telecommunications services throughout Belize.

Sincerely,

Nidia Panti Valdez Forest Manager Ph: +501 670 4410

Starlink's application to bring Starlink satellite internet to Belize

1 message

ij <yvonnejag@gmail.com>
To: telecom@puc.bz

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 11:39 AM

Hearing that Starlink has applied for a telecommunications license to provide internet in Belize is the best news that I've heard in a very long time.

The people of Belize, particularly the young, desperately need employment opportunities. So many young adults feel the need to leave the country in order to earn a living. Online remote work is an option which so many people around the world have embraced but it requires a superb internet connection. To date, the lack of reliable internet service in Belize has been a barrier for entrepreneurs and those working for international companies. Having Starlink in place would play a significant role in improving the economy of Belize.

I ask you to please say YES to Starlink's request for a license to operate here in Belize.

Thank you, Iwonka Jagiellowicz

RE: Support for SpaceX Starlink's Internet Service License Application

1 message

Mark Godfrey <godfrey_mark@msn.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 12:17 PM

Dear PUC,

I am writing to express my strong support for SpaceX Starlink's recent application for a license to provide internet services in Belize. As a business owner and a proud citizen of this country, I recognize the critical importance of fast, reliable, and affordable internet access for our nation's development and the empowerment of its people.

Currently, many rural and remote areas in Belize still face challenges in accessing high-quality internet, which limits opportunities for education, business, and innovation. Starlink's satellite internet technology presents a unique opportunity to bridge this digital divide, offering coverage even in the most difficult-to-reach areas. By approving this license, Belize will take a significant step forward in improving digital infrastructure and creating new avenues for progress, both socially and economically.

I believe that enabling companies like Starlink to operate in Belize will foster competition in the telecom market, driving further improvements in service quality and affordability for all Belizeans. This will directly benefit students, professionals, and entrepreneurs alike, accelerating our nation's growth.

I kindly urge the Public Utilities Commission to give full consideration to the positive impact that Starlink's entry could have and to approve the license application.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I am confident that the commission's decision will be in the best interest of the people of Belize.

Sincerely,

Mark Godfrey

615-0382

godfrey mark@msn.com

Starlink Servey

1 message

Lucas Lee <exile2072@hotmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 12:53 PM

I support Starlink being allowed to operate in Belize, I think it would boost tourism and be a huge plus for the country. As a resident of San Pedro please allow Starlink!

STARLINK Application

1 message

emily mcgibney <emcgibney@yahoo.com>
To: telecom@puc.bz

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 1:58 PM

Hello to Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of the recent application to enable STARLINK Services here in Belize. I live remotely and today and there are no available Land based services in my area for Internet. I am completely off-grid so do not have any land based services currently.

Starlink will not directly compete with the current Land based internet providers, as currently they do not provide services in remote areas of Belize. For those residents and Belizeans like myself STARLINK would provide a life line to connect for potential work and emergency services.

We really hope this application can be supported by the Government and that it will go through,

Kind Regards,

Emily McGibney

Bullet Tree Lane Agua Viva Cayo

637 2233

Support for Starling

1 message

Rodel Garcia <delgarcia_26@hotmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 2:12 PM

I have used satellite internet before in rural Belize. The service was a good idea, but the internet plans were very basic and would get slow after the usage quota was reached. Starlink should be allowed to operate in Belize like other providers have been allowed before. The service is essential for the future of Belize.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Rodel Garcia

System Analyst

Phone: (501)605-0840

Email:delgarcia 26@hotmail.com

Guinea Grass Village, Belize city, Belize

Support for Starlink

1 message

lan Rosado <ianrosado21@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 2:31 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

I would like to show my support for starlink to operate in belize and it's borders legally and efficiently.

I believe the below compiled points all easily show it's a net positive for the country and its citizens.

- Starlink will not directly compete with the current Land based internet providers, as

Land based internet providers, especially with fibre-op are fast and more economical

Starlink requires the purchase of equipment, and a monthly charge.

- Both current and new providers may benefit from Community Gateways

Community Gateways, Starlink satellites can deliver fiber-like speeds with local providers distributing connectivity to homes, businesses, and governments using last-mile fiber, fixed wireless and mobile wireless.

- The Government will benefit from taxes paid by Starlink, which it currently does not from Roaming Users in Belize
- For Clients in remote and rural areas with no land based service, Starlink is essential.
- Internet for Off Grid homes
- Assist with Emergency Services and Disaster Response as with Hurricanes Helene and Milton

Thanks

Support of Starlink in Belize

1 message

Wendy Rusnell <wendy.lee.rusnell@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 2:39 PM

Dear PUC,

I am in support of bringing Starlink to Belize as an option for internet in Belize. I will soon be building an off grid home and it is a great option for me if it becomes available here. Being that it is much more expensive than traditional internet I do not feel it would impact other internet services customer base. The government would benefit from additional tax revenue, and it would be helpful during natural disasters and relief efforts.

Kind Regards,

Wendy Rusnell

Starlink

1 message

Kristy Tracey <kristytracey73@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 2:44 PM

To Whom it May Concern;

We live out in the jungle and have no access to internet or cell phone coverage. We are unable to communicate with anyone. Starlink would give us the flexibility to stay in contact. Along with the reasons listed below:

- Starlink will not directly compete with the current Land based internet providers, as

Land based internet providers, especially with fibre-op are fast and more economical

Starlink requires the purchase of equipment, and a monthly charge.

- Both current and new providers may benefit from Community Gateways

Community Gateways, Starlink satellites can deliver fiber-like speeds with local providers distributing connectivity to homes, businesses, and governments using last-mile fiber, fixed wireless and mobile wireless.

