Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund
2020 Round One Grant Application and Guide

broadband.fund@adeca.alabama.gov

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Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5690

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2020 Grant Application Guidelines

An application workshop will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 in the Alabama Center for Commerce 7th floor Auditorium. Seating is limited; therefore, all attendees must register by calling (334) 242-5292 or emailing broadband.fund@adeca.alabama.gov. An online version of the workshop and questions and answers from the workshop will be posted on the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) website after the workshop, at http://adeca.alabama.gov/broadband.

Applications shall be submitted in PDF format by email to broadband.fund@adeca.alabama.gov. Applications will be accepted starting on October 1, 2019. Completed applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM, CST, on December 30, 2019. Any applications received after the deadline will not be considered. All applications must be complete; however, ADECA reserves the right to contact applicants for additional information and/or clarifications. All applications received will be posted on ADECA's website at http://adeca.alabama.gov/broadband.

Existing service providers shall have from December 31, 2019 through February 11, 2020 to file objections to the eligibility of the proposed projects. All objections must be filed by email to broadband.fund@adeca.alabama.gov and must include verifiable documentation to support the challenge.

An applicant may submit more than one application; however, each project must have a separate application and budget. Each project must stand alone in meeting the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund program requirements.

Eligibility

An eligible applicant is a non-government entity that is a cooperative, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other private business entity that provides broadband service.

Funding

Projects must be completed within two years of the effective date of the grant agreement. The grant will be in the form of a reimbursement of eligible costs up to the award amount in the grant agreement. Reimbursement will be made within 30 days of project completion and final inspection by ADECA.

All projects will be scored based on the established rating criteria. The criteria can be found at http://adeca.alabama.gov/broadband. Those eligible projects receiving the highest scores will be selected for funding. The number of projects funded will be determined by the funds available and the total amount of requests made. ADECA may request amended projects and/or offer reduced grant participation.

ADECA shall ensure that not less than 40 percent of the funds awarded will be awarded to projects serving unincorporated areas. Further, grants awarded for middle mile and anchor institution projects shall not exceed 40 percent of the total funds appropriated for grants on an annual basis.

Individual grant awards will be for projects in unserved areas, and may not exceed the lesser of 35 percent of the project cost, or $1,500,000 for projects that will be capable of transmitting broadband signals at or above the minimum service threshold.

Definitions

END USER. A residential, business, institutional, or government entity that uses broadband services for its own purposes and does not resell such broadband services to other entities. An internet service provider (ISP) and mobile wireless service provider are not an end user for the purposes of this act.

MIDDLE MILE PROJECT. A broadband infrastructure project that does not provide broadband service to end users or to end-user devices.

MINIMUM SERVICE THRESHOLD. A connection to the Internet that provides capacity for transmission at an average speed per customer of at least 25 megabits (25 Mbps) per second downstream and at least three megabits (3 Mbps) per second upstream.

RURAL AREA. Any area within this state not included within the boundaries of any incorporated city or town having a population in excess of 25,000 inhabitants, according to the last federal census.

UNSERVED AREA. Any rural area in which there is not at least one provider of terrestrial broadband service that is either: (1) offering a connection to the Internet meeting the minimum service threshold; or (2) is required, under the terms of the Federal Universal Service Fund or other federal or state grant, to provide a connection to the Internet at speeds meeting the minimum service threshold by March 28, 2023.

APPLICANTS MUST USE THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION FORMAT, COMPLETE IT IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND LABEL ATTACHMENTS AS INSTRUCTED. FAILURE TO DO SO, MAY RESULT IN A LOSS OF POINTS.

2020 Round One Grant Application

Applicant Information

Project Name: FTTH Phase III

Legal Name of Entity: Millry Telephone Company, Inc.

Mailing Address: PO Box 561, Millry, AL 36558

Name and Title of CEO: Paul E. Brown Sr, President

Name and Title of Contact: Annice Jordan CPA, VP & CFO

Phone Number and Email of Contact: 251-846-2911 Ext 3030 annicehjordan@millry.net

Autonomous System Number (ASN) 53507

List Internet Exchange Membership (if any) n/a

PeeringDB entries (www.perringdb.com) n/a

A. Project Description

This section is worth up to 25 points. Up to an additional 10 bonus points may be available to applicants adequately demonstrating the criteria listed in number 7 below. Points will be awarded based on verifiable information only.

Please complete the project description sections below. Any additional documentation can be included in an attachment file titled Attachment A, Project Description.

1. A discussion of the area served including boundaries, number of households, businesses, and any community anchors (libraries, schools, police and fire stations, hospitals, etc.). This response shall also identify if the project area is located within an unincorporated area and provide information regarding how the area meets the definition of rural (US Census data). Please complete the following table.

Number of Households to be Served	559
Number of Businesses / Industries to be served	16
Number of Community Anchors to be served	2

2. A discussion of the technology to be deployed (fiber, cable, DSL, etc.). Additionally, include a discussion of future usage projections and the ability to upgrade.

3. A discussion of internet speeds, service tier and pricing levels, data caps, etc.

4. A preliminary technical evaluation of the project that is certified by an engineer. The evaluation shall include a project cost estimate, project schedule and timeline to include a completion date of no more than two years, and maps showing the proposed project area. **Maps shall be in .shp, .kml, or .kmz formats.**

   Additionally, maps shall clearly show area eligibility (unserved areas and rural areas). Generally, applicants may establish that an area is unserved by using the ADECA Broadband map showing unserved areas (http://adeca.alabama.gov/broadband). **Other methodology to document an area is unserved, such as household surveys, may be acceptable, but shall be pre-approved by ADECA.**

5. A discussion of the operator's technical and managerial capabilities to complete the project within two years of the effective date of the grant award. Please be aware that grants shall be conditioned on project completion within two years of awarding of the grant. If a recipient fails to complete a project within the two-year deadline due to reasons other than delay caused by a government entity, ADECA may revoke the grant in its entirety

6. A discussion of the applicant's average pole attachment rates charged to an unaffiliated entity (does not apply to a utility as defined under Section 37-4-1 (7)a).

7. A discussion of the applicant's plan to use vendors and subcontractors that have been certified as a Minority Business Enterprise by the Alabama Minority Business Enterprise program and/or certified by another government entity as being a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise.

8. A discussion of Middle Mile Projects (if applicable). The applicant shall demonstrate that the project will connect other service providers eligible for grants under this section with broadband infrastructure further upstream in order to enable such providers to offer broadband service to end users; provided that eligible projects under this subdivision may include projects in (i) an unserved area or (ii) a rural area that does not meet the definition of an unserved area but otherwise meets the requirements of this section, for which the grant applicant demonstrates, by specific evidence, the need for greater broadband speeds, capacity, or service which is not being offered by an existing service provider.

9. A discussion of hospital, public school, public safety, or economic development projects that do not meet the definition of unserved area, but otherwise meets the requirements of the program (if applicable). The applicant must demonstrate by specific evidence, the need for greater broadband speeds, capacity, or service which is not being offered by an existing service provider.

B. Application Budget

This section is worth up to 25 points. Points will be awarded based on verifiable information only.

For the table, please complete the shaded boxes. The unshaded boxes will populate automatically. If you are unable to use the formulas in the table, use the following formulas to calculate the percentages: i) 65 percent of total project cost is calculated by multiplying the total project cost by .65, ii) 35 percent of total project cost is calculated by multiplying the total project cost by .35. The total grant amount cannot exceed the lesser of 35 percent of total project costs, or $1,500,000. If federal funds are involved in the project, please see number 4 below.

Total Project Cost	$2,728,290.00
65% of Total Project Cost (minimum match)	$1,773,388.50
35% of Total Project Cost (grant maximum)	$954,901.50
Total Grant Amount Requested (not to exceed $1.5 million)	**$954,901.50**

Please complete the project budget sections below. Any additional documentation can be included in an attachment file titled Attachment B, Project Budget.

1. Itemize eligible project expenses. Generally, eligible expenses will be limited to construction and construction related costs of broadband infrastructure. Operating expenses will not be eligible expenses. Any additional expenses associated with the project, but not part of the grant budget, should be included.

Budget Item	Total Cost	Grant	Match
Engineering/Design	$345,800.00	$121,030.00	224,770.00
Materials	$144,406.00	$50,542.10	$93,863.90
Labor	$27,750.00	$9,712.50	$18,037.50
Construction/Installation	$2,210,334.00	$773,616.90	$1,436,717.10
Other (please specify)			
Total	$2,728,290.00	$954,901.50	$1,773,388.50

2. A discussion of the applicant's necessary financial resources to:

    a. sustain service to the project area (business model); and

    b. provide adequate project financing (additional documentation may be requested by ADECA).

3. A discussion of any partners or subcontractors associated with the project's deliverables including but not limited to adoption, deployment, and service delivery. Please describe each party's role in the project.

4. A discussion of any federal funds associated with the project. Please explain if the following provisions apply to your project.

    a. Projects to serve unserved areas in which the grant applicant is either or both: (i) an existing or future service provider which has or will receive support through federal universal service funding programs designed specifically to encourage broadband deployment in an area without broadband access; or (ii) an existing or future service provider which has or will receive other forms of federal or state financial support or assistance, such as a grant or loan from the United States Department of Agriculture.

    b. Any award of state funds under this act, when combined with other forms of state or federal support or assistance dedicated to the project, other than interest—bearing loans, may not exceed 60 percent of the total project costs.

