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COUNTY MOVES CLOSER TO INTERNET GOAL
OVER 100 PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY SIGNED UP FOR SERVICE

Vevay, IN (Monday, April 28, 2008) –

Switzerland County may be very close to achieving its first goal for internet availability. Switzerland County's 2004 Economic Development Strategy called for the community to develop a strategy to deploy affordable high-speed internet to as much of Switzerland County as possible. In May of 2005, a Broadband Advisory Group was formed to develop the strategy. "Our goal was to have high-speed internet available to at least 75% of Switzerland County residents," said Judy Firth, President of the Switzerland County Economic Development Commission.

In February, the Switzerland County Economic Development Commission partnered with the Ohio River Valley Communications (ORVComm), The Patriot Water Company and K95.5 *Froggy* FM to make the service available in the Quercus Grove and Center Square areas. More than 100 people have signed up for service since that time.

The project will continue after the 75% goal is reached. "We need to make sure as many people have service as possible," said County Commissioner Craig Bond. County leaders have identified a new internet provider capable of providing service to portions of Switzerland County. Already providing service in the Patriot area, this company is currently testing to extend their service to the Florence and Markland areas. If testing is successful, the company will begin advertising in Switzerland County soon. Additional service expansions are expected in early 2009.

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