- Government will benefit from taxes paid by Starlink, which it currently does not from Roaming Users in Belize
- For Clients in remote and rural areas with no land based service, Starlink is essential.
- Internet for Off Grid homes
- Assist with Emergency Services and Disaster Response

Thanks

Kristy Sent from my iPhone

Starlink please?

2 messages

emw <emwv1@proton.me>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 2:53 PM

To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>
Co: "emwv1@proton.me" <emwv1@proton.me>

I respectfully submit this email to the powers that be in GOB to consider letting Starlink operate in the country of Belize.

The following are my arguments for obtaining Starlink service for Belize:

- Foremost, it is a safety enhancement for countries that are natural disaster prone. Starlink
 has helped many nations during natural disasters, for example in N.C. lately after the horrible
 flooding from Helene, when infrastructure was wiped out. THIS could have been Belize. Or
 any country for that matter.
- The Government of Ukraine accessed the internet using Starlink when the net was compromised by invading Russia (think Guatemala?) compromised traditional providers. Infrastructure is the first to knock out if invading.
- The Country of Belize has so many living too far away from service.
- AND lastly, the GOB would be gaining financial security from the taxes paid by Starlink (Elon Musk) If GOB does not allow Starlink it would look rather 'odd' to the opposing party due to family ties to DiGi? Just saying.

Thank you for your time, and thoughtful consideration to a much needed enhancement to the services available in the very diverse great Country of Belize; a country that thinks of all their citizens needs first.

Elizabeth Valian PR since 1994

emw <emwv1@proton.me>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 3:06 PM

I forgot one more reason to allow Starlink to operate in The Country of Belize:

- Enhanced communications, especially open rural areas, brings enhanced investment into the country. Not just tourism, but supporting friendly countries efforts in infrastructure projects which depend heavily on communications at all times.
- Its a 'safety net' for keeping the lines open 24/7.
- It is an option for remote learning to ALL villages in Belize at a much lower cost than the GOB building the communications themselves; and its immediate. Now.
- Thank you again for your time and consideration,

Elizabeth Valian, Placencia North

[Quoted text hidden]

Starlink

1 message

Eduardo Salguero <vizcachas@hotmail.com>

To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 4:02 PM

Dear sir/madam:

My name is Eduardo Salguero, resident of Progresso Village in Corozal District, I am here to plead with you to consider adding Starlink as an extra service to the great country and I explain below why:

Starlink will not directly compete with the current Land based internet providers, as

land based internet providers, especially with fibre-op are fast and more economical.

Starlink requires the purchase of equipment, and a monthly charge.

Both current and new providers may benefit from Community Gateways.

Starlink satellites can deliver fiber-like speeds with local providers distributing connectivity to homes, businesses, and governments using last-mile fiber, fixed wireless and mobile wireless.

Government will benefit from taxes paid by Starlink, which it currently does not from Roaming Users in Belize.

For clients in remote and rural areas with no land based service, Starlink is essential.

- Internet for Off Grid homes
- Assist with Emergency Services and Disaster Response as with Hurricanes Helene and Milton.
 Thank you for your time and consideration.
 Eddie Salguero

Supporting Starlink Application

1 message

Debra Lueck <dllueck.19@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 4:23 PM

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I have now lived in Belize 1 year today and consider this my home. Having reliable, high-speed internet service is very important to me as I work online. Like many others, I live in an area that is heavily forested and cannot get a signal from the relay towers. This means I cannot work online from my home.

Allowing Starlink to provide services here will make a huge difference to me and many others. It can also become a deciding factor for anyone considering a move to this beautiful country.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

Debra Shelton Cayo District

Starlink's application in Belize

1 message

VANTAGE <vantage.belize@gmail.com> To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz> Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 5:43 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to endorse the introduction of Starlink Belize, LLC satellite internet in Belize, particularly because of its potential to significantly benefit the country's marketing, advertising, and broadcasting industries.

Key Benefits we identified in our Sector:

- Improved Connectivity for Remote Areas: Starlink's satellite-based internet can provide high-speed connections to rural and remote areas in Belize that currently have limited or no access to reliable internet. For marketing and broadcasting agencies, this means being able to extend digital outreach and advertising efforts into previously unreachable communities, creating new opportunities for businesses and media engagement.
- Real-Time Content Distribution: Faster and more reliable internet speeds will enhance live broadcasting capabilities, allowing companies to stream high-quality video content without delays. This is particularly important for events, campaigns, and digital advertising services where real-time content is critical. Events such as The Ruta Mava Belize River Challenge and Cross Country.
- Digital Advertising Growth: With the widespread availability of high-speed internet, businesses in Belize will have greater opportunities to embrace digital marketing platforms. This opens the door to more dynamic, targeted online advertising campaigns, benefiting both local and international brands.

While Starlink brings immense benefits to the digital landscape, it's important to note that it complements, rather than competes directly with, existing land-based internet providers, particularly those offering fiber-optic services. Fiber remains an economical and fast option for urban areas. Starlink, however, requires an upfront investment in equipment along with a monthly subscription, which positions it as a solution best suited for those in rural and remote regions.

Social benefits through collaborations with local providers, increased government revenue, essential connectivity for offgrid and remote locations on land and at sea, and support for emergency services and disaster response.

In conclusion, Starlink's entry into Belize offers significant advantages for the marketing, advertising, and broadcasting sectors, while also providing critical services to underserved areas. It stands as a complementary solution to existing providers and a valuable asset to both businesses and the government.

Thank you for considering this endorsement. I look forward to seeing the positive impact that Starlink can bring to Belize.

Warm regards,

Carlos Waight VANTAGE



Sent with Mailsuite · Unsubscribe

Stalink

1 message

Kinga Kaminski

 singa73@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 7:28 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Please please let Stalink operate in Belize. We need better internet service in remote areas.