C. Other Program Priorities

Please answer each of the following questions either "yes" or "no." For each "yes" answer, please provide a brief narrative and any supporting documentation in an attachment labeled Attachment C, Other Program Priorities. Any claims that cannot be verified will receive zero points in our scoring system. "No" answers will receive zero points in our scoring system. **"Yes" answers (that can be verified) will receive up to 10 points.**

Does this project seek to leverage grant funds through private investment?	YES ☒	NO ☐	If yes, include an explanation and documentation in a file titled Attachment C
Will this project be an extension of existing infrastructure?	YES ☒	NO ☐	If yes, include an explanation and documentation in a file titled Attachment C
Does this project serve locations with demonstrated community support?	YES ☒	NO ☐	If yes, include an explanation and documentation in a file titled Attachment C
Will this project serve the highest number of unserved homes, businesses, and community anchor points for the least cost?	YES ☒	NO ☐	If yes, include an explanation and documentation in a file titled Attachment C

Does this project emphasize the highest broadband speeds?	YES ☒	NO ☐	If yes, include an explanation and documentation in a file titled Attachment C
Will this project provide material broadband enhancements to hospitals located in rural areas?	YES ☐	NO ☒	If yes, include an explanation and documentation in a file titled Attachment C
Will this project support local libraries in this state for the purpose of assisting the libraries in offering digital literacy training pursuant to state library and archive guidelines?	YES ☒	NO ☐	If yes, include an explanation and documentation in a file titled Attachment C
Is the applicant a certified Minority Business Enterprise under the Alabama Minority Business Enterprise Program? Or is it certified under another Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program?	YES ☐	NO ☒	If yes, include an explanation and documentation in a file titled Attachment C

D. Certifications

1. The applicant certifies that it is a non-governmental entity.

2. The applicant certifies all new customers served as a result of this project will have access to an internet connection that provides a capacity for transmission at an average speed per customer of at least 25 Mbps download and at least 3 Mbps upload.

3. The applicant certifies that all new customers served as a result of this project are not located within the boundaries of any incorporated city or town having a population in excess of 25,000 inhabitants, according to the last federal census.

4. The applicant certifies that it has the technical and managerial capabilities to complete the project within two years of the effective date of the grant agreement.

5. The applicant certifies that the area to be served does not have at least one provider of terrestrial broadband service that is either: (1) offering a connection to the Internet meeting the minimum service threshold; or (2) is required, under the terms of the Federal Universal Service Fund or other federal or state grant, to provide a connection to the Internet at speeds meeting the minimum service threshold by March 28, 2023.

Certification	
I the undersigned am authorized to obligate my entity and enter into agreements for my organization. I understand that the above certifications do not guarantee funding and a grant agreement will be executed prior to project funds being expended. I further understand that if the above statements cannot be verified, no grant funds will be awarded under this program. Finally, to the best of my knowledge the above certifications are true and correct.	
Signature of Applicant: Paul F. Brown	Date: 12-26-19
Title of Applicant: President	

For more information regarding the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund, please send questions to Maureen Neighbors at broadband.fund@adeca.alabama.gov, or call (334) 242-5292 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Attachment A-1

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Description of Area Served

The proposed service area includes the incorporated town of Millry and the surrounding unincorporated areas of Washington County. As of 2010, Millry had a population of 546. This project area also includes an unincorporated area of Choctaw County, which includes the community of Womack Hill.

The service area includes 577 premises passed. Currently, 290 households and businesses are existing customers. Out of the 577 premises, there are 16 businesses, 1 K-12 School and 1 police station.

The project area does not include any incorporated areas over 5,000 people, and Choctaw and Washington counties are not part of a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area. The service area is considered 100% rural.

Attachment A-1a

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Community Anchor Organizations

Schools

Millry High School
Millry Middle School
Millry Elementary School
1 Wildcat Drive
Millry, AL 36558

Police Departments

Millry Police Department/City Hall
105 2nd Avenue
Millry, AL 36558

Attachment A-2

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Discussion of the Technology to be Deployed

Fiber Network Technology:

Millry Telephone Company, Inc. (MTC) will utilize a Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON) Fiber to the Home (FTTH) network architecture to provide highspeed broadband to service areas designated MLRY 00, GLTN 05, and GLTN 06. The proposed FTTH network design calls for 53.2 miles of fiber to provide broadband speeds of 25 MB downstream & 3 MB upstream to rural subscribers. MLRY 00 requires 32.4 miles, followed by 18.2 miles in GLTN 05, and 2.6 miles in GLTN 06. MTC uses industry standard procedures, follows all state and local entity guidelines for permitting and construction practices to ensure very little impact on the landscape.

GPON was designed as a "future-proof" solution to support advances of end user technology without the need to upgrade the entire network infrastructure. GPON technology reliably delivers triple play services (Internet, voice and TV) from single mode fiber to multiple subscribers. GPON consist of OLT (Optical Line Terminals), optical splitters, and ONT (Optical Line Terminals). Adtran Total Access 5000 (TA 5000) serve as MTC's OLTs and support a 10 GB fiber distribution ring. Fiber cables (12 to 144 strand fiber cable depending on passing quantity) from TA 5000s run to 1:32 optical splitters and terminate into Adtran TA-352 or TA-400 series ONTs at the customer premise. GPON minimizes latency by not requiring intermediary powered switches, bridges, or optical splitters between OLTs and ONTs. GPON capacity easily scales to provide Gigabit service for subscribers. However, if more bandwidth were to be required, NG-PON2 or XGS-PON at 10Gbps or Point to Point 10Gb/s connections or higher could be deployed on an as-needed basis over the proposed Fiber optic cable.

The TA 5000 is an environmentally hardened modular platform that can be deployed in a central office or at a remote location. Its modular architecture is scalable and protects carrier investments by preventing equipment obsolescence. Migrating to next-generation access interfaces, protocols, and services is accomplished by simply replacing a module in the TA 5000. This platform supports flexible traffic management; Ethernet flow mapping, prioritization, tagging; and versatile management options which are required to respond to the demand for premium services. The TA 5000 product line is widely deployed and meets all of the core standards required to provide telecom and datacom services.

This network is easily upgradeable and well maintained consistent with MTC existing network. Equipment and software upgrades for new features and patches can easily be deployed during our maintenance window (12am – 6am) to minimize the impact to MTC broadband customers.

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Fiop Rates as of December 2019

Attachment A-3

Projected Rate Packages

Type of Account	Download	Upload	Data Cap	Monthly Svc
Residential	10	2	None	$ 59.00
Residential	25	3	None	$ 79.00
Residential	50	5	None	$ 99.00
Residential	75	5	None	$ 113.00
Residential	100	5	None	$ 123.00
Business	10	3	None	$ 82.00
Business	25	5	None	$ 92.00
Business	50	10	None	$ 115.00
Business	75	10	None	$ 135.00
Business	100	20	None	$ 145.00

The above stated rates are all standalone price listings. These speeds are also offered as bundles with our voice and long distance services. If bundled, the customer may have a reduced rate for the Broadband Internet.

These charges and associated speeds are based on current offerings, and we intend to implement these when the services are activated for the customers. However, we reserve the right to modify any of the above, based on competitive marketing and any other information that we become aware of during the next year.

Attachment A-4

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
Millry Communications Project
Preliminary Technical Evaluation by Certified Engineer

Existing Network – Detailed Description:

MTC was founded in 1941 with about 80 telephone subscribers. Internet Service was provided starting in 1997. Today, MTC employs 29 people and serves approximately 4,700 subscribers in Choctaw and Washington counties.

The existing network has been constructed using RUS standard construction practices. MTC currently has 68 remote concentrators (Adtran TA-5000, AFC, and Adtran 508's) positioned throughout its network, which are served as fiber to the node (FTTN) connected to 7 Central Offices with Adtran TA-5000's. Customers in the serving area are utilizing the existing copper plant. The existing remotes utilize ADSL2+ technology in the remotes to provide slower speed DSL services.

Each serving remote has been constructed with carrier grade DC power plants and batteries with at least 8 hours of backup in the event of a long-term power outage. All sites are monitored by remote alarm systems and alarms are responded to by on-call personnel. If the commercial power were to be affected for an even longer period, MTC has fixed or portable generators to provide longer term backup power.

MTC has core internet routers at its Millry Central Office with 2.5Gb/s Internet backhaul peering connections to Uniti Fiber and C-Spire Wholesale, to ensure redundancy and provide adequate bandwidth to our broadband customers. This network facilitates excellent response times across the network with minimal latency. The existing backhaul connections have sufficient capacity currently but plans to upgrade to 10.0Gb/s Internet backhaul will likely be necessary in 2020 and this upgrade will be completed prior to the FTTH upgrades. The proposed 10Gb/s redundant connections will be sufficient for broadband services including the FTTH customer connections.

Proposed Network – Detailed Description:

The proposed plan is to connect to the existing network at MTC's existing Millry and Gilbertown Central Offices. An Optical Line Terminal (OLT) will be installed in the existing Adtran TA5000's at each location. From this location, feeder fibers will be utilized to connect remote Fiber Distribution Hubs (FDHs). From the FDHs and OLT sites, customers will be connected to the Millry Internet Access Service Connection Point in Millry, AL.

This proposed design will deploy single mode fiber optic cables constructed utilizing RUS standard construction techniques. All fiber will be buried and placed in existing previously

disturbed public rights-of-way. Consistent with RUS construction practices, all the buried fiber will be placed at a minimum depth of 36 inches unless other depths are required by the affected highway, railroad, municipalities or other authorities.

The two methods of buried construction that will be utilized are predominately plowing with directional boring utilized when road or stream or other types of crossings are required. Directional boring will also be utilized when it is not possible to plow or boring is more feasible construction. Along the buried fiber route, flush-mounted handholes or pedestals will be deployed with the proposed fiber being accessible at each location. This will allow for easy access to the network for future connections or expansions. The project in the service area will be an extension of the existing network utilizing the FTTH network design described here.

