U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number
20-50-M09021

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
09-13-2010

1. Recipient Name	6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:
Connected Nation, Inc. - Kansas	Kansas

3. Street Address	8. Final Report?	9. Report Frequency
1020 College Street, P.O. Box 3448,	○ Yes ◉ No	◉ Quarterly ○ Semi Annual ○ Annual ○ Final

5. City, State, Zip Code
Bowling Green , KY 42102-3448

7. Project / Grant Period Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	8. Reporting Period End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	9a. If Other, please describe:
11-01-2009	10-30-2014	09-30-2010	N/A

10. Broadband Mapping

10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
95	95	71	3	87	87

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office? ◉ Yes ○ No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project? ◉ Yes ○ No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

Arcplasma.com: On July 10, 2010 after soliciting data in accordance with the NOFA and the Clarification, Arcplasma indicated that they only offer service to approximately ten people in their neighborhood, also stating that their broadband coverage "is not map worthy."

Southeast Nebraska Communications: On July 10, 2010 after soliciting data, in accordance with the NOFA and the Clarification, Southeast Nebraska Communications believes there is no benefit for participating, as it has a very small footprint in Kansas.

Midwest Connections, Inc: In addition to numerous attempts between January 27 and March 26, two attempts were made between July 13 and August 5.

SCI Cable, Inc: In addition to numerous attempts between January 27 and March 26, two attempts were made between July 13 and August 5.

SWKO Wireless: In addition to numerous attempts between February 26 and March 26, two attempts were made between July 13 and August 5.

WichitaUSA Wireless: In addition to numerous attempts between January 24 and March 26, two attempts were made between July 13 and August 5.

WISProuter Inc.: In addition to numerous attempts between July 30, 2009 and March 24, 2010, two attempts were made between July 13 and August 17.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

We have not collected any data through extraction programs.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

ESRI is deploying and hosting Connected Nation's BroadbandStat (BBStat) web application. ESRI will house the customized BBStat application in their highly-available, monitored and managed environment. The scope of services includes setting up a staging environment for data verification and compatibility as well as a production environment for client access.

Connected Nation also collects consumer feedback in the form of broadband inquiries. These inquiries represent any type of communication received from the public regarding broadband service. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information which was collected through the SBDD program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) residents who do not have broadband but want it; 2) residents who have broadband but want a different provider; and 3) residents who do not have broadband, but the broadband inventory maps indicate that they do. If residents within a region state that they are without broadband, but the broadband inventory maps show otherwise, this allows Connected Nation to approach the providers within that area in an effort to trim down their coverage to more accurately represent real-world availability on the ground.

Before December 31, 2010 Connected Nation will target an additional 3 randomly selected companies in order to achieve a total field validation rate equal to or exceeding 35%.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? ◉Yes   ◯No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

BroadbandStat was publicly launched during this quarter on the Connect Kansas website and received a total of 70 visits between September 23, 2010 and September 30, 2010.

During this quarter, the Connect Kansas project has received a total of 15 broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 4 for this quarter.

Connected Nation focused on extensive validation efforts across Kansas to ensure that a significant percentage of all technology platforms were verified for accuracy.

Activities and field validation techniques included (i) on-site visits with providers; (ii) verifying data which had been received from these providers; (iii) conducting spectrum analysis on fixed, mobile, and WiMAX operations; (iv) cross-referencing the physical coordinates of remote terminals, fiber nodes, ILEC central offices, and FTTx routes; (v) digital photography of facilities; and (vi) randomly testing throughput speeds to compare against data submitted representing the Maximum and Average speeds as reported by the broadband providers.

Connected Nation has completed 66 in-the-field validations of 32 companies totaling 33.68% of the broadband provider universe within the state of Kansas. The results of the testing provided (i) 100% affirmation of frequencies being used (as tested by an Avcom PSA-37XP spectrum analyzer); (ii) 97% affirmation of coordinates submitted; and (iii) 100% affirmation of mobile broadband (using either a 3G smart phone, USB aircard, or a laptop equipped with an internal aircard).

