

RECIPIENT NAME: Vermont Telecommunications Authority

AWARD NUMBER: NT10BIX5570076

DATE: 09/04/2014

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0660-0037

EXPIRATION DATE: 6/30/2015

## ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

### General Information

|   |  |                                    |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted</b><br>Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration                              | <b>2. Award Identification Number</b><br>NT10BIX5570076  | <b>3. DUNS Number</b><br>829946784 |
| <b>4. Recipient Organization</b><br><br>Vermont Telecommunications Authority One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602-3377   |  |                                    |
| <b>5. Current Reporting Period End Date (MM/DD/YYYY)</b><br>12-31-2013  | <b>6. Is this the last Annual Report of the Award Period?</b><br><br><input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No |                                    |
| <b>7. 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.</b> |  |                                    |
| <b>7a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Certifying Official</b><br><br>Erik Amalixsen<br><br>Project Manager  | <b>7c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)</b><br>8028281795   |                                    |
|   | <b>7d. Email Address</b><br>eamalixsen@telecomvt.org   |                                    |
| <b>7b. Signature of Certifying Official</b><br>Submitted Electronically   | <b>7e. Date Report Submitted (MM/DD/YYYY):</b><br>09-04-2014   |                                    |

**OVERALL PROJECT PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

1. Please provide the following average cost figures for your project. Please review the instructions to determine how to calculate these figures. Write "0" in the second column and "N/A" in the third column if your project does not yet have this information. Depending on whether your project contains Middle Mile and/or Last Mile components, some metrics may not apply. Please provide a narrative description if the total is different from the target provided in your baseline plan (600 words or less).

| Cost Indicator                                   | Average Cost / Speed | Narrative (describe your reasons for any variance from the baseline plan or any other relevant information)   |
|--|----------------------|---|
| Average cost per new mile (Middle Mile)          | \$31,200             | Figure is preliminary, as OSP construction contractors have not yet invoiced SFC for all work that has been completed. The average cost for the Essex County build is \$23,000 per mile |
| Average cost per household passed (Last Mile)    | 0                    | N/A   |
| Average cost per subscriber (Last Mile)          | 0                    | N/A   |
| Maximum broadband speed advertised (Middle Mile) | 10 Gbps              | for transport service   |
| Maximum broadband speed advertised (Last Mile)   | 0                    | N/A   |
| Average broadband speed provided (Middle Mile)   | 88 Mbps              | N/A   |
| Average broadband speed provided (Last Mile)     | 0                    | N/A   |

2. Please provide each facility name and type, the county where the facility is located, and census tract information for any facilities funded by your project during this annual reporting period. Report only facilities for which construction has been completed.

| Facility Identifier / Name                  | Facility Type | County | Census Tracts |
|---|---------------|--------|---------------|
| Each facility is listed in the APR Addendum | N/A           | N/A    | N/A           |

Add Facility

Remove Facility

3. Please identify (1) the total number of interconnection, peering, and/or transit agreements entered into during this annual reporting period; (2) the total number of agreements of each type that you are currently negotiating; and (3) whether you have denied any request for interconnection and if so, why. If you have not entered into any agreements, please write "N/A."

**Interconnection Agreements (600 words or less)**  
 Interconnect:  
 1) Three wholesale service agreements have been entered with broadband and communications service providers.  
 Cloud Alliance  
 Vanu Coverage Co.  
 WaveComm  
 2) None.  
 3) No

**Peering and Transit Agreements (600 words or less)**  
 Peering / Transit:  
 1) Peering or transit agreements have been entered with three service providers.  
 Fairpoint  
 Verizon  
 Sidera  
 2) None.  
 3) No.

**CAPACITY, UTILIZATION, AND CAPABILITY INDICATORS**

**4. Community Anchor Institutions:** In the chart below, please provide information on the types of community anchor institutions capable of receiving service (i.e., anchor institutions connected to your network plus those passed by your network) as a result of BTOP funds.

| Type of Community Anchor Institution | Total Number Within Service Area | Type of Community Anchor Institution   | Total Number Within Service Area |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Schools (K-12)                       | 103                              | Public Housing                         | 0                                |
| Libraries                            | 41                               | Other Institutions of Higher Education | 18                               |
| Medical and Healthcare Providers     | 28                               | Other Community Support Organizations  | 3                                |
| Public Safety Entities               | 25                               | Other Government Facilities            | 75                               |
| Community Colleges                   | 10                               | Total Community Anchor Institutions    | 303                              |

**5. Please indicate the average increase in broadband speed provided to the community anchor institution customers as a result of your project, including a description of how this increase was calculated (600 words or less).**

81 Mbps. We have incomplete data on the broadband speeds that were being purchased by CAI's prior to this project, but estimate the average was 7.5 Mbps. The average speed of service provided to CAI customers using the new network is 88 Mbps (symmetrical, and committed rate). Burst rates provided as WAN transport services can be substantially higher. This average is computed using the committed information rate of WAN transport services provided to each customer, or, for Internet-access-only services, the committed Internet bandwidth provided.