The equipment strategy for the project is to deploy GPON FTTH solution using the Adtran TA-5000 platform. This is a platform that MTC utilizes today. Customers connected to broadband service in this area will have a 2.4Gbps/1.2Gbps GPON connection from the ONT at their home through a 1:32 optical splitter to the serving remote OLT. Customer locations will be served via an Adtran ONT. This bandwidth will easily handle most bandwidth needs for these customers. However, if more bandwidth were to be required, MTC could easily deploy larger NG-PON2 or XGS-PON 10Gb/s connections as needed using the same fiber optic cable infrastructure.

Latency within the proposed Adtran FTTH equipment ranges from around 3-5ms (milliseconds), depending on location. The service area will be capable of offering a Gigabit and will not be oversubscribed at all providing the minimum required offering of 25.0/3.0 per customer. All systems will maintain a redundant failover to maintain a high state of system availability.

Project Budget

Following is the project budget from Schedule B-1:

Budget Item	Total Cost	Grant	Match
Engineering/Design	$345,800.00	$121,030.00	$224,770.00
Materials	$144,406.00	$50,542.10	$93,863.90
Labor	$27,750.00	$9,712.50	$18,037.50
Construction/Installation	$2,210,334.00	$773,616.90	$1,436,717.10
Other (please specify)			
Total	$2,728,290.00	$954,901.50	$1,773,388.50

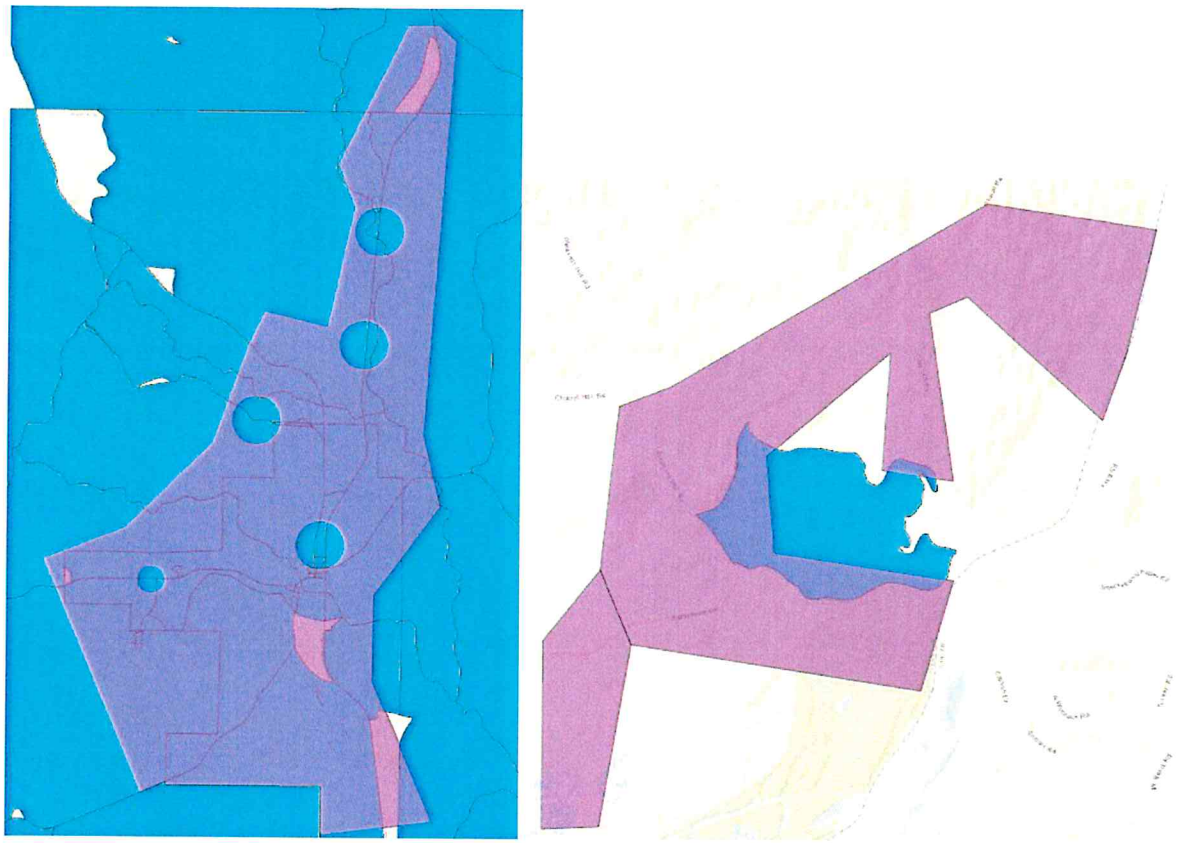
Project Schedule & Timeline

The project schedule is planned to be completed well within the 2-year timeframe. The engineering has been completed for the project and it has been bid out to qualified contractors. The winning contractor will order materials along with MTC. Construction will commence on the mainline followed by customer drops. After marketing and scheduling of customer turn-ups, customers will be cutover to the new FTTH network and higher-speed broadband services. The following timeline shows the order of activities for the project:

Project Objectives and Activities	Entity	Year 1 - 2020				Year 2 - 2021				Year 3 - 2022	
		Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2
Award Notification by April 11, 2020	ADECA		X								
Staking & Engineering Design	Palmetto Engineering (PEC)		X	X	X	X					
Bid & Execute Contact with Contractor	Palmetto Engineering(PEC)		X	X			X	X			
Order Materials	Contractor/Millry			X	X		X	X			
Construct Mainline Fiber	Millry/Contractor/PEC			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Installation of FDH Cabinets	Millry/Contractor/PEC				X	X	X	X			
Construct Customer Drops	Millry/Contractor/PEC				X	X	X	X	X	X	
Fiber Testing	Contractor/PEC					X	X	X	X	X	
Marketing Campaign/Scheduling	Millry					X	X	X	X	X	
Installation of ONT's & Cutover	Millry/Communication Technical Services					X	X	X	X	X	X

ADECA Broadband Map

Served Areas in Alabama (blue) near the service areas (purple) also represented in the Project Shape File. Additional detail in the application covers errors in the existing coverage data reported by Census blocks:



Professional Engineer Certification

I the undersigned, certify that the proposed FTTH project will work as described in the application and can deliver 25 Mbps downstream 3 Mbps upstream, at the service levels outlined, to all premises for which coverage is proposed. Moreover, the system, as designed, can meet the proposed build-out timeline, milestones, and construction schedule within the cost specified in the application and can be completed within two years.

12/20/19

(Date)

(Certifying Engineer's Signature)

Howard John Gorter

Name (Printed)

VP – Engineering & CTO

Title

Palmetto Engineering & Consulting

Company

Registration Number: 37916-E

State of Registration: AL

Expiration Date: 12/31/2021

Project Schedule & Timeline

The project schedule is planned to be completed well within the 2-year timeframe. The engineering has been completed for the project. Construction will commence on the mainline followed by customer drops. After marketing and scheduling of customer turn-ups, customers will be cutover to the new FTTH network and higher-speed broadband services. The following timeline shows the order of activities for the project:

Millry Communications 2020-2022 Timeline

2019 - 2020 Grant Application:

- Application submitted December 30, 2019 12pm.
- Objection period December 31 to February 11 (30 business days).
- Review Period (60 calendar days) Saturday April 11.
- Project start Monday, April 13 2020 - two years - Wednesday, April 13 2022

2020-2021 Buildout Timeline:

Complete 100% of OSP Construction and Electronic Equipment installation for service areas GLTN 05 and GLTN 06, approximately 20.8 route miles and 150 drops. Add new subscribers and upgrade existing subscribers.

Reasonableness / Data Points:

Complete Engineering and Design upon positive award of ADECA Grant for GLTN 05 and GLTN 06 service areas. Start permitting in preparation to begin OSP cable construction. Prepare Plans & Specifications to Bid OSP Construction and Electronic Equipment contracts to assure competitive pricing. Award contracts and begin installation/construction.

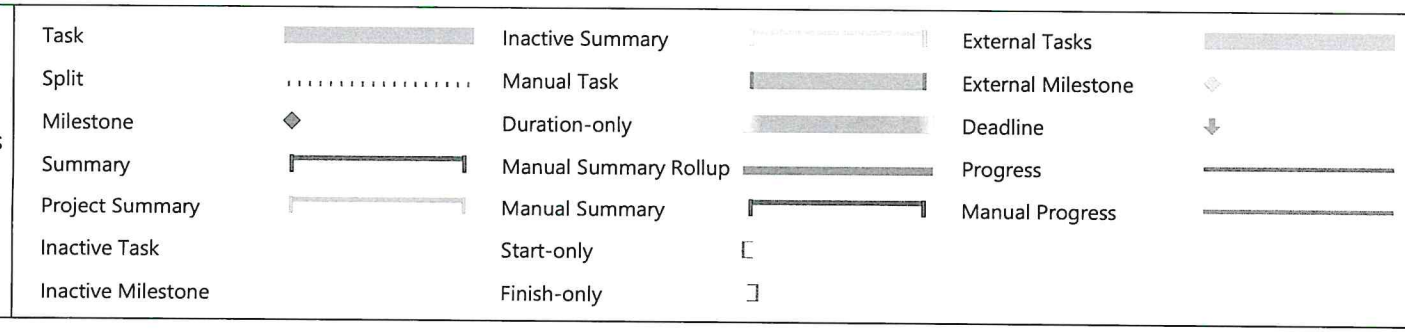
2021-2022 Buildout Timeline:

Complete 100% of OSP Construction and Electronic Equipment installation for service area MLRY 00, approximately 32.4 route miles with 427 drops.

