Before fiber broadband:

We ran a load balancing router to combine a satellite Internet connection with cellular data connection to achieve a fairly stable 25 GB download speed; upload around 10GB. Latency on the satellite link ranged 600 to 800ms so it took some time to get a link moving.

If the weather was poor we were on cellular alone and if the weather was extreme even cellular data was hit and miss.

These were both metered data connections so when we passed 70 GB downloaded/uploaded data there were overage charges.

Our Internet data costs averaged around $400 per month with some months exceeding $800.

After fiber broadband:

We still use a load balancing router with cellular data as a backup. In the months we have been on Alliance broadband the backup has never been required. Fiber broadband download speed is consistently 70GB; upload around 30GB. Latency is always under 5ms; pretty much instantaneous.

Weather is now a non-factor.

Data download/upload are not metered (unlimited) so there are no overage charges.

Our Internet data costs are now fixed at under $180 per month and if we weren’t so stubborn about having a “backup”, $80 per month.

We also have no need for Satellite TV or a legacy telephone lines. All of that is on fiber broadband now as well.

Summary:

The reduction in the cost for Internet data and phone along with the increased reliability of the broadband connection means a lot to a rural home based business. The fiber broadband connection puts a rural business on equal ground with city businesses.

If you look at the numbers above it is obvious the huge expense reduction that has accrued due to the broadband connection.

Dwight Bremer

BTM