



FIRST PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT

First Quarter 2010

<p>1. Recipient Organization (<i>Name and complete address including zip code</i>) North Georgia Network Cooperative, Inc. 6135 State Hwy 115 Clarksville, GA 30523-0095 USA</p>	<p>2. Award Identification Number NT10BIX5570004</p>
<p>3. Performance Narrative (Q1) <i>Please describe your project activities and progress for the first quarter of 2010. This should include a description of federal expenditures to date, key milestones, the primary activities needed to accomplish those milestones, significant project accomplishments, and any delays or challenges. Please use the milestone categories provided in your baseline report (e.g., environmental assessment, design, rights of way) to structure your answer. (500 words or less)</i></p> <p>North Georgia Network's (NGN) primary focus early in 1st Quarter 2010 was on management and administrative activities critical to providing a solid foundation for the project. This included such activities as developing policies and procedures that would guide the organization; understanding and assimilating grant terms and conditions into the project planning process; and engaging the resources needed during the start-up phase.</p> <p>Environmental Assessment</p> <p>The organization quickly ramped up operations toward a first quarter goal of launching the environmental assessment work preliminary to construction. Among other activities, this involved review of the Environmental Assessment Special Award Conditions, rules and regulations; preparation and issuance of a Request for Proposals for an environmental consultant; and engagement of a qualified environmental firm whose work for NGN began on target March 31 with a "kickoff" meeting.</p> <p>Network Design and Rights of Way</p> <p>Meanwhile NGN's technical team reviewed the preliminary "bird's eye view" network design submitted with the grant application and began honing in on more specific details of the network route that members of the environmental team would need to begin their work. In addition, efforts to obtain required rights of way, easements, permits, leases or other property interests began.</p> <p>Federal Expenditures</p> <p>North Georgia Network expended about \$115,000 in federal funds in its first quarter.</p>	
<p>4. Performance Projections (Q2) <i>Please describe your anticipated project activities and progress for the next quarter. This should include a description of federal expenditures, key milestones, the primary activities needed to accomplish those milestones, significant project accomplishments, and any potential delays or challenges you foresee. Please use the milestone categories provided in your baseline report (e.g., environmental assessment, design, rights of way) to structure your answer. (500 words or less)</i></p> <p>2nd Quarter 2010 will see substantial progress on the activities initiated in first quarter.</p> <p>Environmental Assessment</p> <p>Environmental work will continue in full force second quarter toward a June 1, 2010 submission date milestone. To accomplish this, the environmental consultants and technical team will work together—both in-office and in the field—to continue refining the network routes and POP sites and engaging in consultation with the various state and federal agencies involved in satisfying the environmental requirements (NEPA/Section 106) of the grant.</p> <p>Network Design and Rights of Way</p> <p>Refinement of the routes and Point of Presence (POP) sites will be ongoing, with drive surveys and GIS layout work continuing in support of the environmental assessment work. The construction phase will follow the Environmental Assessment Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), anticipated in second or third quarter. Drive surveys will be conducted to identify right of way owners, while right of way rules and regulations are researched.</p>	

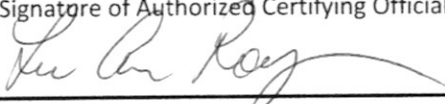
Equipment Procurement

The technical team will begin steps preliminary to equipment procurement in second quarter, including beginning creation of a bill of materials and developing and issuing a Request for Information about key equipment items.

Federal Expenditures

North Georgia Network expects to have expended more than \$400,000 in federal funds by close-out of second quarter.

5. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.

5a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official	5c. Telephone (<i>area code, number and extension</i>) 706-864-2196
Lee Ann Roy Grants Manager	5d. Email Address laroy@windstream.net
5b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official 	5e. Date Report Submitted (<i>Month, Day, Year</i>) April 30, 2010

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