2022 Buildout Support for Reasonableness / Data Points:

Complete Engineering and Design for MLRY 00 service areas. Add new subscribers and upgrade existing subscribers. Finalize and closeout OSP Construction and Electronic Equipment contracts.

ID	Marked	WBS	Task Name	Duration	Actual Duration	Start	Finish
1	**No**	**1**	**Millry Communications**	**602 days**	**0 days**	**Mon 12/30/19**	**Tue 4/19/22**
2	**No**	**1.1**	**Application**	**75 days**	**0 days**	**Mon 12/30/19**	**Sat 4/11/20**
3	No	1.1.1	Applicaton Submitted	1 day	0 days	Mon 12/30/19	Mon 12/30/19
4	No	1.1.2	Objection Period	31 days	0 days	Tue 12/31/19	Tue 2/11/20
5	No	1.1.3	Review Period	44 days	0 days	Wed 2/12/20	Sat 4/11/20
6	**No**	**1.2**	**Service Area GLTN 05**	**232 days**	**0 days**	**Mon 4/13/20**	**Tue 3/2/21**
7	No	1.2.1	Engineering	30 days	0 days	Mon 4/13/20	Fri 5/22/20
8	No	1.2.2	Construction	162 days	0 days	Mon 5/25/20	Tue 1/5/21
9	No	1.2.3	Turn Up & Test	40 days	0 days	Wed 1/6/21	Tue 3/2/21
10	**No**	**1.3**	**Service Area GLTN 06**	**45 days**	**0 days**	**Wed 3/3/21**	**Tue 5/4/21**
11	No	1.3.1	Engineering	5 days	0 days	Wed 3/3/21	Tue 3/9/21
12	No	1.3.2	Construction	30 days	0 days	Wed 3/10/21	Tue 4/20/21
13	No	1.3.3	Turn Up & Test	10 days	0 days	Wed 4/21/21	Tue 5/4/21
14	**No**	**1.4**	**Service Area MLRY 00**	**226 days**	**0 days**	**Wed 6/2/21**	**Wed 4/13/22**
15	No	1.4.1	Engineering	30 days	0 days	Wed 6/2/21	Tue 7/13/21
16	No	1.4.2	Construction	180 days	0 days	Wed 7/14/21	Tue 3/22/22
17	No	1.4.3	Turn Up & Test	40 days	0 days	Thu 2/17/22	Wed 4/13/22



Project: Millry Communications
Date: Tue 12/24/19

Proposed Project Area

The proposed service areas in Alabama are shaded purple. The yellow dots are premise locations within the proposed construction areas. The green shaded areas inside the purple construction areas are treated as ineligible and not a part of the costs within this Grant Application.

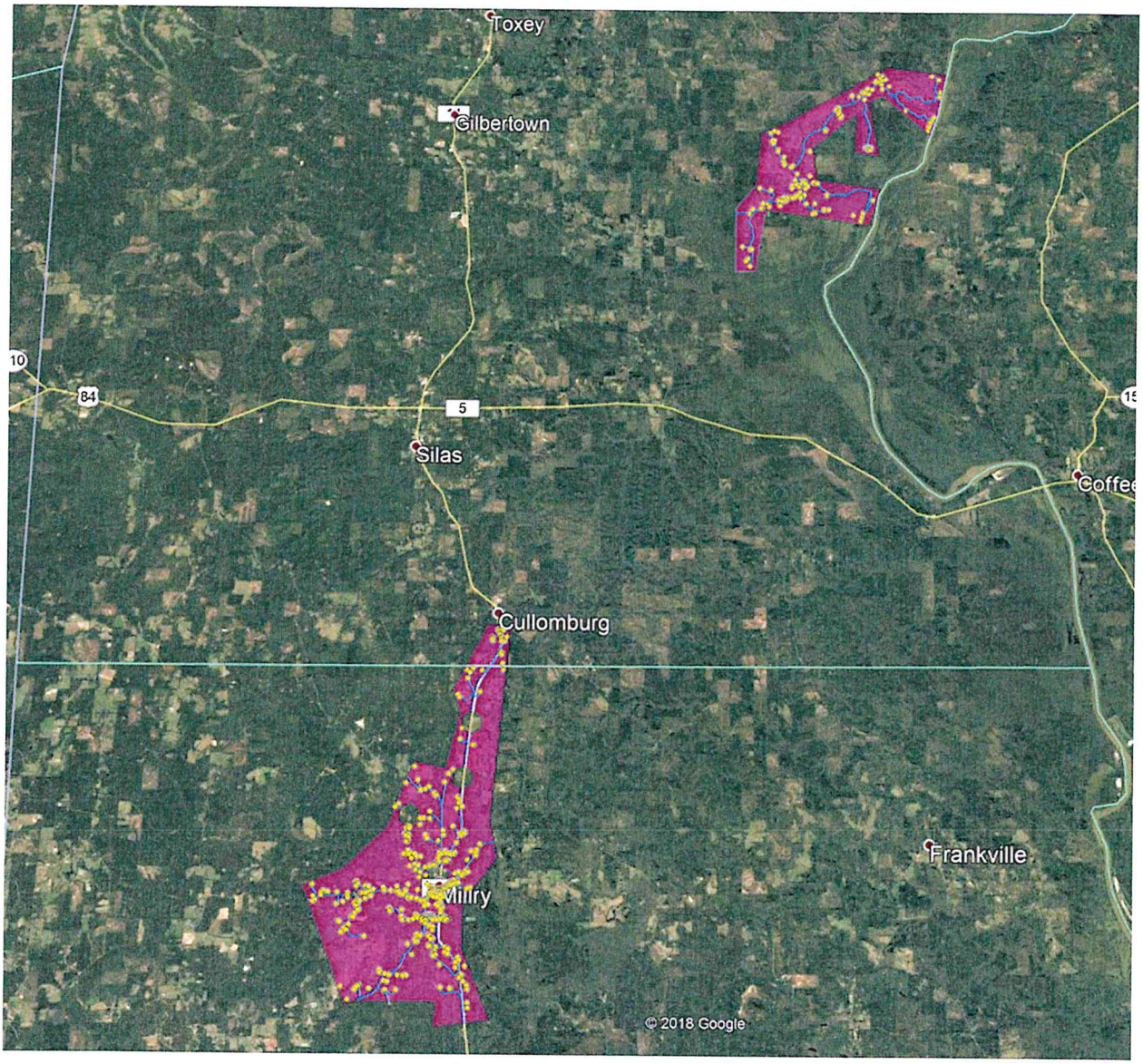
The green circles within the construction areas are treated as ineligible since premises within that area do have access to 25/3 speeds of broadband due to the usage of Adtran equipment, which has been deployed in some areas. This Adtran equipment is considered a temporary solution since the Manufacturer no longer offers this equipment and does not repair the equipment. The Adtran 508 equipment will serve only eight locations and those locations must be within close proximity to the serving equipment to have access to a speed capable of providing 25/3 bandwidth.

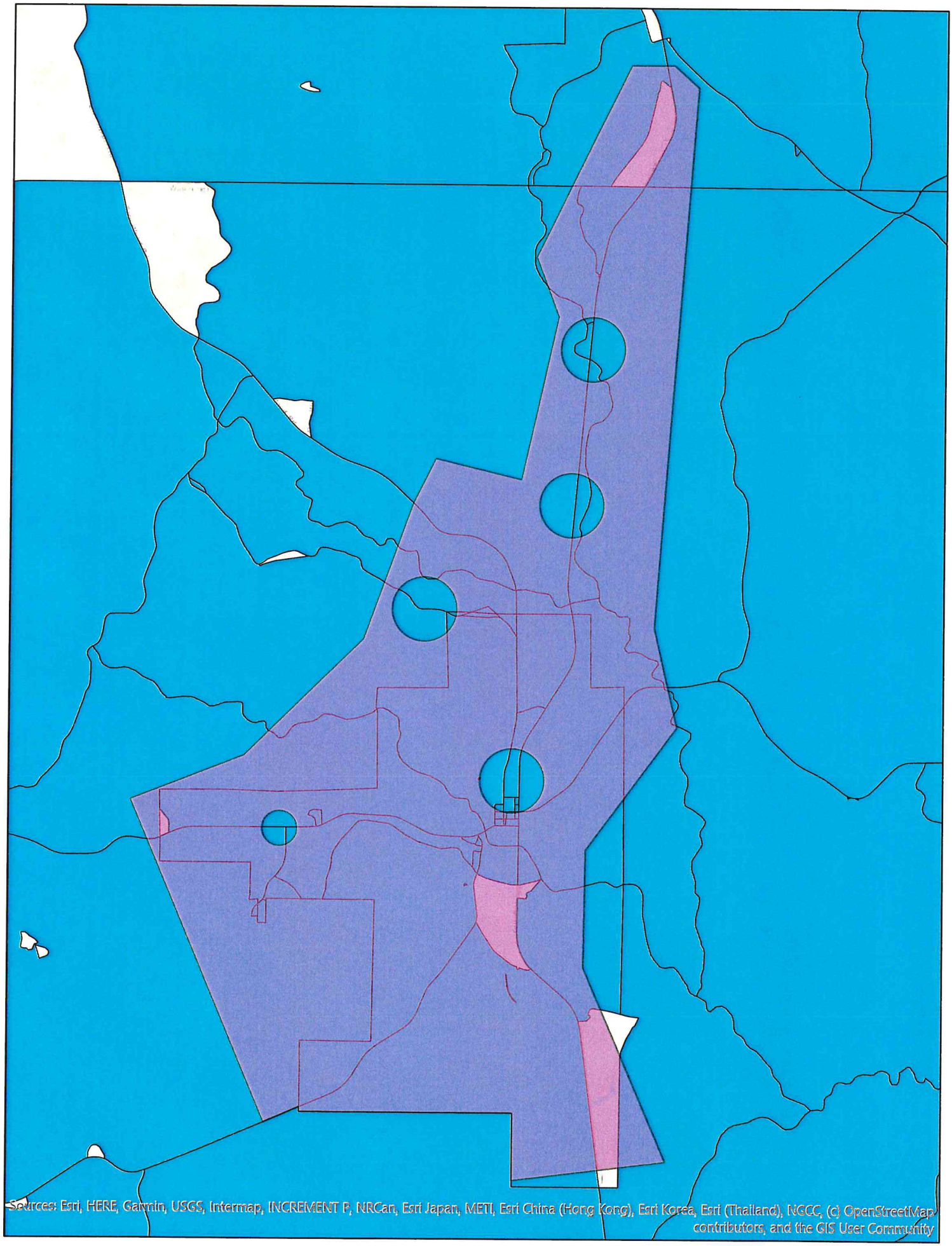
Therefore, Millry removed any areas with coverage utilizing any Adtran equipment that would have provided broadband access of a speed of 25/3, from the map along with the associated costs being removed from the Project Budget.