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

N/A

Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

3.34

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed? ⦿ Yes ◯ No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

N/A

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

3.34 Please note that we use functional job titles and these titles may be staffed by multiple individuals. Their hire dates vary so for the purposes of uploading a complete report, we have used a hire date of 1/1/2010 to signify various hire dates.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Associate Counsel	1	01/01/2010
Business Programmer Analyst	1	01/01/2010
CAI Data Analyst	3	01/01/2010
CAI Data Manager	1	01/01/2010
ETS Analyst	64	01/01/2010
ETS Manager	5	01/01/2010
ETS Sr. Analyst	3	01/01/2010
State Services Sr. Specialist	1	01/01/2010
GIS Analyst	14	01/01/2010
GIS Intern	1	01/01/2010
GIS Services Manager	2	01/01/2010
Outreach & Awareness Manager	2	01/01/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	7	01/01/2010
Project Coordinator	2	01/01/2010
Project Management Director	1	01/01/2010
Project Manager	100	01/01/2010
Project Manager	28	01/01/2010
Provider Relations Manager	4	01/01/2010
Provider Relations Specialist	5	01/01/2010
Research & GIS Analyst	4	01/01/2010
Research Analyst	65	01/01/2010
Research Manager	10	01/01/2010
State Services Manager	6	01/01/2010
State Services Specialist	4	01/01/2010

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Sub Contracts

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
Throughbred Research Group	Research Surveys	Y	Y	02/09/2010	02/08/2012	$87,350	$0
Kansas Department of Commerce	Planning Activities	N	Y	11/01/2009	10/30/2014	$500,000	$127,335

Add Row	Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? $614,594   10q. How much Remains? $5,756,920

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? $356,841   10s. How much Remains? $1,245,837

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	$1,283,978	$54,034	$1,338,012	$144,249	$40,664	$184,913
Personnel Fringe Benefits	$275,418	$11,590	$287,008	$34,143	$10,280	$44,423
Travel	$292,837	$22,329	$315,166	$20,092	$9,089	$29,181
Equipment	$143,643	$0	$143,643	$64,322	$0	$64,322
Materials / Supplies	$115,961	$3,739	$119,700	$11,185	$3,744	$14,929
Subcontracts Total	$2,447,250	$343,103	$2,820,353	$146,842	$222,217	$369,059
Subcontract #1	$84,920	$0	$84,920	$33,297	$0	$33,297
Subcontract #2	$500,000	$0	$500,000	$7,500	$115,189	$122,689
Subcontract #3	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #4	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #5	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Construction	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Other	$423,389	$1,040,272	$1,463,661	$2,921	$16,349	$19,270
Total Direct Costs	$5,012,476	$1,475,067	$6,487,543	$423,754	$302,343	$726,097
Total Indirect Costs	$1,359,038	$127,611	$1,486,649	$190,840	$54,498	$245,338
Total Costs	$6,371,514	$1,602,678	$7,974,192	$614,594	$356,841	$971,435
% Of Total	80	20	100	63	37	100

Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application? ◉Yes ○No

10v. If yes, please list

Hardware/software purchases for the project to date include the following:

• BroadbandStat
• ESRI ArchInfo/ArcGIS Software
• ESRI Software Maintenance
• Computers
• Ookla Net Metrics Speed Test Software
• Spectrum Analyzer
• GPS Unit

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

Remaining purchases may include SQL server for mapping geodatabase, SQL server software, multiple dedicated storage servers, security application, additional backup replication solution, computers, GPS units BroadbandStat maintenance, ESRI ArchInfo/ArcGIS maintenance, and speed test updates as well as computers and software maintenance.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets? ○Yes ◉No