Kind regards,

Kinga @ Belizima 501.613.7559 https://www.instagram.com/Belizima.ca/ https://www.facebook.com/Belizima/

Hello, I support to make Starlink service available here in Belize

2 messages

Gerhard Enns <gens1995@icloud.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 8:56 PM

In my Opinion, Starlink is not competing any current Local ISP's,

- 1. Satellite Communication latency averages triple what locally is providers.
- 2. Local Providers are closer to an affordable price in City's and Towns.
- 3. Starlink is not for the average population of Belize since it requires the purchase of the equipment, and a monthly subscription around 50% higher than the average local homes.

Why Starlink then?

- 1. For Clients in remote and rural areas with no local providers nearby.
- 2. Internet for Off Grid homes in the Mountains with no line of sight to any Tower.
- 3. Assist with Emergency Services in Hurricane or other disasters.

May this eMail find you helpful in making Starlink internet available for Belizean's

Thanks

Gerhard Enns <gens1995@icloud.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 8:57 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

[Quoted text hidden]

In my Opinion, Starlink is not competing any current Local ISP's,

Starlink in Belize

1 message

Lynn Overall <Lynn@pimlicoservices.com>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 8:17 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

The Digital Crossroads: Starlink's Entry into Belize - Opportunities and Challenges

The recent application by Starlink Belize, LLC for a Class License to provide nationwide internet service marks a pivotal moment in Belize's telecommunications landscape[1]. This development presents both transformative opportunities and significant challenges that warrant careful consideration.

Opportunities for Digital Transformation

Belize's telecommunications market is already showing promising growth, with approximately 50% of the population having internet connectivity and 95% having access to mobile devices[2]. High-speed internet infrastructure could accelerate this progress exponentially.

Economic Benefits

- The introduction of reliable high-speed internet could attract high-wage remote workers and tech businesses
- Rural communities would gain access to educational and entrepreneurial opportunities previously limited to urban areas[4]
- The potential for digital innovation hubs could foster local tech talent and startups

Youth Development

The expansion of internet access could provide crucial alternatives for at-risk youth in Belize. With proper implementation, technology education and digital skills training could offer viable career paths, potentially reducing crime rates and gang involvement[5].

Challenges and Concerns

Market Disruption

The entry of Starlink could significantly impact established providers like BTL and Digicel Belize. While competition typically benefits consumers, the potential displacement of local telecommunications employers requires careful consideration[2].

Political Considerations

Elon Musk's documented political activities and alignment with Donald Trump raise legitimate concerns[3]. His recent involvement in political controversies in other countries, particularly in Brazil, demonstrates the potential risks of allowing a politically active billionaire to control crucial communications infrastructure.

Regulatory Framework

Starlink's application under the Telecommunications Regulations of 2020 requires thorough scrutiny[1]. The Public Utilities Commission must weigh:

- The technical capability to provide nationwide coverage
- The impact on existing telecommunications infrastructure
- The long-term stability and reliability of the service
- Data sovereignty and security considerations

Recommendations

A balanced approach might include:

- 1. Implementing strong regulatory oversight
- 2. Requiring local employment and training programs
- 3. Establishing data protection and sovereignty guidelines
- 4. Creating mechanisms to protect existing telecommunications infrastructure and employment

The decision regarding Starlink's entry into Belize's telecommunications market will shape the country's digital future.

While the potential for technological advancement is significant, careful consideration must be given to preserving local interests and maintaining telecommunications sovereignty.

Having said this I am a US Citizen of Belizian Heritage seeking Belizian Citizenship . I am supportive of the introduction of Starlink into Belize , however you should consider the pricing model should be that of the surrounding countries to allow for with wider availability of the service to the general population of Belize. I support this initiative as it could help drive additional revenue to be generated in Belize and thus contribute to the tax base of Belize. As a REmote worker and Digital Nomad of the last 20 years , I have seen first hand the influx of capital and genreal growth in the Digital nomad Hubs.

Citations:

- [1] https://belizelivenews.com/2024/10/20/starlink-seeks-license-to-provide-nationwide-internet-service-in-belize/
- [2] https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/belize-information-and-communications-technology
- [3] https://www.techpolicy.press/tracking-elon-musks-political-activities/
- [4] https://ruralinnovation.us/blog/what-possible-high-speed-broadband-comes-rural-town/
- [5] https://blogs.iadb.org/caribbean-dev-trends/en/a-more-targeted-intervention-for-gang-involved-youth-and-adults/
- [6] https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/blog/2024/05/31/affordable-high-speed-internet-is-spurring-economic-growth-and-boosting-small-businesses/
- [7] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0plqP1xfn2M

FW: Supporting the Petition to allow Starlink operate in Belize

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:33 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Amanda Laakso <amandalaakso@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, 23 October 2024 15:29

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: Supporting the Petition to allow Starlink operate in Belize

Dear Chair & Commissioners of the PUC of Belize,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my support for the petition to allow Starlink to operate legally throughout Belize. Starlink represents a critical and timely solution to some of the challenges we face in providing high-speed internet to off-grid homes and remote areas.

As Belize continues to grow and develop, we must ensure that all areas, including our most rural and isolated regions, have access to reliable internet. Starlink offers a quick and easy solution to this problem. Its satellite network can provide fiber-like speeds, enabling local providers to distribute connectivity through Community Gateways. With this model, local providers can leverage last-mile fiber, fixed wireless, and mobile wireless solutions to bring internet to homes, businesses, and government offices alike.

For clients living in remote and rural areas where land-based services are unavailable, Starlink is essential. It offers a lifeline to these communities, empowering them with connectivity that they otherwise would not have. Moreover, Starlink's capabilities would greatly assist Belize in enhancing its emergency services and disaster response efforts, especially in the face of hurricanes, fires, or floods.