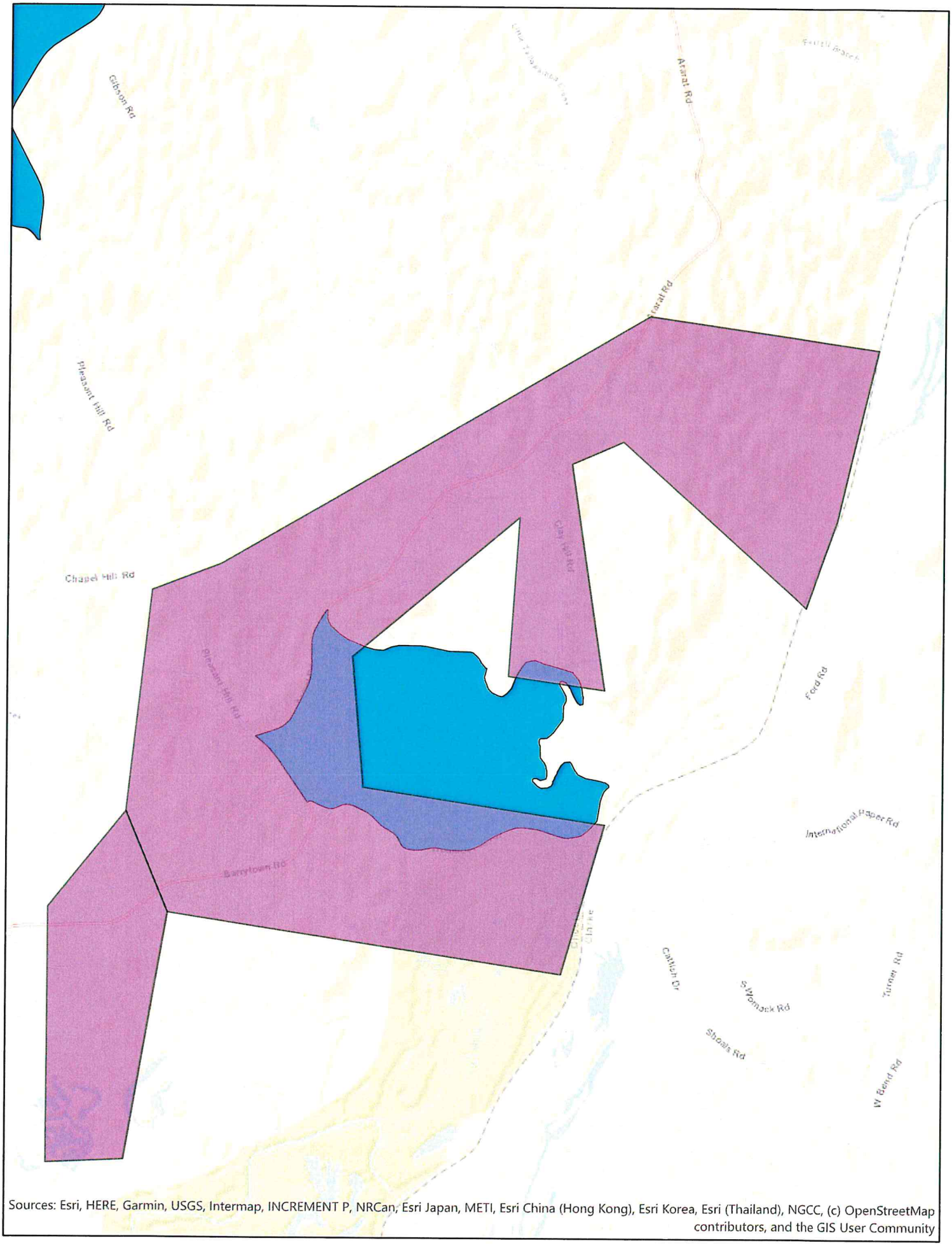
The Company does plan to build Fiber to the Home in these ineligible circles and provide access of minimum speeds of 25/3 at the same time as this project is built, however the Company will be responsible for the costs of construction in these areas, which is estimated to be $317,600.00.

Proposed Project Area

Served Areas in Alabama near the service area are shaded.




Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

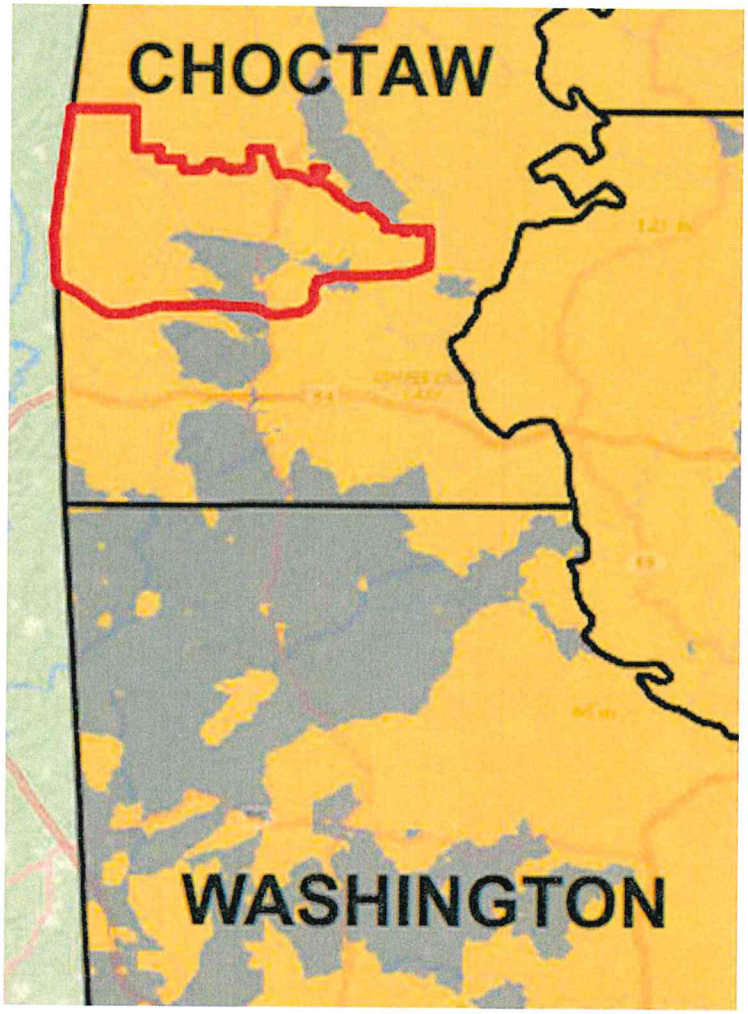


ADECA Broadband Map showing unserved areas

After reviewing the ADECA Broadband map showing unserved areas (http://adeca.alabama.gov/broadband), MTC discovered errors in our 477 reporting for the period of June 2018. As a result of the errors, much of the project area shows that 25/3 Mbps is available when it is not. More specifically, the areas where 25/3 Mbps is not available are in census blocks 010239568004059, 011290439001023 and 011290439002022. The FCC allows companies to make corrections to the 477, and we plan to make our corrections by January 31, 2019.

In addition to the errors in MTC's 477 data, there are inherent limitations in the broadband map due to carriers being asked to report when even one location in a census block has access to 25/3 Mbps, the entire census block shows as having access to 25/3 Mbps. The project map included with this application excludes all locations that have access to 25/3 Mbps and only includes the areas that are truly unserved.

Map sourced from https://adeca.alabama.gov/Divisions/energy/broadband.



Attachment A-5

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Operators' Technical and Managerial Capabilities

The Company has built a strong team of employees who have been with MTC for many years and are deeply familiar with the local market and products. The management team has an average tenure of more than 30 years and developed MTC into a strong double-play service provider. The team also was instrumental in attracting the Company's key customers, and actively supports the local community. MTC's management team and staff possess the technical expertise and market knowledge to capitalize on the growth opportunities available to the Company.

MTC is a community-rooted organization driven by its core values and local focus. The majority of the Company's employees are residents of the area and participate in numerous civic activities, which reinforces MTC's sense of responsibility towards its customers. In more than 78 years of operation, the Company has developed a strong reputation for personalized, reliable service that has generated significant loyalty among its customers.

Specific information about each manager is provided below and due to advance planning and proposed timelines for this specific project the time allotment of two years for service installation to customers will be met likely months in advance of the requirement.

