

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number

55-50-M09015

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

07-26-2012

1. Recipient Name

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

State of Wisconsin

3. Street Address

610 North Whitney Way,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Madison, WI 53705

7. Project / Grant Period
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

11-01-2009

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

10-30-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

06-30-2012

9a. If Other, please describe:

na0

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
0	0	0	0	0	0

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

The provider information below is current as of the April 1, 2012 data submission. All known providers are sent a invitation to participate in the program at the start of each collection cycle. Providers that have officially declined to participate are not pursued beyond the initial invite. Non-responders are contacted several times during each collection cycle.

The following providers have officially declined to participate in the SBI Program:

**Fibernet Communications Company

**Geneva On-Line, Inc.

**Lakefield Telecom, Inc. (CLEC) - The provider has informed us that they will not be reporting information for their CLEC. They will report information for the ILEC only.

The providers below have not responded to requests for data for the SBI Program. (When available we submit estimated 3rd party data for these providers) We will continue to reach to this group to encourage participation in future rounds.

Rapid Communication LLC
 Community Antenna System, Inc
 Mid West Data Systems - DBA CyberZone
 DiscoverNet - DBA Wireless WiscoNsin
 GRANITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS LLC - DBA Granite Broadband, Inc
 KAUKAUNA UTILITIES
 NEXVO LLC
 T6 Wireless, Inc. - DBA T6 Broadband
 AirRunner Networks LLC
 Air-Speed.Net
 Tri-County Electronics & Internet Service
 Niagara Community TV Coop.
 Broadview Networks Holdings, Inc.
 CANNON TELEPHONE COMPANY
 CIMCO Communications, Inc.
 Hiercomm Networks
 Interlink Computers Tecnology Inc. - DBA UP Logon
 Nextera Holding, LLC - DBA Nextera Wireless

S & K TV SYSTEMS

Telephone Associates Telephone Associates
WISCONSIN RSA #5 CORP
Computer Dynamics (aka JCWIFI)

The following provider is no longer in business:

IBEC

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

The LinkAMERICA team continues to follow consistent procedures within each of our four state projects. We augment provider and CAI data, when necessary, with coverage and speed information from third party sources. We do not substitute third party information for provider-supplied information, however, unless we can independently verify that the provider information is incorrect. Discrepancies between provider and third party data are investigated to ensure data accuracy.

If providers do not submit data, but we are able to verify infrastructure information through other sources, we use common engineering principles to estimate coverage and speed.

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

The following verification processes are under review and have not yet been implemented. Our verification process is provided in section 10h.

**** Mobile Wireless Broadband Drive Testing:** Our intent for this process is to test the signal strength and bandwidth/throughput on mobile wireless signals. We will concentrate our efforts in areas where we have determined that coverage data may be suspect and/or where there is a discrepancy between provider-reported coverage/speed and consumer-reported coverage/speed to determine the actual coverage and speed characteristics. We are currently reviewing vendor options for this work.

**** Mobile Wireless Crowd Sourced Testing:** This process uses a proprietary smart phone application, provided by an outside vendor, to constantly check signal strength and bandwidth/throughput on users' mobile phones. The application will be downloadable by consumers and will run in the background on the consumer's phone. Data collected will be used for validating provider coverage and speed reports - We are currently reviewing vendor options for this work.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

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

**** Third Party Data Comparison:** Provider submitted data is compared against commercial data sources, such as legal exchange areas, AmericanRoamer data files, and Warren Media Prints data files, to identify obvious anomalies or areas for further investigation. This process is followed for new providers or in some instances when changes in coverage are reported by participating providers.

**** Provider Validation:** Check maps and other tools are produced at the beginning of each data collection round based upon prior submissions. LinkAMERICA supplies check maps in GoogleEarth and PDF format to participating providers. This allows providers the option to update coverage boundaries directly within the check map file itself. This process gives the providers more options and flexibility for submitting coverage and speed updates.

**** Data Format Verification:** Proprietary and NTIA supplied scripts are run against the final data set prior to submission to ensure the data meets NTIA data model requirements. This process occurs with each data collection round.

**** Pre-submission Test -** We have integrated the NTIA technology/speed trips, that were introduced in RD 5, into our pre-submission test code to check for Provider data that falls outside of the "normal" range as determined by NTIA. If the data "trips" a warning flag, clarification is requested from the Provider.

**** Consumer Feedback/Verification:** The LinkWISCONSIN interactive map contains a user feedback mechanism that identifies the precise coordinates of each point of feedback. We use the feedback received from this process to identify and investigate areas where consumer feedback conflicts with provider data.

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

Verification processes are followed each Round. Additional verification options are under review.

