

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Performance Progress Report**

2. Award Or Grant Number

31-50-M09058

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

07-20-2011

1. Recipient Name

Nebraska Public Service Commission

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

Nebraska

3. Street Address

300 The Atrium Building, 1200 N Street,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Lincoln, NE 68508

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

01-01-2010

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

12-31-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

06-30-2011

9a. If Other, please describe:

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
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

There are no newly discovered providers which have refused to participate in the project. Community Internet Systems, Swiftel Communications and Future Technologies previously refused to participate in the project. Some other providers have previously told the NPSC that they do not provide "broadband" as defined by the NTIA. In the next round of data collection, as instructed by the Program Office we will include the listing of these providers in our data package as well.

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

N/A

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

The NPSC has had discussions with third party vendors to perform verification of broadband locations and speeds. The NPSC has not yet engaged any third party as of the date of this report. The NPSC is also developing a tool which will allow the agency to better utilize the speed test data provided by the FCC and compare that to the data collected from providers.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities?  Yes  No

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

Yes. In the past data submissions, the NPSC has relied on its vendor to conduct verification of the data collected. The NPSC has been working on a transition plan with its vendor so that the NPSC will take on a more active role in the data collection, integration, and verification process. The NPSC will use existing resources to verify broadband data collected for the October 1 data submission with the assistance from its vendor.

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

Verification activities will be ongoing throughout the project.

**Staffing**

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

.48 FTEs for the quarter ending 6/30/11, consisting of .44 FTEs for the NPSC, and .04 FTEs for the University.

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?

.48 FTEs.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Executive Director-NPSC	5	10/22/2007
Department Director-NPSC	5	02/17/1976
Attorney-NPSC	5	02/07/2000
Analyst-NPSC	15	07/14/2003
Economist-NPSC	5	05/24/1999
Business Manager-NPSC	2	05/01/2000
Accountant-NPSC	2	11/07/1994
Accountant-NPSC	5	11/14/1977
Project Manager-University	4	1/13/2010

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
Apex	Data Collection, Verification, Integration and Display	Y	Y	01/20/2010	12/31/2011	1,265,802	0
GeoComm Inc.	GIS Mapping Enhancements for Data Verification	N	Y	10/08/2010	11/17/2010	11,207	0

Add Row

Remove Row

### Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,554,220      10q. How much Remains? \$4,108,565

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$1,066,662      10s. How much Remains? \$785,972

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	\$898,699	\$266,514	\$1,165,213	\$113,634	\$55,396	\$169,030
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$218,410	\$71,284	\$289,694	\$28,680	\$8,455	\$37,135
Travel	\$184,539	\$8,500	\$193,039	\$10,791	\$0	\$10,791
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$233,220	\$0	\$233,220	\$91,460	\$11,651	\$103,111

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Subcontracts Total	\$3,400,269	\$430,750	\$8,831,019	\$1,277,009	\$0	\$1,277,009
Subcontract #1	\$2,372,590	\$170,750	\$2,543,340	\$1,265,802	\$0	\$1,265,802
Subcontract #2	\$260,000	\$0	\$260,000	\$11,207	\$0	\$11,207
Subcontract #3	\$128,500	\$0	\$128,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$464,179	\$260,000	\$724,179	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$175,000	\$0	\$175,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$338,995	\$1,075,586	\$1,414,581	\$0	\$979,135	\$979,135
Total Direct Costs	\$5,274,132	\$1,852,634	\$7,126,766	\$1,521,574	\$1,054,637	\$2,576,211
Total Indirect Costs	\$388,653	\$0	\$388,653	\$32,646	\$12,025	\$44,671
Total Costs	\$5,662,785	\$1,852,634	\$7,515,419	\$1,554,220	\$1,066,662	\$2,620,882
% Of Total	75	25	100	59	41	100

### Hardware / Software

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

10v. If yes, please list

2-Dell Vostro 1520 Laptop Computers w/Windows XP for wireless drive test and verification: \$1228.37;  
 1-Dell Database Server and operating system: \$4727.89;  
 1-Dell Server and operating system: \$6,965.49;  
 1-Mapping Server and operating system: \$646.09;  
 Oracle Database License \$5,037.07;  
 SQL Software Server License: \$7,351.57;  
 Windows Server License: \$637.23  
 ESRI ArcInfo Concurrent User License and ESRI ArcGIS Server License \$28,276.28; and  
 25 CN50 PDAs w/customer software for door-to-door interviews and data verification; \$39,887.25; and  
 Media Prints-Cable Franchise for Nebraska \$2,625.00.

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

N/A.

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

10y. If yes, please list

Tiger Data Files-Available from the Census Bureau  
 Various GIS Data sets from the NPSC  
 Media Prints-Cable Franchise Boundary Data

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

10aa. If yes, please list

N/A.

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

For the most part, the interaction between the NPSC and providers has been very positive. We continue to have challenges with how and when some providers choose to submit data. Understandably some providers are working under different time constraints because they are submitting data in a number of states. We are trying to adapt to their schedule. In some cases, however it can be challenging to accomplish the collection, integration and verification process in the time frames given. We have established our time line for the

October 1 submittal and have begun collecting data.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project The NPSC believes the grantee meeting in Dallas, Texas was a very positive and worthwhile event. The NPSC team that attended the conference learned a great deal from the NTIA staff and from other grantees. We encourage the NTIA to consider other face-to-face meetings where grantees can openly communicate with the NTIA staff and one another about the data collection and verification process.

### 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

• Technical Assistance

o Statewide Conference focused on broadband adoption to be held Q4 2011. Status. Dates and location confirmed, potential speakers identified, initial program planning in process.

o Broadband portal serving as a source of information on broadband efforts. Status: Site has been launched - <http://broadband.ne.gov>.

• Local & Regional Planning

o Regional Planning Teams to create broadband plans regionally. Status:Five regional forums held Q2 in addition to the 3 held in Q1 for a total of eight. Highlights in the local regional planning include:

o Over 300 individuals participated in the eight regional forums

o Of these 300, around 80 initially indicated a willingness to serve on the planning teams.

o Planning team members represented a broad area of interest and additional individuals are being identified to fill any potential gaps in geography or interest area.

o The planning teams will use a recently updated workbook called, Engaging People. Linking the World: Broadband Planning Workbook. A downloadable version is available at "<http://broadband.nebraska.gov>,"and the Engaging Community.

o Updates on the eight regional forums are highlighted in the supplemental update.

o Regions are beginning to hold planning committee meetings. For example, Northeast region, the first planning meeting was held and participants were engaged in a four hour, face-to-face meeting.. The planning team identified additional members to be involved and had specific conversations about broadband in general. Ground rules were set off and many spin off ideas were discussed. Additional data is going to be gathered with assistance from the service providers looking at serviceable versus non-serviceable areas.

For more details, please refer to the Q2 Supplemental Answers Document.

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

There have not been any particular challenges or obstacles to the grant efforts itself. The planning team has continued to have a good working relationship. We have continued to plan for the future, but have experienced some delays in areas including the web portal, focused surveys, and best practice videos. The proposed Statewide Broadband Conference is being planned for the Fall 2011.

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

There will be some budgetary category changes moving from personnel to other due to organizational changes. The unit assisting with technical writing is now operating as a service center and charges will come across as "other" rather than "personnel".

### 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

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

11i. Planning Worksheet

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?

N/A.

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

N/A.

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

N/A.

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

Shanicee Knutson

Legal Counsel

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

(402) 471-3101

12d. Email Address

shana.knutson@nebraska.gov

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

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

08-12-2011