MTC is managed by the following three individuals:

Paul E. Brown, Sr. – President
Paul Brown is currently an employee and a shareholder. He is actively involved in the operations and engineering of MTC. At age fifteen, Paul Brown was the youngest person ever to complete training at the Stromberg-Carlson training school in Rochester, NY. After graduating high school, Paul attended radio school and obtained an FCC Radio License and thereafter, began his full-time work with the company. Paul has also attended a Nortel Digital Switch Technical School. Paul has successfully directed MTC through the step by step change to digital switches, implementation of in-house billing and integration of fiber optics for transport. In 1992, Paul was instrumental in the organization of Southeastern Cellular, the company's first venture into the cellular arena. His knowledge and expertise in the telecommunications industry enabled his central office staff to maintain Southeastern's cell sites covering an eleven-county area in south and central Alabama. Paul has also been actively involved with the implementation of Millry Communications Long Distance Service and Internet Access.

Paul was an employee and Manager when the total service area was constructed with underground copper to replace the above ground on Power Poles copper system after a major hurricane in 1981. This was a construction project funded by loan funds from the USDA (Rural Utilities Services). His insight and dedication to the company have contributed to the company's success in providing state of the art technology through the years.

Paul E. Brown, Jr. (Gene) - Vice President and General Manager

B.S. Business Administration 1999

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Career History

General Manager/Vice President, Millry Communications 2017 - Current

- Responsible for planning, review, and approval all Capital Expenditures and Projects
- Oversees all operational aspects of company
- Manages and oversees Ethernet, DSL, and transport networks
- Manages all IT systems and infrastructure

Director of Engineering, Millry Communications 2004 - 2017

- Planned and engineered the internet access and Ethernet CLEC service business throughout the ILEC service territory and the CLEC service area
- Reviewed and approved all hardware and software used throughout company operations, including the Metaswitch installation
- Day-to-day oversight of Central Office operations
- Systems Administrator for all Linux and Windows Servers
- Installed and maintained linux servers (Radius, syslog, email, web, etc..) using Python, TCL, PHP

Prior to 2004, Gene worked as a Central Office Technician, and an Outside Plant Employee. He also provided services to Southeastern Cellular as a Maintenance Technician for the wireless radio equipment.

Annice H Jordan, CPA - Vice President and CFO

B.S.B.A. Accounting 1981

The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS

Career History

Chief Financial Officer, Millry Telephone Co., Inc. 2001 - Current

- Responsible for all budgets, audits, regulatory filing, compliance filing, rates and tariffs, loan funding and compliance, capital expenditures planning, marketing and rates, and tax planning.
- Work directly with the General Manager on implementation of all business changes and decisions involving operations and finance.
- Engaged and contracted with Palmetto Engineering on the design and planning for this project as well as being the Company contact for this project.

Chief Financial Officer, Digiph Pcs, Inc. 1997-2001

Digiph Pcs, Inc. was owned by Millry Telephone Co., Inc. and Gulf Telephone Company in Baldwin County, AL. This was a start up company so all construction of the Wireless Communications company was completed in 1997 and 1998.

- Worked with the President and Engineer on all aspects of the construction and turn up of services in Alabama, Mississippi and Florida.
- Joint direct responsibility for Refinancing and Reorganization of debt and equity within five months of employment.
- Decision and Implementation for Billing Platform, Point of Sale System, and all other peripheral products required to launch a start up wireless operation.
- Established and designed all operations policy and procedures.
- Responsible for annual financial statement Audit and all loan compliance.
- Directly managed five employees and indirect management of forty employees.

Accounting Manager, Millry Telephone Co., Inc & Millry Corporation 1991-1997

- Set up and managed all accounting systems for Southeastern Cellular, a partnership that was managed by Millry Corporation from 1991 through 1994. Responsible for all financial statement reporting and participated in all Partnership Board Meetings.
- Joint direct responsibility for Fiber Capital Project with new financing for Millry Telephone Company. Presented the project to the Alabama Public Service Commission and obtained approval.
- Managed all accounting systems for Millry Telephone Company from 1995 through 1997. Responsible for all financial statement reporting.
- Brought in house to Millry Telephone Company and managed, the Separations Study as required by the Federal Communications Commission, for cost reimbursement for a regulated entity.
- Designed and developed the original business plan used for valuation and bidding on Personal Communication Licenses auctioned by the FCC. Arthur Anderson LLP audited this business plan during the auction process. Also, an updated version of this business plan was utilized for the initial debt/equity-financing package from Siemens for Digiph PCS, Inc.
- Responsible for bidding and bidding strategy in the PCS C Block Entrepreneurial Auction in 1996, licenses obtained and held by Digiph.

Prior to 1991, Annice provided accounting, audit, and taxation services in a public accounting firm for six years.

Millry Telephone Company, Inc. **Attachment B-1**
FTTH Phase III
Project Budget Summary

Total Costs	Total	Grant	Match
ISP Equipment		$ -	$ -
GPON Blade	$ 105,000.00	$ 36,750.00	$ 68,250.00
Fiber Terminating Equipment	$ 30,000.00	$ 10,500.00	$ 19,500.00
Right of Way and Easements	$ 21,000.00	$ 7,350.00	$ 13,650.00
		$ -	$ -
OSP Mainline		$ -	$ -
Main Line Aerial Construction Total (Labor, Material, and Splicing)	$ 1,782,200.00	$ 623,770.00	$ 1,158,430.00
		$ -	$ -
Customer Premise Installation		$ -	$ -
Buried Service Drops	$ 161,560.00	$ 56,546.00	$ 105,014.00
Inside Wiring	$ 121,170.00	$ 42,409.50	$ 78,760.50
ONTS	$ 145,404.00	$ 50,891.40	$ 94,512.60
Battery Backups	$ 16,156.00	$ 5,654.60	$ 10,501.40
		$ -	$ -
Engineering	$ 345,800.00	$ 121,030.00	$ 224,770.00
		$ -	$ -
Total:	$ 2,728,290.00	$ 954,901.50	$ 1,773,388.50
Grand Total:	$ 2,728,290.00	$ 954,901.50	$ 1,773,388.50
Percentages:		35%	65%

Attachment B-2a

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Project Budget

Sustain Service to the Project Area

MTC is the public utility operating the telephone company and providing internet services in the project area. MTC's local exchange area covers the southern one-third of Choctaw County of Alabama and approximately three-fourths of Washington County. The areas within Choctaw and Washington counties that are covered by the Project Budget that is proposed to be provided Fiber to the Home internet access has inclusive 290 of Millry Telephone Company Inc. current customer voice services. These services represent approximately 6% of our total company customer base and are an important part of our local market area.

MTC intends to provide the same customers with voice services and internet access services that we provide today. The customers will receive updated fiber to the home infrastructure and technology and higher bandwidth options that are not possible today. The company is profitable, and management's intention is to continue making good prudent business decisions that are well planned and will ensure that services will be provided many years into the future. We believe that a replacement of the copper plant with a Fiber to the Home network is such a decision.

Attachment B-2b

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Project Budget

Provide adequate project financing

MTC has been in business since 1941, seventy-eight years of continuous operation. The company has been owned by members of one family since the creation of the entity in 1941 through today. A balance sheet from November 2019 has been provided that reflects the cash position of the company to be in excess of five million dollars. MTC has secured an ADECA grant as well as a RUS 50% loan/grant for continuing its efforts toward accomplishing fiber to the home services in other geographical areas of our local exchange area. We have projected our cash flows including the expenditures for these other projects. MTC remains in a position to self-fund this project based on our five-year financial forecast, which projects the cash requirements of all capital expenditures for all current planned construction.

MTC is prepared to self-fund this area of our local exchange area, with an expectation that the Alabama Broadband Grant would provide a partial payment to defer a portion of the costs after the work is completed.

	NOVEMBER 11 2019 MILLRY TEL Present Year to Date
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash & Equivalents	
Total Cash & Equivalents	5,686,023.31
Accounts Receivable	
Total Accounts Receivable	1,181,068.89
Material & Supplies	
Total Material & Supplies	337,572.79
Prepayments	
Total Prepayments	63,172.63
Total Current Assets	**7,267,837.62**
Other Assets	
Investments	
Total Investments	2,340,533.23
Total Other Assets	**2,340,533.23**
Property, Plant, & Equipment	
Telephone Plant - In Service	
General Support Assets	
Total General Support Assets	4,560,722.37
Central Office Assets	
Total Central Office Assets	7,747,135.79

	NOVEMBER 11 2019 MILLRY TEL Present Year to Date
Information Orig/Term Assets	
Total Information Orig/Term Assets	0.00
Cable & Wire Facilities Assets	
Total Cable & Wire Facilities Assets	19,209,294.17
Intangible Assets	
Total Intangible Assets	152,626.55
Total Telephone Plant - In Service	31,669,778.88
Telephone Plant - Construction	
Total Telephone Plant - Construction	2,089,368.69
Accumulated Depreciation & Amortization	
Total Accumulated Depreciation & Amortization	(25,256,809.12)
Total Property, Plant, & Equipment	**8,502,338.45**
Total Assets	**18,110,709.30**
Liabilities & Owner's Equity	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Total Accounts Payable	1,642,578.73
Unearned Revenue	
Total Unearned Revenue	202,416.83
Customer Deposits	

	NOVEMBER 11 2019 MILLRY TEL Present Year to Date
Total Customer Deposits	40,028.00
Other Accrued Liabilities	
Total Other Accrued Liabilities	486,279.75
Total Current Liabilities	**2,371,303.31**
Total Non-Current Liabilities	5,083,044.00
Total Liabilities	**7,454,347.31**
Owner's Equity	
Capital Stock	
Total Capital Stock	9,017.00
Additional Pain In Capital	
Total Additional Pain In Capital	441,833.00
Retained Earnings	
Total Retained Earnings	7,463,474.61
Total Net Income	2,742,037.38
Total Owner's Equity	**10,656,361.99**
Total Liabilities & Owner's Equity	**18,110,709.30**

Attachment B-3

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Partners & Subcontractors

A discussion of the partners & subcontractors

MTC will utilize an engineering firm and its own employees to complete the project in the service area:

1. Palmetto Engineering & Consulting will provide engineering services to design, stake, manage construction, inspect, and test the network.
2. Construction of the fiber network is planned to be completed by employees who are capable and qualified to construct in the service area.
3. Qualified MTC employees will provide installation and cutover services for the customers to the new FTTH network.
4. The remaining marketing, billing, and service delivery will all be provided by MTC's existing systems and employees.