It is important to note that Starlink will not directly compete with existing land-based internet providers. Fiber-optic services, for example, are already fast and more economical for those who can access them. In contrast, Starlink requires the purchase of specialized equipment and a monthly subscription, making it more suited to specific use cases in areas where land-based internet is not available or feasible.

Allowing Starlink to operate in Belize would also bring direct financial benefits to the country. At present, roaming users do not contribute to tax revenues, but with Starlink's legal operation, the government would benefit from taxes and fees paid by its users.

Finally, expanding access to high-speed internet through Starlink could serve as an additional incentive to develop more remote areas into tourism hotspots. Many of Belize's most beautiful, under-discovered regions could attract more visitors if reliable internet service were available. This would not only support the tourism industry but also drive economic growth in areas that have previously been left out of the digital revolution.

I kindly ask that you give due consideration to this petition, which I believe will be a major asset to Belize's continued growth and development.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this matter.

10/25/24, 10:13 AM

Respectfully, Amanda Laakso.

+15016738442

FW: A Message of Support for Starlink in Belize

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:34 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Jon Laakso <jonlaakso@gmail.com> Sent: Wednesday, 23 October 2024 15:37

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: A Message of Support for Starlink in Belize

Thank you for taking the time to consider this message.

I just wanted to lend my support to the petition to allow Starlink to operate legally in the great nation of Belize.

Starlink could bring many benefits to Belize's economy and help businesses like mine grow. Here are a few key reasons why I believe Starlink should be permitted:

- **Internet for remote areas**: Many rural and remote areas in Belize currently don't have access to reliable internet. Starlink can deliver high-speed internet to these places, helping businesses, households, and local governments stay connected.
- **Support for local providers**: Starlink won't compete directly with land-based internet providers. While fiberoptic and land-based services are fast and cost-effective in populated areas, Starlink is ideal for areas where these services don't reach.
- **Emergency services**: During natural disasters like hurricanes, floods, or fires, communication can be disrupted, especially in rural areas. Starlink's satellite network can provide reliable internet during emergencies, keeping communities connected when it's needed most.
- **New tax revenues**: Right now, roaming Starlink users don't pay taxes to Belize. If Starlink is allowed to operate legally, the government could collect taxes from equipment sales and service fees, creating a new revenue stream.
- **Economic growth**: Reliable internet helps businesses grow, especially in remote areas. More connectivity means more opportunities for businesses, job creation, and overall economic development.
- **Boost for tourism**: Some of Belize's most beautiful areas are still underdeveloped because they lack internet access. Starlink can help bring these areas online, attracting tourists and investments, and helping to develop new tourism hotspots.

I believe that Starlink could be a great asset to Belize, helping our country grow and providing essential services to both businesses and communities. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

--

Jon Laakso

672-9778

jonlaakso@gmail.com

FW: Starling

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:34 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

----Original Message-----

From: Blaine Dueck <base | Sent: Wednesday, 23 October 2024 17:59

To: info@puc.bz Subject: Starling

Good evening,

I am in support of starling in Belize. Sounds like a great and important thing!

Blaine Dueck

FW: Starlink

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:35 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Gladwin Reimer <gladwinreimer@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, 23 October 2024 18:45

To: info@puc.bz Subject: Starlink

Hello, I ask you to kindly consider granting starlink a lisence to provide internet in belize.

Regards

Gladwin

FW: Starlink

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:40 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Beverley Pierce <beverleypierce@ymail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2024 06:41

To: info@puc.bz Subject: Starlink

I support starlink in Belize.

Thank you

Beverley Pierce

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

FW: Please approve star link

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:35 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Kelcy Deeds <kelcydeeds@gmail.com> Sent: Wednesday, 23 October 2024 20:45

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: Please approve star link

We humbly ask you to approve star link. This would greatly improve the quality of stay for our tourists at our remote location!

Thanks!

FW: Starlink Application

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:40 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

----Original Message-----

From: Chris Owen <chris@kissmywhat.com> Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2024 08:56

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: Starlink Application

I'm not exactly a Starlink fan, but I support their application in Belize 100%. We'd sign up for DigiOne the second it is available to us but according to them that won't be happening any time soon. In the mean time we desperately need access to fast reliable internet access and Starlink the only real option for that.

Chris

Please approve Starlink Application

1 message

Dave <dave@nutty.us> To: telecom@puc.bz

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 10:04 AM

To the reader, thank you so much for reading this. I hope that in someway this is helpful. My hope is that this gives outside perspective. Only Belize can decide what is good for Belize.

As a potential investor in Belize, one of my largest concerns is the lack of reliable fast internet throughout the country. This not only creates concern for us but most importantly it seems to make life difficult for the people of Belize.

I do volunteer as a network administrator for a children's home in Belize. I receive many daily warnings about dropped internet connections. At high use times of the day, the speed is so slow as to make it unusable. The highschool students struggle to get their homework done.

Many have discovered that Starlink is a reliable fast ISP. There is nothing experimental about this.

Thank you for your hard work on the commission

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

Aaron Mesh

1 message

Aaron Mesh <aronmesh2@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 10:17 AM

Hi Good Morning,

This is Aaron and fully support to come to belize. I wish i could work for you guys.

Aaron Mesh 6207677

4 attachments







Aaron Mesh (1).pdf

Starlink application

1 message

Dan Jamison <dan_jamison@yahoo.com>
To: telecom@puc.bz

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 12:12 PM

Hello PUC,

I am a permanent resident (6 years) living in Ranchito Village in the Corozal District. I've been monitoring and advocating for Starlink deployment here in Belize since Mr Musk launched the global low earth orbit satellite internet service.

There are many rural areas in the country that do not have a Belizean-operated internet service provider (ISP) nor will not have that capability for years due to technological limitations and/or infrastructure development.

