

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number
48-50-M09064

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
04-11-2011

1. Recipient Name
Connected Nation, Inc - Texas

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:
Texas

3. Street Address
1020 College Street,

8. Final Report? Yes No
9. Report Frequency
 Quarterly
 Semi Annual
 Annual
 Final

5. City, State, Zip Code
Bowling Green, KY 42101-2137

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:
03-31-2011

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

- 281 Communications, Inc.: In addition to intermittent contact with the owner of the company during the period of January 2010 and September 2010, 5 attempts were made during this submission period - Non-Responsive to Multiple Attempts
- AMA TechTel: Representative stated they would not participate as long as the large Internet providers were involved - Refused to Participate
- Anvil Communications: Spoke to company representative who refused participation stating they feel the mapping initiative is not a benefit - Refused to Participate
- Bee Creek Communications: Historically since March 2010 the owner exhibits interest then becomes evasive by not responding to e-mails and phone messages; 4 attempts made during this submission period - Non-Responsive to Multiple Attempts
- BroadWaves: Spoke with the provider who said "I don't care to be on there...right now, at least." - Refused to Participate
- Buford Media Group: Sent an e-mail to which the provider responded saying "We are still not interested at this time." - Refused to Participate
- Centrovision: - Partial data received from provider in March 2010; subsequent contact effort to finalize the dataset resulted with no responses; 6 attempts made during this submission period - Non-Responsive to Multiple Attempts
- CKS Wireless, Inc.: Since the direct conversation with the owner of the company in April 2010 he has not responded; 4 attempts made during this submission period - Non-Responsive to Multiple Attempts
- Cybercom Corporation: Received an e-mail from provider stating, "We do not want to participate. Don't bother us anymore." - Refused to Participate

...For more details, please refer to the Q1 TX Supplemental Answer Document

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

ESRI is deploying and hosting Connected Nation's BroadbandStat (BBStat) web application. ESRI will house the customized BBStat application in their highly available, monitored, and managed environment. The scope of services includes setting up a staging environment for data verification and compatibility as well as a production environment for client access.

Connected Nation also collects consumer feedback in the form of broadband inquiries. These inquiries represent any type of communications received from the public regarding broadband service. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information collected through the SBDD program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) residents who do not have broadband but want it; 2) residents who have broadband but want a different provider; and 3) residents who do not have broadband, but the broadband inventory maps indicate that they do. If residents within a region state that they are without broadband, but the broadband inventory maps show otherwise, this allows Connected Nation to approach the providers within that area in an effort to trim down their coverage to more accurately represent real-world availability on the ground.

Before June 30, 2011 Connected Nation will target 7 additional companies in order to achieve a total field validation rate equal to or exceeding 59.00% (currently 55.68%).

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

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

BroadbandStat is publicly available on the Connected Texas website and received a total of 1,101 visits between January 1, 2011 and March 31, 2011.

During this quarter, the Connected Texas project received a total of 27 broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 9 for this quarter.

Connected Nation's staff conducted extensive field validation tests in Texas on the following providers: Alenco Communications Inc., Allegiance Communications, AT&T, AwesomeNet Inc., Basin 2 Way Radio Inc., Basin Broadband, Big Bend Telephone, BordertoBorder, Broadband Data Services of Texas LLC, Broadcomm, Cable One Inc., Cameron Telephone Company LLC, Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative Inc., Central Texas Cable Partners Inc., Central Texas Telephone Cooperative Inc., CenturyLink, Cequel Communications, Clearwire Corporation, Coleman County Telephone Cooperative Inc., Colorado Valley Telephone Cooperative Inc., Comcast Cable Communications LLC, Community Telephone Company Inc., Consolidated Communications, Cumby Telephone Cooperative Inc., DC Texas.Net, Dell Telephone Cooperative Inc., Digitex.com, Dot11 Networks, East Texas DSL, Eastex Telephone Cooperative Inc., ECTISP, ELC Internet Services Inc., Electra Telephone Company, Element Networks LLC, eNet, ERF Wireless, ETAN Industries, ETS Cablevision Company Inc., Ganado Telephone Company, GEUS, Gower Computer Support Inc., Grande Communications, Grayson CableRocket LLC, Greasy Bend Ventures Inc., GTEK Communications, Guadalupe Valley Communications Systems, GVEC.net, Hill Country Telephone Cooperative Inc., JAB Wireless Inc., KeyOn Communications Inc., La Ward Telephone Exchange Inc., Lake Livingston Telephone Company, Leap Wireless International Inc., Live Air Networks, Livingston Telephone Company Incorporated, Maverick Internet, McDonald Group,... • For more details, please refer to the Q1 Supplemental Answer Document

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

N/A

Staffing

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

8.19

Connected Nation has numerous staff working on the Connected Texas project, some at only a small percentage of their time. This approach is beneficial to the project in various ways: some staff provide necessary project support, many staff work together utilizing a team approach, and others are subject matter experts in their respective areas and by leveraging their expertise the project benefits by their knowledge and skills without the necessity of supporting a more expensive full-time resource.