10y. If yes, please list

N/A

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included? ◉Yes ○No

10aa. If yes, please list
*Maintained the budget/finance cost model for Connect Kansas.
*Continued to maintain the project work plan and Work Breakdown Structure.
*Continued to reach out to all Kansas providers for data collection of the October mapping data refresh to NTIA.
*Maintained and updated the Connect Kansas website to explain the program and gather information from the consumer community.
*Launched the Kansas BroadbandStat instance.
*Continued to process speed tests and website broadband inquiries from the Connect Kansas speed test portal.
*Conducted the first two Kansas Broadband Task Force meetings.
*Maintained the communications and outreach strategy plan.
*Conducted periodic Connect Kansas project team meetings.
*Produced monthly status reports, data collection activity log, and website statistics and distributed to the Connect Kansas project team.
*Refined and maintained the broadband provider list.
*Maintained and updated the broadband data collection activity log.
*Distributed NDAs to the provider community.
*Securely stored executed NDAs.
*Conducted webinars with provider community.
*Conducted demonstrations of the BroadbandStat product.
*Requested updated broadband coverage coordinate data sets from provider community.
*Distributed broadband coverage data sets to GIS Mapping team for processing.
*Received broadband coverage coordinate data sets from provider community and provided to the GIS Mapping team for processing.
*Submitted the first semi-annual mapping data refresh on September 27, 2010, as required by the grant. Kansas had 95 viable providers identified with 77 complete datasets (81.1%). Of the 18 remaining providers, 7 refused to participate or did not respond to inquiries and 11 were in some state of data submission.
*On September 27, 2010, Connect Kansas was awarded funding by the NTIA under the State Broadband data and Development Grant Program to extend broadband data collection activities for an additional three years.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Some providers continue to be hesitant to participate.   Connect Kansas will continue to work closely with the provider community to encourage participation and field questions or concerns.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

On September 27, 2010 Connect Kansas received notice of a grant award extending SBDD mapping and planning activities an additional three years. The project plan is being revised to include these new activities. Details of the new plan will be reported in the fourth quarter.

11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

Final preparations are being made to host the first Kansas Broadband Summit on October 24-25 in Wichita. During the past quarter, a full agenda of speakers were recruited, event-site and marketing plans were implemented, and registration opened and advertised via multiple outlets including the Connect Kansas website. The Kansas Broadband Task Force convened for the first time on August 31 and held a second meeting on September 9. The Task Force will convene again at the Broadband Summit. The Broadband Manager continues to organize state-funded broadband activities and is prepared to implement components of the amended grant award in the next few quarters. The state is waiting for Task Force input before finalizing scope for university surveys. A cost modeling vendor has been identified and this initiative will begin during the next quarter utilizing updated mapping data from September.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

One challenge in the planning process has been prioritizing the large scope of the project and getting initial capacity built to execute the planning effort. One additional challenge is ordering the sequence of funded activities to most effectively implement the Connect Kansas program and make the most impact. For example, now that the Kansas Broadband Task Force is officially up and running, they will want to influence decisions regarding surveying and cost modeling efforts.   The State mitigated the hiring challenge by utilizing in-kind labor match from current staff, and is mitigating other process issues with state purchasing officials.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning?   ◉ Yes ○ No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

One potential change may involve a shift in the timeline for projects funded by the SBDD. For example, the Kansas Broadband Task Force may want to delay implementation of survey work until they have time to decipher the mapping data to make an educated decision on program direction.

Funding

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? $0   11f. How much Remains? $0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? $0   11h. How much Remains? $0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Planning Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Travel	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Equipment	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Materials / Supplies	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontracts Total	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #1	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #2	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #3	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #4	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #5	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Construction	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Other	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Direct Costs	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Indirect Costs	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Costs	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

None at this time

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing
One challenge in the planning process has been prioritizing the large scope of the project and getting initial capacity built to execute the planning effort. One additional challenge is ordering the sequence of funded activities to most effectively implement the Connect Kansas program and make the most impact. For example, now that the Kansas Broadband Task Force is officially up and running, they will want to influence decisions regarding surveying and cost modeling efforts.   The State mitigated the hiring challenge by utilizing in-kind labor match from current staff, and is mitigating other process issues with state purchasing officials.
11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

All planning costs have been combined with the mapping costs and reported in the mapping section above.

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.	
12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Bernie Bogle	12c. Telephone (area code, number, and extension)
	12d. Email Address bbogle@connectednation.org
12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official Submitted Electronically	12e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) 10-26-2010