

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=25802>

Upgrade Planned to Hiawatha Cable TV System

(KNZA)-An upgrade is planned to the cable TV system in Hiawatha.

Jason Smith, Assistant General Manager of Rainbow Communications, discussed the upgrade with the Hiawatha City Commission this week.

Smith says they will be upgrading the entire cable TV system from a 750 Megahertz system to 1 Gigahertz system, which will allow them to have more bandwidth capacity. He says the additional bandwidth is needed to add additional channels and for increased internet download.

Also as part of the upgrade, Smith says they will be deploying a fiber optic network to the business districts and anchor institutions. He says that will allow them to provide those customers with a multitude of services they currently don't provide—including symmetrical high speed data and private line ethernet.

Smith says the contractor on the project, South Dakota-based TSB Inc., is looking at beginning construction in mid-July, which completion by the 1st of September.

The last upgrade was in 2006-2007 after Rainbow purchased the cable TV system. Smith says very little cable will be replaced during the latest upgrade, it will be more an electronic replacement.

Many Signals Communications