Staffing

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

An analysis of actual hours worked in Q2 2012 shows that the project resulted in .55 FTE jobs created/retained at the Sub Recipient level in that quarter. It should be noted that this figure does not include a substantial personnel contribution by the PSCW in order to meet matching fund requirements. It also does not include positions staffed by vendors involved in the project. Also note, Sub Recipient hours fluctuate depending on data collection cycles; hours are higher during a collection round and when preparing data for the bi-annual submission to NTIA.

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

The program is fully staffed at this time.

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

.77 - 1.0

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
CEO - Supervisory Role	1	11/01/2009
Project Director	3	11/01/2009
Project Manager	23	09/05/2011
GIS Director	2	11/01/2009
Internal System Support/Architecture	1	11/01/2009
Provider Relations Manager	25	11/01/2009

Add Row

Remove Row

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
CostQuest Associates Inc./LinkAMERICA Alliance	Project Management/GIS Programming & Planning Services	Y	Y	11/01/2009	10/30/2011	1,717,684	0
CostQuest Associates Inc./LinkAMERICA Alliance	Project Management/GIS Programming & Planning Services	Y	Y	10/31/2011	10/31/2014	1,917,826	0

Add Row

Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,800,891 10q. How much Remains? \$2,739,261

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$473,633 10s. How much Remains? \$657,769

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	\$417,150	\$472,331	\$889,481	\$0	\$211,510	\$211,510
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$105,277	\$172,255	\$277,532	\$0	\$80,275	\$80,275
Travel	\$27,500	\$5,784	\$33,284	\$0	\$3,280	\$3,280
Equipment	\$62,418	\$0	\$62,418	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$27,086	\$27,086	\$0	\$9,637	\$9,637
Subcontracts Total	\$3,635,510	\$0	\$3,635,510	\$1,800,891	\$0	\$1,800,891
Subcontract #1	\$3,635,510	\$0	\$3,635,510	\$1,800,891	\$0	\$1,800,891
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$292,297	\$382,580	\$674,877	\$0	\$168,931	\$168,931
Total Direct Costs	\$4,540,152	\$1,060,036	\$5,600,188	\$1,800,891	\$473,633	\$2,274,524
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$71,366	\$71,366	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$4,540,152	\$1,131,402	\$5,671,554	\$1,800,891	\$473,633	\$2,274,524
% Of Total	80	20	100	79	21	100

Hardware / Software

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

10v. If yes, please list

No hardware or software was purchased for the program in Q2 2012. The following purchases were made in previous Quarters and documented on prior reports.

Laptop computer and software for Sub Recipient Project Manager (WI allocated portion): \$352.78

Laptop computer and software for Sub Recipient Vendor Relations Manager (WI allocated portion): \$339.48

Dell Precision T5500 Workstation w/ArcInfo C (WI allocated portion): \$3,458.59*

*The ArcInfo software was a necessary purchase to enable CostQuest to run the validation script, on provider data, that NTIA & FCC require for the SBDD program. Purchasing the hardware/software bundle was the most cost effective way to acquire the needed software. Without the hardware the cost for the software alone would have been \$1000 higher. This expense was allocated evenly to each of the four LinkAMERICA states.

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

** Additional hardware and software in the amount of \$30,928 has been allocated for the "Address File" project approved in the Supplemental grant award.

** Additional hardware and software in the amount of \$25,000 for the Mapping project has been approved in Year 5 via the Supplemental grant award. This equipment has not yet been purchased because it will not be needed until the last year of the project as the state assumes responsibility for hosting and management of the provider database and interactive maps.

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

10y. If yes, please list

**American Roamer: Market area boundary and speed data on mobile cellular providers was purchased in Yr 2 and again in Q1 2012 - \$625 (Q2 2012)

**Media Prints: Cable franchise boundary database was previously purchased in Yr 2 and a new set was ordered with expected delivery in July 2012 - est cost \$500

**ExchangeInfo: Legal exchange area boundary database for Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers was purchased in Yr 2. We are reviewing options for this data in Yr 3.

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

10aa. If yes, please list

**Round 5 Data Submission was delivered to NTIA on Schedule.

**The state interactive map was updated to include Round 5 coverage/speed data.

**A Provider Survey was sent to all providers in the state in Q2 to determine time invested in the program to date and to get feedback regarding the mapping and planning efforts.

**Cost Models are under development for Wisconsin (Wire-line and Wireless). These forward looking economic Cost Models, being developed by CostQuest, use a code base and modeling platform that develops the estimated costs of deploying and maintaining broadband services in currently unserved areas across the state. These tools will provide vital information to policy makers, providers and other stakeholders as they consider expansion of broadband to high cost areas. Expected delivery Q3.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing
We continue to encounter difficulty in reconciling reported provider speeds for some providers with the NTIA speed range parameters.

**In Round 5 Providers whose reported data fell outside of the speed norms identified by NTIA were contacted for clarification of their submission. In most instances we found that Providers were using enhanced technologies to achieve the speed reported. We anticipate that this problem will persist in subsequent rounds and will continue to request clarification from providers when appropriate. We will document our findings in the methodology document we submit to NTIA each Round.