Internet connectivity is becoming more and more important for daily business and commerce needs. The folks out "backa bush" need this connectivity just as much as any city or town folk in the country.

Please duly consider advocating and approving the Starlink application for Belize. There are many folks that will thank you.

Warm Regards,

<<SIGNED>>

Jere Jamison Ranchito Village

Starlink

1 message

George Knelsen <georgeknelsen23@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 11:53 AM

Good day I support having starlink available in Belize. Sent from my iPhone

Starlink

1 message

Remec Ltd / Pancho Peters <pancho.remecltd@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 11:54 AM

Hi,

I would just like there to be the option to have starlink internet for the Belizean people.

Franz Peters

Please alow starlink in Belize, with all outages it always is up without issues when off grid .thank you for listening. Long live the 501.

1 message

ps <pshaw57@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: ps <pshaw57@yahoo.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 12:09 PM



Via tenor

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Please Bring Starlink to Belize!

1 message

Liz Lacasse lacasse lacasseliz@gmail.com

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 12:37 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

I'm emailing because there are so many people in Belize that want Starlink. Please 🙏 bring it to Belize.

Liz Lacasse

Sent from my iPhone

Please add Starlink

1 message

Dave Thorson <david.thorson@orphansjoy.org>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 12:41 PM

Thank you for reading this

Current internet at the Hopewell Children's home at Scottish Halfmoon is so unreliable that children struggle to get their homework done.

Please approve the application for the sake of your precious students.

Thanks Dave

Sent from my iPhone

Starlink

1 message

nm041 <nm041@aol.com>
To: telecom@puc.bz

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 1:00 PM

I support Starlink in Belize

Nicole Monroe

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

Starlink in Belize

1 message

Andrew Davis <ctlbelize@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 1:15 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Good afternoon, I am writing to provide my input on Starlink being available in Belize. I am in favor of this license being approved. This licensing would provide internet service into areas that currently do not have service. I have visited remote jungle areas that do not have any access to the internet, and if they wanted to have internet had to drive into town. By allowing this service, those areas would have the opportunity to catch up to the more populated areas that do have internet service.

I also see this as a safety issue for the people that currently do not have access to internet services. If they had internet service, they would be able to communicate if there was a safety concern such as fire, or medical emergency.

Sincerely, Andy

FW: Starling Petition

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 1:51 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Austin Lang <austinlang_00@hotmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2024 11:04

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: Starling Petition

Hello,

I am writing in favor of allowing Starlink service. While every decision can have favorable and unfavorable impacts, we feel the improvement for local Belizeans especially in remote areas would be significant. As someone living in a remote area we see it's importance. We currently do have internet and are happy with provider but have limited service because of the dense trees. I don't want to destroy and clear more land just for internet service. With good internet, remote work to bring in outside money for locals is possible.

Please consider our request

Thank you

Austin and Kaylee Lang

Get Outlook for Android

FW: My support for Star Link

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 1:51 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Alberto de La Rosa <albertodelarosa@westracbelize.com>

Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2024 11:05

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: My support for Star Link

Good Morning,

I would like to support the initiative for Star link providing service to Belize. I live in a remote area where it is hard to get access to the internet.

Thanks



Alberto de La Rosa

Purchasing Officer

Headquarters



501 823-0104



501 823-0104



Spanish Lookout, Belize, Central America

FW: Yes to Starlink

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 1:52 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Carolyn <cfuleihan@earthlink.net> Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2024 13:33

To: info@puc.bz Subject: Yes to Starlink

Add my name to the group wanting this option.

FW: starlink please!

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 3:30 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

----Original Message-----

From: sirnum <sirnum@gmail.com> Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2024 15:00

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: starlink please!

L.S.

Please alow Starlink into Belize. It will help businesses thrive and make remote areas more attractive to develop. Don't worry about the lost income on data for local IPS, with Starlink there will be more multiple ways to monetize beyond acutual revenues. Help Belize forward!

Regards Dave Bronnel Cayo

Starlink

1 message

Lisa Mulvania lcmulvania@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" telecom@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 3:55 PM

Hello,

My husband and I live part-time in Belize, we are in the QRP program.

We both support an agreement between Starlink and the BZ PUC. There are may benefits to the service.

Service to remote areas, emergency services such as during hurricanes and floods,

Since Starlink requires special equipment and monthly fees ,it won't directly compete with local isps.

We look forward to a positive decision regarding Starlink.

Regards,

Richard and Lisa Mulvania

(no subject)

1 message

Anne Foster <shazamshatan@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 4:37 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

I feel like Starlink would greatly improve communication in our country especially in rural areas.

Starlink 1 message Daryl Jones <bakkatown@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz HI I support Starlink application Thanks B

Starlink Petition

1 message

Brian Foley covrtyme@live.ca>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 7:05 AM

Dear Sirs,

Please include my vote in <u>support of Starlink</u> in Belize. We have recently moved here & we love it. Improvements to infrastructure & technology like Starlink will help make this a strong country and bolster the economy.

Thanks & God Bless,

Brian Foley

FW: Starlink

1 message

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 8:21 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Aaron Pershing <pershing400@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2024 22:56

To: info@puc.bz Subject: Starlink

Good afternoon...

This is Aaron Pershing..

Just felt the need to reach out to you guys.

And voice my support starlink Tobe allowed to offer there services in Belize..

It will be a life line to hundreds of belize that live in remote parts of the country...

FW: StarLink Belize

2 messages

Info PUC <info@puc.bz>

Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 1:51 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Cc: Info PUC <info@puc.bz>, Abraham Teck <ateck@puc.bz>

Good day,

Submitted for your attention and direct response, please see below correspondence regarding Starlink:

From: Ronny Plett royplett@gmail.com Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2024 11:46

To: info@puc.bz

Subject: StarLink Belize

Good morning my name is Ronny Plett. I am a resident of Spanish Lookout.