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 Connected Texas position not currently staffed is related to the new local and regional technology planning activities that are only just beginning and as such have no impact on the project's time line. The position is expected to be filled during the second or third quarter of 2011.

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

9.19

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Associate Counsel	3	09/14/2009
Business Programmer Analyst	2	04/02/2007
CAI Coordinator	17	12/13/2004
CAI Data Analyst	8	03/24/2009
CAI Data Manager	1	08/09/2010
Community Technology Specialist	2	01/18/2010
ETS Analyst	100	08/24/2009
ETS Analyst	72	02/18/2010
ETS Analyst	65	08/24/2009
ETS Analyst	8	02/18/2010
ETS Analyst	2	11/01/2007
ETS Analyst	1	08/03/2009
General Counsel	9	01/01/2007
GIS Analyst	65	11/16/2009
GIS Intern	7	04/01/2010
GIS Services Manager	23	05/15/2007
Outreach & Awareness Manager	15	03/24/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	36	01/04/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	15	01/04/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	8	02/02/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	5	10/01/2007
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	1	01/03/2010
Project Coordinator	33	04/01/2005
Project Management Director	11	12/20/2004
Project Manager	46	03/16/2010
Project Manager	30	09/04/2007
Project Manager	13	01/14/2008
Project Manager	5	09/01/2006
Project Manager	4	01/14/2008
Project Manager	3	08/20/2007

Project Manager	3	12/16/2009
Project Manager	2	03/16/2010
Provider Relations Manager	11	02/17/2005
Research & GIS Analyst	18	05/14/2007
Research Analyst	43	06/01/2009
Research Analyst	6	02/01/2010
Research Manager	6	05/14/2007
State Services Associate	100	12/01/2009
State Services Manager	6	07/01/2007
State Services Specialist	6	02/02/2009
ETS Manager	8	07/01/2007

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
Eastern Research Services	Research Survey	Y	Y	02/08/2010	02/07/2012	57,360	0
ESRI	GIS Consultants	N	Y	09/21/2009	12/31/2009	73,819	0
Contract Labor	Contract Labor	N	Y	01/01/2010	12/31/2014	473,145	175,690

Add Row

Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,682,127 10q. How much Remains? \$6,343,873

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$462,545 10s. How much Remains? \$1,640,734

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	\$2,861,710	\$651,821	\$3,513,531	\$450,698	\$73,665	\$524,363
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$613,836	\$175,076	\$788,912	\$92,638	\$30,827	\$123,465
Travel	\$436,998	\$0	\$436,998	\$82,673	\$582	\$83,255
Equipment	\$178,963	\$0	\$178,963	\$90,080	\$0	\$90,080
Materials / Supplies	\$86,035	\$0	\$86,035	\$30,817	\$0	\$30,817
Subcontracts Total	\$926,612	\$175,690	\$1,102,302	\$381,654	\$285,214	\$666,868
Subcontract #1	\$321,061	\$0	\$321,061	\$28,492	\$0	\$28,492
Subcontract #2	\$73,819	\$0	\$73,819	\$19,271	\$0	\$19,271
Subcontract #3	\$473,145	\$175,690	\$648,835	\$320,913	\$285,214	\$606,127
Subcontract #4	\$19,904	\$0	\$19,904	\$4,130	\$0	\$4,130

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Subcontract #5	\$38,683	\$0	\$38,683	\$8,848	\$0	\$8,848
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$167,571	\$911,067	\$1,078,638	\$6,403	\$42,685	\$49,088
Total Direct Costs	\$5,271,725	\$1,913,654	\$7,185,379	\$1,134,963	\$432,973	\$1,567,936
Total Indirect Costs	\$2,754,275	\$189,625	\$2,943,900	\$547,164	\$29,572	\$576,736
Total Costs	\$8,026,000	\$2,103,279	\$10,129,279	\$1,682,127	\$462,545	\$2,144,672
% Of Total	79	21	100	78	22	100

Hardware / Software

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

10v. If yes, please list

Hardware/software purchases for the project to date include the following:

- BroadbandStat-\$60,000
- ArchInfo/ArcGIS Software-\$19,979
- Computers & Software-\$9,300
- Spectrum Analyzer-\$5,323
- Speed Test Software-\$4,942
- GPS Units-\$516
- Google Earth Pro-\$266

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

Remaining purchases may include SQL server for mapping geodatabase, SQL server software, multiple dedicated storage servers, security application, additional backup replication solution, computers, GPS units BroadbandStat maintenance, ArchInfo/ArcGIS maintenance, and speed test updates as well as computers and software maintenance.