**Collecting accurate subscription level connectivity data for Community Anchor Institutions continues to be a challenging and time consuming endeavor. This is especially true for the Public Safety category. In addition to reaching out to the individual institutions using an on-line survey we are reaching out to contacts within the state and related industry groups in an attempt to locate appropriate data sets that contain the information that the SBI program calls for.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project We look forward to continued refinement of the messaging regarding evaluation of submitted data against 3rd party data sets. We understand and appreciate the need to develop a process that can be used across states to determine the effectiveness of the SBI effort, however, we are concerned that the complexity of the information being evaluated often makes the validation results difficult to interpret and can lead to misinterpretation by stakeholders.

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

Pending Q1 2012 Planning Milestones

1: Implementation of available broadband adoption and use outreach and engagement modules will be launched.

Activities/Accomplishments: All five broadband adoption and use outreach and engagement modules are available on-line for use by Regional Planning Teams and others throughout the state. A training and orientation to the five modules was provided to Wisconsin Public Service Commission Staff. All five training modules were updated and available for on-going outreach and engagement using the completed Planning Dashboard. Status: Complete

2: Delivery of on-going training and technical assistance to support broadband adoption and use outreach and engagement initiatives.

Activities/Accomplishments: Training provided to WI PSC on utilizing the LinkWisconsin Demand Survey and Mapping Tool and associated modules. WI PSC delivered an orientation to the Demand Survey and Mapping Tool in two locations in Q1. The Planning Dashboard has been fully updated with the most current data available to support the on-going adoption and use outreach and engagement activities in Wisconsin going forward. Status: Complete

Q2 2012 Planning Milestones

1: Finalize Statewide Broadband Investment Plan with nine regional chapters.

Activities/Accomplishments: A Steering Committee formed with representation from each of Wisconsin's nine broadband planning regions was established to guide development of the statewide broadband investment plan (Playbook). The development of the plan was supported by the conduct of six focus group meetings with outreach to multiple stakeholders from throughout the state. A written state plan was developed and presented for initial review of the Steering Committee. The Statewide plan (Playbook) is consistent with the nine Regional Broadband Investment plans which represent the nine "regional" chapters to the State Plan.

Status: Complete. Refinement of the Playbook/Plans will continue through Q3 2012.

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

The delay in hiring a Statewide Broadband Director resulted in some lost momentum. This position has been filled with the new director starting in July 2012. We expect that plans will get back on track without a significant slip in schedule.

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

No changes to report at this time.

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

11i. Planning Worksheet

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?

Below are the Q1 2012 key elements of LinkWISCONSIN Capacity Building and Technical Assistance project plan for Yrs. 3-5 (additional detail is included in the attachment: WI 2012 Q2 Supplemental Answers Document):

Pending Q1 Capacity Building Deliverables

1. Establish Wisconsin Statewide Broadband Director. Status: Pending - position has been established and budgeted: New director has been hired and will start July 30, 2012.
2. Refine Joint partner Capacity Bldg Plan - Target Date: Mar 2012 – Status: Pending - Two meetings held in Q1 to refine partner roles and working plan, final work to be completed pending direction from new Statewide Broadband Director and selection of in-state university partner.
3. Organize and implement joint, two-day planning workshop engaging key partners including VisionTech360/LinkAMERICA personnel, appointed statewide Broadband Director, in-state Monitoring and Evaluation Partner and in-state capacity training partner. Status: Pending start of Statewide Broadband Director and final selection of in-state partner. The joint workshop involving all parties targeted for the last week of July.
4. Refine M&E plans for all nine Wisconsin Planning regions including data collection needs. Status: Pending - Refinement of M&E metric and development of a data collection plan awaits the identification and contracting with an appropriate Wisconsin University Partner

Q2 Capacity Building Deliverables

1. Develop and deploy initial M&E data collection tools. Status: Pending launch of State Broadband Director Office and contract with in-state partner university. Field data collection tools are anticipated for initial development in Q3; however field data collection and testing is not realistic until Q4.

Tech. Assistance:

**Identify Technical Leaders across the State. Date: Mar. 2012 - Status: Pending direction from Statewide Broadband Director

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

The delay in selecting a University Partner and launch of State Broadband Director Office will impact the accomplishment of key objectives associated with the Wisconsin Monitoring and Evaluation deliverable. We anticipate that this will cause a delay to the current schedule and push the final M&E work out to Quarter 1, 2013. This delay is not anticipated to significantly impact the overall success of the Wisconsin Monitoring and Evaluation initiative.

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

na

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

Gary Evenson

12c. Telephone
(area code, number, and extension)

12d. Email Address

Gary.Evenson@wisconsin.gov

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted
(Month, Day, Year)

07-27-2012