I really want to encourage you to approve StarLink service in Belize. There are many reasons why I am hoping you will approve it.

1.Search and Rescue, I work with search and rescue and often we really need a form of communication and Smart and Digicell just do not have service in all areas so I would definitely use StarLink to quickly set up communications.

Many lives will be saved through this service. Please approve Starlink.

- 2. Remote Homes, I know many people who have remote homes especially those on the islands at sea. They have vacation homes and fishing camps and also households on remote islands that can not get any other form of service or internet connection. Other than old technology satellite service.
- 3. There are also entire villages in the south of Toledo, who have not internet or phone service. Starlink could be very beneficial for these villagers and their schools.

It would be a very positive impact to the education in Belize. Please approve Starlink.

4. Resorts in the Maya Mountains. There are also lots of people who live in the Maya Mountains that have no internet because no one In Belize can beam internet up there. There is very broken up coverage up there. I actually have a home and a camp up there too and I have tried to get signal from local ISP's as well as Smart or Digicell and no one can offer me service up there.

We really need Starlink.

- 5. Research stations and military sites. Belize has many remote outposts for our many Nature reserves, and research stations all of these locations will likely never get any form of internet or cellphone service. Yet they really need Starlink to be able to more effectively carry out communications and do their research. The same applies to various military installation along the Guatemalan border, and also the Cost guard stations.
- 6. Remote transmitters and weather stations, there are many people carrying out important research on animals, on fish and the weather. With remote internet these transmitters could quickly upload their information. Also air traffic monitoring and ocean traffic monitoring bouys and cameras could provide better and live data to those people who need it.
- 7. Emergency backup internet connection, I believe Belize currently only has 2 fiber lines supplying the entire nation. SMART from Mexico and BTL from the sub-ocean network. If one of these were to break Belize would be in deep trouble. However Starlink could be a very important backup for such an emergency. Not to mention we have already had this happen multiple times in the country where minor fibre lines broke and most of Cayo BTL was offline for a few days.

In the case of a Hurricane Belize could be left almost completely disconnected from the internet and the world. But Starlink could be very useful.

From my observation the StarLink service in Belize will not affect local suppliers in any significant way.

However Starlink has the potential to connect a lot of people and technologies to the internet. It will help many people who currently have zero options available to them.

Please approve Starlink as soon as possible in Belize. It is the necessary next step for the progress of our nations.

God Bless You

-Ronny Plett

Ronny Plett <royplett@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 9:27 AM

----- Forwarded message -----From: Ronny Plett <royplett@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Oct 24, 2024, 11:45 Subject: StarLink Belize

To: <info@puc.bz>

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Please approve Starlink as soon as possible in Belize. It is the necessary next step for the progress of our nations.

God Bless You -Ronny Plett

Starlink application

1 message

Mark Miller DIRECTOR, BPCL <solarbelize@gmail.com>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 9:42 AM

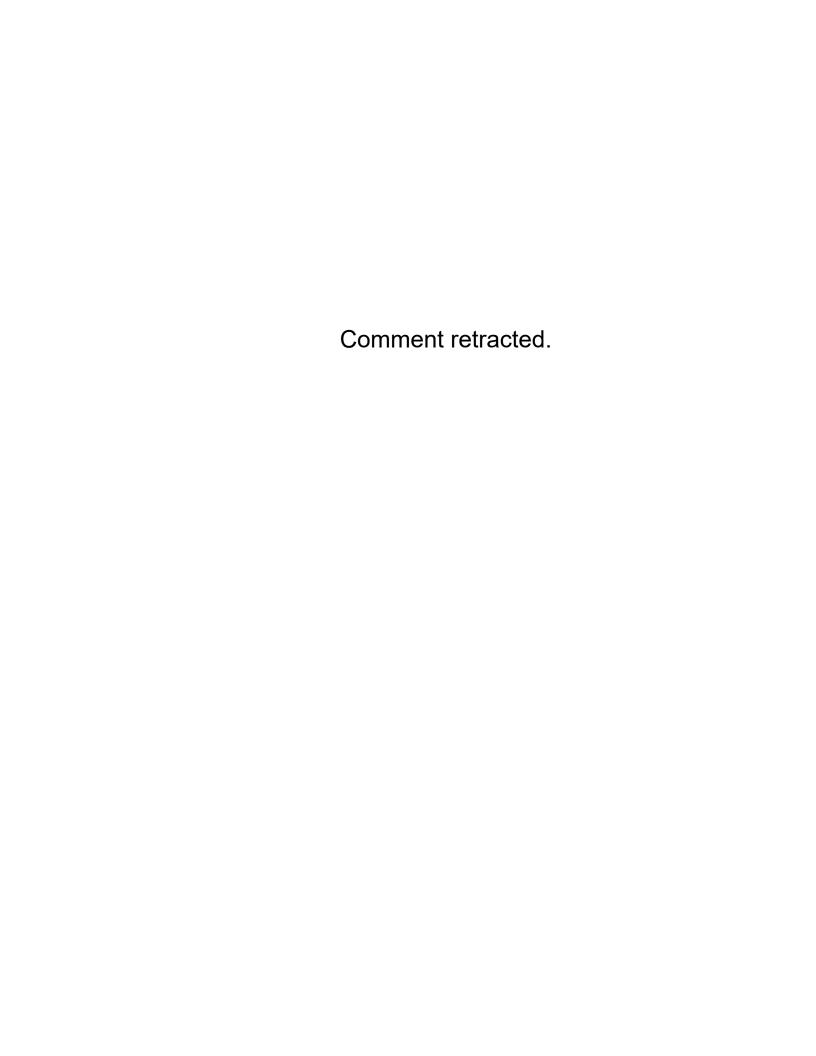
To: telecom@puc.bz

Starlink service is greatly needed in many communities and remote areas where our existing internet providers have failed to expand coverage.