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

10y. If yes, please list

All data sets used in this project have been contributed in-kind. Data sets used by the project to date and their respective in-kind contribution value are as follows:

- Commission on State Emergency Communications Regional Planning Councils input - \$7,395
- District & Municipal Public Safety Answering Point data - \$1,419
- K-12 School address data - \$26,895
- TX ISD Superintendents and Technology Coordinators - \$3,768
- TX orthoimagery - In-Kind Contribution Value Yet to be Determined
- TX Workforce Commission IT - \$82
- Workforce Solutions data - \$770

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

10aa. If yes, please list

* Revised the project schedule, budget, and work breakdown structure with the revised State Broadband Data & Development (SBDD) timeline

* Submitted project plans to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for the SBDD supplemental grant award

* Continued to process speed tests, technology assessments, and broadband inquiries from the Connected Texas website

* Produced and distributed weekly status reports, data collection activity log, website statistics, and broadband inquiries to the project team

* Conducted bi-weekly project update teleconferences with Connected Texas clients and stakeholders

* Updated the project awareness plan and outreach strategy

* Briefed several in-state organizations on the project to gain assistance in the mapping and data validation effort

* Created and distributed an electronic newsletter via email to contacts throughout Texas to assist in identifying and collecting data from Community Anchor Institutions (CAI) in Texas

* Continued to identify and process Texas CAI data* Distributed and executed Non-Disclosure Agreements with the broadband provider community

- * Continued to solicit broadband coverage datasets from the Texas broadband provider community
 - * Distributed broadband coverage datasets to the Geographic Information Systems mapping team for processing
 - * Submitted Texas broadband provider mapping data updates in accordance with the NTIA semi-annual requirements
 - * Conducted multiple field validation tests of broadband provider data
 - * Updated the Texas BroadbandStat application to change the display of unserved census blocks
 - * Created statewide and county level multi/single platform maps on the Connected Texas website
 - * Updated speed maps on the Connected Texas website
 - * Submitted quarterly project reports to the NTIA
 - * Completed the Texas Broadband Planning Report and conducted a public release of the report
- 10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

All deadlines have been achieved. There currently have not been any obstacles encountered.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

On September 27, Connected Texas received notice of a grant award extending SBDD mapping and planning activities for an additional three years. Connected Texas composed and submitted the first SBDD Detailed Project Plan, Timeline, and Budget (Project Plan). As of the close of the quarter, the Project Plan has been accepted and recommendations for changes have been received. Those changes are in process with resubmission pending.

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

On behalf of the state of Texas, Connected Nation (CN) wrote the survey instrument for the 2011 Residential Technology Assessment telephone survey, incorporating recommendations received from state stakeholders where appropriate. These surveys are designed to measure trends in technology adoption, barriers to adoption, and awareness of available broadband service among Texas residents.

Connected Texas, in coordination with the Texas Department of Agriculture, completed an initial planning report for the state during Q1 2011. This report serves as a preliminary assessment of broadband infrastructure and adoption in Texas. The purpose of its development and release is to provide a detailed review of the current state of broadband in Texas and spark discussion across multiple broadband stakeholders in the state on key policy and strategies to expand and enhance broadband services. The report was formally presented to the state of Texas and released publically within the state during Q1 2011. The report, entitled The Broadband Landscape in the State of Texas: Assessment at a State, Regional & Local Level, and Recommendations for Broadband Expansion, is available on the Connected Texas website at the following link: <http://connectedtx.org/research/>.

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

Connected Nation has been working closely with the Texas Department of Agriculture to ensure that our work exceeds expectations. During Q1 2011, there were no significant obstacles during the planning process.

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

The residential survey update that was scheduled for Q1 2011 has been moved to Q2 2011, to coincide with the proposed non-adopter oversample survey (detailed under section 11j).

We are currently transitioning the current Connected Texas mapping and planning projects to the amended SBDD 2.0 projects that were awarded to Connected Texas. Based upon the new SBDD Detailed Project Plan, Timeline, and Budget filed with NTIA, the planning activities will be incorporated into the Technical Assistance project. Please see 11j for details.

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

11i. Planning Worksheet						
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?

Upon approval of the project plan and budget, Connected Nation will conduct a survey that oversamples households that do not subscribe to broadband. This second survey will be in addition to the previously scheduled residential survey. This updated and improved methodology will provide a greater level of analysis regarding barriers to technology adoption among different socio-economic and demographic groups by surveying non-adopters in Texas in a way similar to that conducted by the FCC as part of the National Broadband Planning effort. This approach will help create a demographic and socio-economic profile of the population of non-adopters in Texas, which can then be applied at the local level of detail by area planning teams, to assist in developing local adoption initiatives that will target the barriers that are unique to that area. In Q1 2011, CN developed the analysis methodology and wrote the survey instrument for this survey.

Connected Texas composed and submitted the first SBDD Detailed Project Plan, Timeline, and Budget (Project Plan). As of the close of the quarter, the Project Plan has been accepted and recommendations for changes have been received. Those changes are in process with resubmission pending.

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

Connected Nation has been relying heavily on Texas's recommendations to ensure that our work, as well as the work of our subcontractors, exceeds expectations. During Q1, 2011, there were no significant obstacles during the planning process.

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

All planning costs have been combined with the mapping costs and reported in the mapping section above.

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

Bernie Bogle

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

12d. Email Address

bbogle@connectednation.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

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

06-16-2011