The average tenure for MTC's qualified employees is over 21 years. Since the network will upgrade service to customers in MTC's existing service area, we do not expect additional employees to be required for construction and cutover of the FTTH network; however, contractors may be utilized, if needed.

Attachment B-4(a)

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Discussion of any Federal Funds

As an incumbent local exchange carrier serving portions of Washington County and Choctaw County since 1941, MTC receives federal high cost universal service funding. High cost support allows eligible telecommunications carriers serving consumers in rural areas to recover some of their costs of providing service in order to ensure that those consumers have access to modern communications capable of providing voice and broadband services at rates that are reasonably comparable to those in urban areas.

On January 5, 2017, MTC elected to receive Connect America Fund-Alternative Connect America Cost Model (CAF-ACAM) support in lieu of traditional high cost support, in order to serve customers who desire to obtain broadband services. CAF-ACAM funding also replaced the current Universal Service Funding for voice and other regulated services excluding broadband, therefore a portion of this funding continues to support operations and capital expenditures for these voice and other services. Under CAF-ACAM, rate-of-return carriers, such as MTC, receive fixed, model-based support for a 10-year term in exchange for extending broadband service to a pre-determined number of eligible locations/households, selected by the carrier. CAF-ACAM funding was prioritized to those carriers that had deployed 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream broadband to less than 90% of the eligible locations in their study area(s) in the state. In May 2018, MTC accepted a revised offer of CAF-ACAM funding, and in February 2019, MTC accepted an additional CAF-ACAM offer.

Carriers receiving CAF-ACAM support are subject to defined interim and final deployment obligations that must be met over the 10-year period, with annual reporting requirements, based on the carrier's submitted study area boundaries, land area, and Census housing unit data. Under CAF-ACAM, MTC will be required to offer 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream (10/1 Mbps) to 1,735 locations/households by December 31, 2028. All such locations/households with costs above $52.50 per location will be funded under CAF-ACAM up to a cap of $200.00 per location. By comparison, the MTC total local exchange carrier service area encompasses approximately 9,358 locations/households.

In summary, under the terms of its CAF-ACAM funding, MTC is required to provide speeds of 10/1 Mbps to only 1,735 out of 9,358 locations/households within its local exchange service area. MTC is seeking to provide 25/3 Mbps service under this grant within the next two years to 342 locations/households outside of those 1,735 funded locations. Of the 577 total locations under this grant, 40.7% of those fall under CAF-ACAM and would otherwise receive 10/1 Mbps by the end of 2028.

Accordingly, receipt of the grant will allow MTC to extend broadband connectivity to unserved areas within the service area not required to be served under CAF-ACAM, by extending broadband service availability to 59.3% of 577 locations prior to the end of the year 2022.

As shown, MTC's request for state grant funding for the extension and enhancement of broadband service to a portion of its service area in Washington County and Choctaw County meets the requirements and promotes the objectives of the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Act. The proposed grant areas in Washington County and Choctaw County clearly meet the definition of an "unserved area" under the Act. A portion of the census blocks in Washington County and Choctaw County proposed to be served with state funds are funded through CAF-ACAM; however, other census blocks in the proposed service area receive no federal funding whatsoever. Funding provided by CAF-ACAM constitutes 32.6% of the total projected cost of $2,728,290.00 for this project, which proposes to offer state of the art fiber to the home (FTTH) at minimum speeds of 25/3 Mbps to currently unserved areas of Washington County and Choctaw County by 2022. By contrast, under CAF-ACAM, MTC's deployment obligation for those same areas is for 10/1 Mbps by 2028.

Attachment C-1

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Other Program Priorities

Does this project seek to leverage grant funds through private investment?

This project is being self-financed from company funds. This will ensure that sufficient capital is available to start, construct, and complete the project through to its entirety. The funds held by the company are evidenced by a balance sheet provided in Attachment B-2 (b). MTC is owned by a holding company, Millry Corporation. Millry Corporation and MTC are both Alabama corporations. This holding company is owned by Paul E. Brown Sr. Management Trust and The GST Irrevocable Family Trust for benefit of Paul E. Brown Jr. The trustees and beneficiaries of these trusts are Paul E. Brown Sr. and Paul E. Brown Jr. Each of these individuals have lived their entire lives in Millry, AL and are committed to this company and its continued success. They have decided to forego dividends and distributions from the company to commit and enable the company to start this project with cash available. Management selected an area large enough that it could make this commitment with the owner's capital so the private investment is from the company and the owner's equity and profits previously earned up to the current date.

Attachment C-2

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Other Program Priorities

Will this project be an extension of existing infrastructure?

MTC has an existing copper voice/DSL network in the area that provides service in a Fiber to the Node configuration. MTC will utilize the existing fiber that connects these DSL Node cabinets to feed the FTTH fiber distribution hubs to connect directly to customers. MTC currently utilizes Adtran TA-5000 and 508 DSLAMs to provide voice and DSL service. Millry also has AFC cabinets to provide voice & DSL service.

The FTTH upgrades in the service area will replace the AFC equipment and utilize the existing Adtran TA-5000 network. In addition, Millry has existing routers and Internet backhaul connections that will be utilized for the FTTH services in the service area.

Attachment C-3

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Community Support

The following letters and petitions are from the residents and businesses located within the project area.

Washington County Board of Education

Post Office Box 1359
Chatom, Alabama 36518

Telephone (251) 847-2401
Fax Number (251) 847-3611

Superintendent
John M. Dickey

Members of the Board
Keith Beech
DeWayne Byrd
David Dees
Lonnie Guy
Horace Thomas Jr.

December 15, 2019

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Broadband Accessibility Grant Selection Committee
Montgomery, Alabama

Dear Selection Committee Members:

Please accept this letter as affirmation of the support of Washington County School System for Millry Communications to receive your prestigious 35% Broadband Accessibility Grant.

This grant has the ability to alter the lives of so many citizens in Washington County. Our school district currently operates a 1:1 device initiative in which 100% of our students have access to a device to take home. However, the project's value is lost in homes where no Broadband access exists. 60% of Washington County students qualify for the Child Nutrition free/reduced lunch program. These families have no opportunity for costly Internet accessible alternatives. The access this grant will provide will enable families to have the same opportunities that are already afforded others around the nation.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of Millry Communications as a recipient of your grant. It will provide unlimited learning opportunities for our students.

Sincerely,

Betty Brackin

Betty Brackin
Federal Programs Director

SONYA KIRKWOOD
Administrator
(251) 847-2208

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION

P.O. Box 146 • Chatom, Alabama 36518

December 9, 2019

Kenneth Boswell, Director
Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Post Office Box 5690
Montgomery, Al 36103

Re: Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund

Director Boswell:

Please accept this letter as Washington County Commission's support for the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund grant application filed by Millry Communications. Washington County is a rural county that is underserved in the area of broadband accessibility. Fiber to the Home will be a major step to bringing a service to our area that will help in the areas of communication, education, healthcare, and economic development.

The commission is proud to support the efforts of Millry Communications in their planning to provide Fiber to the Home for residents and businesses of Washington County. Please carefully consider the application filed by Millry Communications to help in the effort to bring broadband to our rural county.

Sincerely,

Allen Bailey

Allen Bailey,
Chairman

Washington County Public Library

"Rooted in Service, Growing in Knowledge"

December 19, 2019

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Post Office Box 5690
Montgomery, Alabama 36103

Re: Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund

On behalf of Washington County Public Library (WCPL), I am pleased to write this letter of support for Millry Communications and its application for the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund grant. As an educational and cultural institution, our public library is excited to partner with any business or organization that seeks to increase public access to quality broadband, which will allow library resources and educational programming to benefit more citizens in Washington County.

With assistance and resources from Millry Communications, WCPL will provide new programming that promotes digital literacy for all citizens in Washington County. Further, WCPL will offer programs that directly benefit areas targeted by Millry Communications' project. The priorities of these new programs include improving workforce development and career readiness, providing general technology skills, and equitable access to information and materials for people in rural areas in the county.

I am proud to support the efforts of Millry Communications' project to provide equitable access to broadband for residents of Washington County.

Sincerely,

Jessica M. Ross

Jessica M. Ross
Director

Town of Millry
Post Office Box 563
105 2nd Avenue
Millry, Alabama 36558
Phone: (251) 846-2698
Fax: (251) 846-3211
E-Mail: millrych@gmail.com

December 11, 2019

Kenneth Boswell, Director
Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Post Office Box 5690
Montgomery, Alabama 36103

Re: Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund

Director Boswell:

I am pleased to write this letter regarding my support for the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund grant application filed by Millry Communications. In our local area, Millry Communications is the sole provider of wireline internet services and has provided reliable services for decades. This project will provide great benefits to our residents and businesses. Please carefully consider the application filed by Millry Communications to help them better serve our rural county.