I also recognize that Belize has a small market, and potential unfair pricing practices by Starlink could adversely affect the competition in areas with existing service coverage. Proper regulation and oversight needs to be in place.

Thanks for considering my comments

Mark Miller Toledo District



Starlink in Belize

1 message

Samantha Brooks <skbrooks70@icloud.com>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 9:47 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

100% support Starlink being allowed in Belize. Craig and Samantha Brooks

Sent from my iPhone

Starlink Presence

1 message

Eean Ayuso <eeanayusosc@gmail.com>
To: telecom@puc.bz

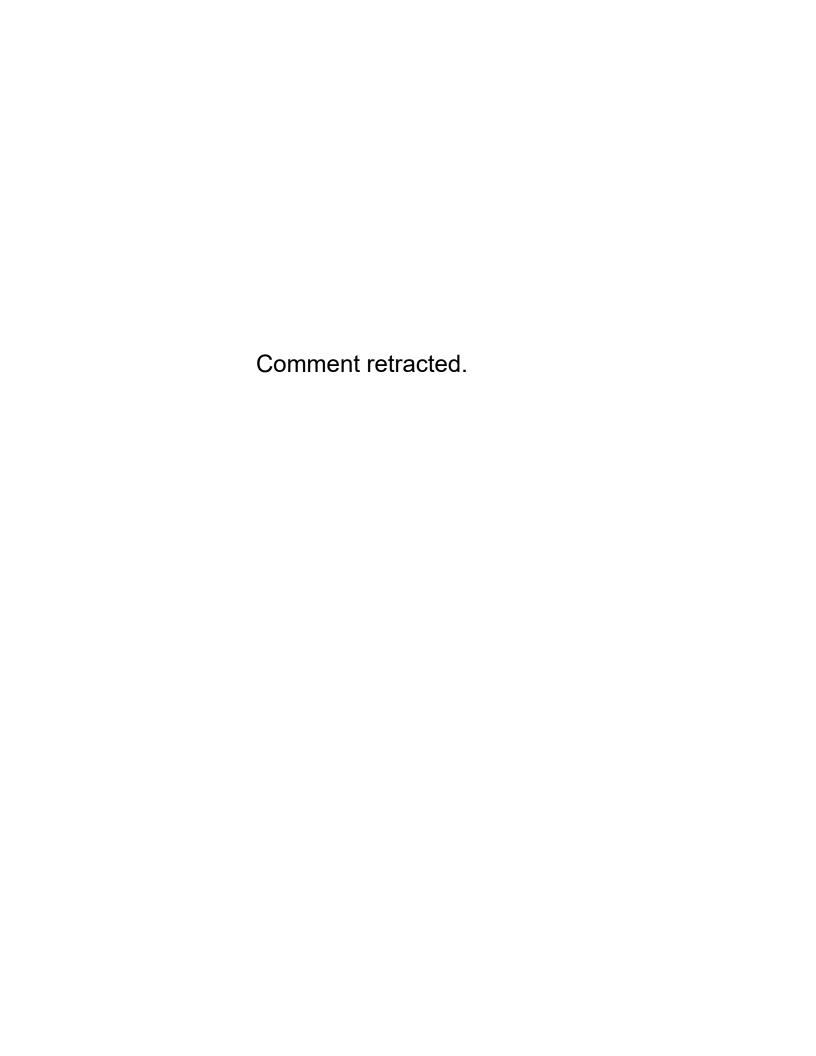
Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 9:47 AM

Hello!

I am writing in regards to the new information that Starlink wishes to apply here in Belize. I believe that it is an excellent idea to bring a widely known Telecommunications company that is known to provide fast and reliable internet here to our jewel. I believe that it will be great competition to the local outlets which are honestly, more times than not, a pain to deal with. I am 100% in support of their services being approved in the country. Thank you for taking time out to read my opinion on the matter.

Regards,

Eean Ayuso



Support for Starlink in Belize

1 message

Christina Romanchuk <criromanchuk@hotmail.ca>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 1:04 PM

Dear Public Utilities Commission,

I am writing today to express my support for having Starlink approval to operate in Belize.

The reason being is that we have tried going to both BTL and Smart and neither provider is able to offer a viable internet service for the location where I live in Belize.

I would be very happy to subscribe to BTL's services as I feel they provide great products for reasonable prices, and I would very much like it if they would provide fiber optic internet to my residence. However, that is NOT ever likely to happen given the remoteness of the location and the lack of population in the area.

Therefore, Starlink is really the only option for decent reliable internet for me. I would be very grateful if Belize decided to approve Starlink's application.

I DO NOT feel Starlink will introduce a competition for the current telecommunication companies as it is very unlikely anyone would subscribe to a service that is not as good for more money, the economics of it make no sense. If a person lives in a location that BTL or Smart are accessible, it makes sense that users are going to stick with the provider that offers good service for a lower price.

Please take into consideration all the people living in Belize that have NO OTHER reliable options for connectivity when making your decision.

Sincerely,

Christina Romanchuk

501-674-1961

Starlink approval

1 message

MAASTA G CYBER CAFE <maastagcafe@gmail.com>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 2:35 PM

To: telecom@puc.bz

Just writing as a village resident where we have problems with our local internet companies not reach us. We have tried multiple times.

I have a Galen student who have problems in uploading her sessions.

Starlink don't need to be in the populated areas and city but at least in remote and rural areas. Please consider.

Thank you for giving us a chance to move into the technology world with high speed internet.

