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Organization:	Digital Bridge Communications
Project Name:	Last Mile Broadband for Underserved Portions of Cassia, Jerome, and Twin Falls Counties, Idaho
Project Type:	Infrastructure
State(s):	Idaho
Federal Award:	\$4,206,984 (awarded as three grants: \$1,862,197 for work in Cassia County, \$984,134 for work in Jerome County, and \$1,360,653 for work in Twin Falls County)

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Last Mile Broadband for Underserved Portions of Cassia, Jerome, and Twin Falls Counties projects plan to bring affordable wireless broadband service to rural, underserved communities in south-central Idaho. The projects intend to expand Digital Bridge Communications' existing network by adding a total of 16 towers, 64 miles of new fiber, and 12 microwave links. The project also proposes to offer speeds of up to 3 Mbps using both fixed and mobile wireless technology, as well as directly connect approximately 25 community anchor institutions at no charge in each county.

The Last Mile Broadband project also proposes to:

- Offer wireless broadband Internet service for as many as 20,000 households, 800 businesses, and 160 community anchor institutions.
- Enable robust and reliable broadband access for public safety entities, utilities, and other organizations with personnel operating in a mobile work environment.
- Provide opportunity for economic development and growth in the underserved areas of the counties that have limited access to affordable broadband services.
- Towns impacted in Cassia County include Albion, Burley, Declo, Malta, and Oakley. Towns impacted in Jerome County include Barrymore, Falls City, Greenwood, Haytown, Hunt, Hydra, Jerome, McHenry, and Sugar Loaf. Towns impacted in Twin Falls County include Buhl, Burger, Clover, Deep Creek, Fairview, Filer, Godwin, and Hansen.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Digital Bridge Communications is a privately held, for-profit corporation formed in 2005 to provide fixed and mobile WiMAX broadband services. The company, with its headquarters and network operations center located in Ashburn, Virginia, currently offers service in 15 markets across six states, including five markets within Idaho, and has 22,500 customers nationwide, of which nearly 11,000 are in Idaho. The project is supported by The Region IV Development Association and includes a partnership with TeleWorld Solutions, a Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB), that will provide frequency design, mapping, and engineering services.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Alvarion
- Arise Virtual Solutions
- Cisco
- Syringa Networks
- TeleWorld Solutions (Small Disadvantaged Business)

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.broadbandusa.gov.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

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