Sincerely,

Stanton Hendry
Mayor, Town of Millry

MILLRY HIGH SCHOOL
POST OFFICE BOX 65
1 WILDCAT DRIVE
MILLRY, ALABAMA 36558
"Emphasis on Excellence"
(251) 846-2987

CURTIS KIRKLAND
PRINCIPAL

To whom it may concern:

This letter is a show of support for Millry Communications efforts to improve their internet services. We normally have hundreds of students at a time that are actively engaged in constant internet activity. Any efforts made by Millry Communications to improve the quality of their internet services would be greatly appreciated. Faster internet will afford our students greater opportunities to become successful with their research, curriculum, and instructional goals. It would also allow our teachers the opportunities to challenge our students to excel with even greater academic challenges. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Curtis Kirkland

Principal

Millry High School

251-846-2987 ext. 3

PETITION

Millry Communications is excited to provide notice to the residents of Washington and Choctaw counties that we expect to provide Fiber to the Home internet access as a replacement to the current plant in service. We are asking for your support as we apply for grants and loans that the State of Alabama has specifically tailored toward Broadband service in rural areas of Alabama.

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE #
Stetson Brown	Stetson Brown	596 Healing Springs Av	
Rebecca Nored	Rebecca Nored	1644 Healing Springs Av	846-3242
Kim Anderson	Kim Anderson	522 Anderson Dr. Millry al	242-0373
Don Brown	Don Brown	D3 Service Center 30155 Hwy 17 Millry Al	846-2997
Yolonda Mitchell	Yolonda Mitchell	25M4 Healing Springs Millry AL	8462175
Laura Armstrong	Laura Armstrong	100 Shady lane Millry, AL 36558	251-387-1853
Tory Minus	Tory Minus	30917 Hwy 17 Millry, AL	251-242-1222
Eunice Lassiter	Eunice Lassiter	33700 Hwy 17 Silas Al	251 846 2587
Bryan K. Connell	Bryan K. Connell	Connell Backhoe & Air 33 Main St Millry AL	251-846-2610
Bryan K. Connell	Bryan K. Connell	Connell Septic Tank Service 33 Main St. Millry AL	251-846-2610
Bryan K. Connell	Bryan K. Connell	1911 Healing Springs Millry AL	251 846-2488
Christon Edmonds	Christon Edmonds	202 Healing Springs Millry AL	251-846-2508
Lori Beasley	Lori Beasley	106 Thompson Ave.	251-846-2814
Harold Hartley	HAROLD HARTLEY	1064 CRAWFORD ST	251-846-2477
Louella Wood	Louella Wood	567 Healing Springs	251-846-2540
Jeanette Dalvador	JEANETTE DALVADOR	729 Healing Springs Av.	251-846-2880
Shana Dyess	Shana Dyess	473 Healing Spring Ave	251 846-2100
Tammy Carpenter	Tammy Carpenter	1825 Stephens Avenue	846-2923
Larry G. Smith	LARRY G. SMITH	4th AVE House 26	242-9822
Deborah Smith	Deborah Smith	4th Ave 26	242-0955 846-2089

PETITION

Millry Communications is excited to provide notice to the residents of Washington and Choctaw counties that we expect to provide Fiber to the Home internet access as a replacement to the current plant in service. We are asking for your support as we apply for grants and loans that the State of Alabama has specifically tailored toward Broadband service in rural areas of Alabama.

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS 30380 HWY 17	TELEPHONE #
Southern charm Jeanine Clement	Jeanine Clements	977 Clements Rd, Millry	251-846-2574
Millry Drugs Beverly Guy	Beverly Guy	30282 Hwy 17 Millry	251-846-6290
Lisa Guy	Lisa Guy	48 Thompson Ave. Millry	251-242-5371
Process Service Grap	Stephanie Kirkland Stephanie Kirkland	30276 Hwy 17 Millry, AL 36558	205-767-7438
	Jennifer McNease	21537 Hwy 17 Chatom, AL 36518	251 5334880
Carolyn Chapman	Carolyn Chapman	871 Heeling Springs Ave Millry	251-846-2117
Peggy Gaster	Peggy GATSON	400 Crawford St. Millry corners	251-846-2288
Antionette Hayes	Antionette Hayes	US Postal Service 115 Main St.	251-846-2210
John V. McCain	John V. McCain	Box 246 millry	846-2631
D. Everetto	D. Everetto	Millry Shopping Ctr	846-2201
Mort Dearman	Mort Dearman	P.O. Box 166, Millry, AL 36558	846-2601
James D. Dearman	James D. Dearman	2065 Heeling Spgs. Ave Millry	846-2537
Paula Brown The First	Paula Brown	30122 Hwy 17 Millry	846-2921
Ronnie Hendry	Ronnie Hendry	27800 Hwy 17 Millry	846-2253
Imogene Hill	Imogene Hill	28172 Hwy 17 P.O. Box 320 Millry	846-2572
Chester Sullivan Jr	Chester Sullivan Jr	189 Sullivan Holyfield RD Millry AL 36558	846-2689
Caleb Sullivan	Caleb Sullivan	191 Sullivan Holyfield Rd Millry, AL 36558	601 410 5915
MaHhew Graves	MaHhew Graves	390 sullivan Holyfield Rd	601-410-0748
Tammie Mitchell	Tammie Mitchell	P.O. Box 193 Millry	846-2357
Tammie Mitchell dba Millry Car Wash	Tammie Mitchell	Millry	

PETITION

Millry Communications is excited to provide notice to the residents of Washington and Choctaw counties that we expect to provide Fiber to the Home internet access as a replacement to the current plant in service. We are asking for your support as we apply for grants and loans that the State of Alabama has specifically tailored toward Broadband service in rural areas of Alabama.

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE #
John H. Armstrong	John H. Armstrong	1022 Crawford St	251-846-2812
Alexander Chapman	Alexander Chapman	164 State Lake Rd	251 846-2975
JaQuesa Mitchell	JaQuesa Mitchell	31 Mitchell Cove Lane	251-846 3270
Karry Ganus	Karry Ganus	381 Ball Park Ave	251-846-2402

Attachment C-4

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Other Program Priorities

Will this project serve the highest number of unserved homes, businesses, and community anchor points for the least cost?

Yes, this project minimizes operating expenses by limiting the amount of equipment to maintain and replace. Facilities supporting fiber infrastructure exist and none will be constructed or leased. The FTTH network topology does not require powered devices between the central office and the premise. Existing Optical Line Terminals (OLT) built on a "pay-as-you-grow" architecture support their fiber distribution ring. OLTs are scalable systems that increase performance & functionality and reduce costs by simply upgrading modules when subscribers are added or bandwidth demands increase. Fixed wireless shots are not used to reach rural subscribers so there are no sites to power, towers to inspect, or radios to monitor.

Where available, installation crews will repurpose intact conduit and ducts along existing routes for residential and business FTTH deployments. Modern construction methods such as directional boring and microtrenching minimize cost by completing routes faster. Utilizing push and pull fiber cables with handheld blowing machines decreases install times and is considerably cheaper than conventional blowing equipment. These methods are less disruptive to environments and half the cost of traditional methods. Costs accrued from time intensive tasks are reduced by dedicated FTTH installation crews that are highly trained and experienced. Unlike copper and coax, pre-connectorized cables expedite installations by avoiding custom cable assemblies and fiber splicing in the field.

Attachment C-5

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Other Program Priorities

Does this project emphasize the highest broadband speeds?

Yes, GPON provides 2.488 Gbps downstream/1.244 Gbps upstream over a single mode fiber optic strand to optical splitters. GPON offers twice the bandwidth capacity through optical 1:64 & 1:32 splitters than previous PON technologies. This project will deploy 1:32 optical splitters that can offer subscribers up to 1 Gbps downstream and 1 Gbps upstream which far exceeds grant requirement of 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream. GPON achieves these speeds by dynamically allocating bandwidth when (1) less than 32 users are connected, (2) transmissions do not occur at the same time, (3) gaps between traffic bursts are filled by other user traffic. When the splitting ratio is 1:32, GPON networks can receive reliable fiber optic signals from rural subscribers a maximum distance of 20Km.

Attachment C-7

Millry Telephone Company, Inc.
FTTH Phase III
Digital Literacy Training

In this day and time, we use technology and the internet to access public services, pursue employment opportunities, obtain an education, manage finances, operate businesses, and stay connected with family and friends. Digital literacy is essential. The internet provides a world of knowledge at our fingertips; however, many people lack the basic skills to operate a computer or even access the internet. This is true for many residents in our area.

MTC would like to help the residents of Washington County by partnering with the Washington County Public Library to offer a digital literacy training program. Washington County Public Library already has plans in place to offer a digital literacy training in the community during summer 2020. This program will provide training and encouragement to those with limited skills using different types of technology and the internet. It will offer support to adults of all ages and enable them to use technology for their desired purpose. This training will contribute to the success of our residents and have a positive economic impact on our community. MTC plans to support Washington County Public Library's efforts by providing refreshments and USB drives for the training attendees.

Washington County Public Library is located in Chatom, AL, and the training is for all residents of the county. We are working with the Director of Washington County Public Library to find a way to bring their digital literacy training to a location within the project area. Washington County Public Library currently utilizes a Book Mobile, which travels to locations all over Washington County. One idea is to bring the Book Mobile to our office and offer free WIFI for residents to use their own devices to connect and go through the training. Another option, is to host a training at the school in Millry. This has been utilized by Washington County Public Library for a prior event, and they expect to have the option to use the school's facilities again.

No matter the location of the training(s), MTC will offer their support to the Washington County Public Library.