Yours truly Gayonne Vernon

Starlink's Application For License To Provide Internet Service In Belize

1 message

Information <info@sitteerivermarina.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 3:18 PM

October 25th, 2024

Belize Public Commission 4 Princess Margaret Drive Marina Towers, 2Nd Floor Belize City, Belize

Re: Starlink's application for license to provide internet service in Belize

Through this medium we, Sittee River Marina & The Curve Bar wishes to state our full support of Starlink's application for license to provide internet service in Belize.

Our company is a thriving small business located along the Sittee River in Southern Belize and we rely heavily on internet access and connectivity for our daily operations and customers. Unfortunately, while our location allows us to enjoy the secluded areas of Belize, we are sometimes faced with internet access challenges which negatively impacts our business performance.

Current internet providers: BTL and Smart, are available in our area; our company utilizes the services of both these companies. However, the internet service provided is fair. We are in full support of Starlink's application for a licensing to provide internet service as we believe that it would greatly improve our internet connection thereby increasing business performance.

Respectfully Sittee River Marina Ltd.

Get Outlook for iOS

Starlink in Belize

1 message

Jan Varner <jan.varner@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 3:28 PM

- Starlink will not directly compete with the current Land based internet providers, as Land based internet providers, especially with fibre-op are fast and more economical Starlink requires the purchase of equipment, and a monthly charge.
- Both current and new providers may benefit from Community Gateways Community Gateways, Starlink satellites can deliver fiber-like speeds with local providers distributing connectivity to homes, businesses, and governments using last-mile fiber, fixed wireless and mobile wireless.
- Government will benefit from taxes paid by Starlink, which it currently does not from Roaming Users in Belize
- For Clients in remote and rural areas with no land based service, Starlink is essential.
- Internet for Off Grid homes Assist with Emergency Services and Disaster Response as with Hurricanes Helene and Milton

Jan Varner

Starlink

1 message

Beth Spaman
 bethellenspaman@gmail.com>

Sat, Oct 26, 2024 at 9:17 AM

To: telecom@puc.bz

I support Starlink in Belize. I have a remote farm and this would be very helpful.

Beth Spaman Sent from my iPhone

Starlink

1 message

Mike <mike@deepblueavionics.bz>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sat, Oct 26, 2024 at 10:16 AM

I am writing in support of the Starlink application.

While I understand the concerns, being able to provide communication services to isolated areas of the country, will enrich peoples lives.

In addition to that and as seen in the hardest hit areas of the US after the hurricanes, being able to provide communications in the event of a catastrophic event quickly should far, far out Weigh any objection.

Thank You

Mike Garman

Interest in the introduction of Starlink

1 message

Wynn Numan < wynn.numan@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" < telecom@puc.bz>

Sat, Oct 26, 2024 at 1:43 PM

To whom this may concern,

I recently read that starlink is finally coming to belize and i am super excited about this new opportunity. I have many friends living off grid and in hard to reach places and starlink finally allows them to connect to the internet. I believe it will help a lot of people with work, school and other online necessities.

As for workers, I heard great excitement coming from retail store owners as selling new products brings money to their business and circulates money in Belize's economy.

That's why I was conflicted reading BLT's letter of obstruction.

They read the coming of starlink could have a negative impact on Belize workers not foreseeing that Starlink will continue and bring new jobs. Retailers, Installment and maintenance are all Jobs that directly correlate with the approval of starlink.

I believe that with the right knowledge and expertise in telecommunication, Starlink can only add on to BLT's communications Jobs.

I also want to stress that Starlink also allows money to come in from people that live in Belize but work online. Having these online workers brings money from other countries to be spent here in belize.

Lastly, I want to state that I see Starlink and satellite communication as a new evolution in radio and communication. Arguing against a new accessible form of technologie is like Arguing that we should ban cars as it may impact the economy of horse breeders.

I hope I was able to get across some of my excitement and vision I have about Starlink, and hope it will motivate me to help push this process forward.

You are more than welcome to respond to share your thoughts.

Thank you.

Greetings, W. G. Numan

Support Belize Starlink

1 message

wumans wumans <wumanswumanzzzz@gmail.com>
To: "telecom@puc.bz" <telecom@puc.bz>

Sat, Oct 26, 2024 at 1:51 PM

Dear Telecom Team,

I wanted to reach out regarding the recent discussions around Starlink potentially expanding its services to Belize.

I know there's been some pushback, particularly from some of the BLT communications workers who are worried it could disrupt their jobs.

I totally understand where they're coming from, change is often unsettling, and the fear of job loss is very real. However, I believe there's a lot of misunderstanding about what Starlink could actually bring to the table for Belize. First, it's not about replacing jobs; it's about expanding access. Many communities, especially in rural and remote areas, still struggle with limited or unreliable internet options.

Starlink can help bridge that gap without taking away jobs, providing opportunities for everyone: students, small business owners, and even professionals working from home. It could actually create more demand for local tech support, installation teams, and customer service roles to help residents manage and optimize their connectivity.

Bringing Starlink into the mix could even enhance the work that companies like BLT are already doing by creating more collaborative possibilities and keeping Belize on the cutting edge of connectivity options.

As our economy becomes more digital, accessible internet will be vital for education, business growth, and general quality of life. I think opening the door to Starlink could give Belize a strong chance to move forward, with the potential for both economic growth and job creation in the tech and support sectors.

I appreciate your time and consideration and hope my perspective sheds some light on why this could be a great opportunity for us all. Thanks a lot for listening, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Warm Regards, E. Gillino

Starlink

1 message

Becky McCullough bmccullough858@gmail.com> To: telecom@puc.bz

Mon, Oct 28, 2024 at 10:30 AM

Please, allow Starlink in Belize!

Thank you, Sean and Becky McCullough