**6. What retail services are being provided by this project? Please describe below. (600 words or less). As an attachment to this report, please provide pricing plans (in \$ per month) associated with each retail service. Retail services description:**

Retail services provided include: symmetrical Internet access starting at 10 Mbps, GigE WAN point-to-point or point-to-multipoint transport services with committed information rates starting at 100 Mbps and burstable rates up to 10 Gbps, combined transport and Internet delivered over the same connection.

Prices vary on a case-by-case basis, as market and competitive conditions warrant. Attachment name: "VTA FiberConnect Rate Sheet.pdf"

**7a. What network management policies (e.g., bandwidth limitations, traffic prioritization) are in place for the services provided by your project? 7b. Have you ever limited or blocked consumers from accessing any lawful content, service, service provider, or application, or prevented any consumers from attaching any legal device to the network? If so, please explain why (300 words or less)?**

7a/b for the Essex dark fiber segment: VTA does not have any restrictive policies for dark fiber (it is open access)

7a.: SFC will not manage or limit the content of communications traffic transiting SFC's network, except to the extent necessary to maintain reliable service. SFC's network management practices do not involve preferential routing of traffic on the basis of content or provider. SFC utilizes neutral traffic routing, and will enable connections to other carriers and to the public Internet.

7b.: No.

**8. If applicable, please provide the total number and the percentage of subscribers who have dropped the broadband service provided through this project (total number of households and/or businesses and the "churn rate") and the subscribers' reasons for discontinuing their service (600 words or less).**

No subscribers of broadband service provided through this project have dropped the service.

**9. Please provide the following information regarding the number of fiber strand-miles:**

| Total Number of Strand-miles | Total Number of Active Fiber Strand-miles Used by Recipient | Total Number of Leased Fiber Strand-miles | Total Number of Dark Fiber Strand-miles | Total Number of Strand-miles Being Built |        |      |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--------|------|
|                              |   |   |   | Active                                   | Leased | Dark |
| 117,560                      | 58,780  | 2,936                                     | 55,556                                  | 288                                      | 0      | 0    |

**10. If you wholesale dark fiber, please list your wholesale customers and the number of fiber miles you currently are leasing to those customers:**

The VTA built 13 miles of fiber in Essex county. This segment is available to lease which connects to other dark fiber routes in the Northeast region of Vermont. The VTA expects this route to be utilized in a planned fiber route from Boston to Montreal by a service provider once the adjoining fiber routes are finished.

**11. Please provide the following information regarding the facility collocation capacity:**

| Total Facility (total square feet for all facilities) | Number of Square Feet Used by Recipient | Number of Square Feet Leased | Number of Square Feet Available |
|---|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 852   | 828                                     | 4                            | 20                              |

**12. If you do not own collocation space, please describe how and where other network providers and/or customers interconnect with your network (600 words or less).**

Sovernet is collocated in the incumbent central offices or PoP's listed in the APR addendum as "Facilities". Other service providers can interconnect with Sovernet's network by collocating in those facilities as well and requesting permission from the owner of the facility for indirect cross-connects or direct cable connections between collocation bays.

Interconnection points can be reached at the following locations:

- Brattleboro CO
- Brattleboro, Main St
- Wilmington CO
- Williamstown CO
- St. Johnsbury CO
- Hardwick CO
- Lebanon CO
- Stratton CO
- Manchester CO
- Rutland CO
- Middlebury CO
- Burlington CO
- Burlington POP
- Essex Junction CO
- Keene CO
- Manchester, Sundial
- Manchester CO
- Boston, 1 Summer

For the Essex county dark fiber segment, access to use the fiber will be accommodated at any splice point along the route by contacting the VTA and entering into an IRU.

**13. To the extent that you have made any subcontracts or sub grants, please provide the number of subcontracts or sub grants that have been made to socially and economically disadvantaged small business (SDB) concerns as defined by section 8(a) of the Small Business Act, 15 U.S.C. 647, as modified by NTIA's adoption of an alternative small business size standard for use in BTOP. Please also provide the names of these SDB entities (150 words or less).**

No SDB has been subcontracted or received a subgrant under this award.

**14. Please describe any best practices/lessons learned that can be shared with other similar BTOP projects (900 words or less).**

N/A

**15. Using the Excel spreadsheet template titled "Annual PPR CCI Addendum", please provide an updated list of Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) that you have connected and plan to connect to your network.**

**16. Using the Excel spreadsheet template titled "Annual PPR CCI Addendum", please provide a list of community pairs that are receiving new or improved broadband service as a result of BTOP grant funds.**

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**17. Please provide up-to-date network route maps in a single file, in a Google Earth compatible format (e.g., KMZ file).**