



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee Members
From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst
Date: April 11, 2013
Subject: Grant Requests

Enclosed please find one (1) item that the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration.

JFO #2620 – \$1,601,800 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce to the Vermont Telecommunications Authority. These funds will be used to deploy disaster-resilient cellular and broadband services to towns impacted by Tropical Storm Irene and other 2011 flooding. Installation of this infrastructure will occur on approximately 133 miles of roadway in the counties of Addison, Essex, Orange, Orleans, Washington, Windham, and Windsor. **Expedited review has been requested. Joint Fiscal Committee members will be contacted by April 19th with a request to waive the balance of the review period and accept this grant.**
[JFO received 04/10/13]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Nathan Lavery at (802) 828-1488; nlavery@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like an item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by April 19 we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.

State of Vermont
 Department of Finance & Management
 109 State Street, Pavilion Building
 Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

Agency of Administration

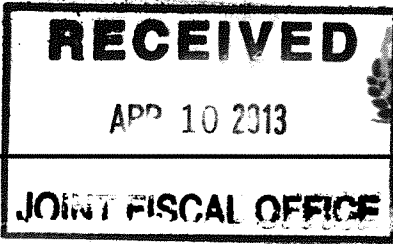
[phone] 802-828-2376
 [fax] 802-828-2428

JFO 2620

**STATE OF VERMONT
 FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM**

Grant Summary:		To deploy disaster-resilient cellular and broadband services to towns impacted by T.S. Irene and other 2011 flooding across about 133 miles in 3 areas of VT: the Northeast Kingdom, East Central VT, and Windham County.			
Date:		4/9/2013			
Department:		Vermont Telecommunications Authority			
Legal Title of Grant:		The Vermont Cellular Resiliency Project - Award No. 01-79-14230			
Federal Catalog #:		11.307			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		US Dept. of Commerce Economic Development Admin, 601 Walnut St, Suite 140S, Philadelphia, PA 19106-3323			
Grant Period:	From:	4/25/2013	To:	11/30/2015	
Grant/Donation		\$1,601,800			
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$8,000	\$1,109,260	\$484,540	\$1,601,800	
Position Information:		# Positions	Explanation/Comments		
		0			
Additional Comments:		State match of \$400,450 from 2010 Act 161 (Capital Bill for FY 2011) Sec. 2(b) (attached).			
Department of Finance & Management		OK	4/9/13	(Initial)	
Secretary of Administration			AC 07/09/13	(Initial)	
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office				Date	4/10/13

4/9/13



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Vermont Telecommunications Authority			
2. Department:				
3. Program:	Vermont Cellular Resiliency Project			
4. Legal Title of Grant:	The Vermont Cellular Resiliency Project - Award No.: 01-79-14230			
5. Federal Catalog #:	11.307			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address:				
U.S. Dept. of Commerce Economic Development Administration, 601 Walnut Street, Suite 140S, Philadelphia, PA 19106-3323				
7. Grant Period:	From:	4/25/2013	To:	11/30/2015
8. Purpose of Grant:				
To deploy disaster-resilient cellular and broadband services to towns impacted by Tropical Storm Irene and other 2011 flooding across an approximate 133 miles in three concentrated areas of Vermont: the Northeast Kingdom, East Central VT, and Windham County.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted:				
VTA would be unable to deploy cellular and broadband services to these 133-miles of unserved corridors without this EDA Award.				
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	
Personal Services	\$	\$55,000	\$35,000	
Operating Expenses	\$10,000	\$1,331,575	\$570,675	
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$10,000	\$1,386,575	\$605,675	
Revenues:				
State Funds:				
State Funds:	\$2,000	\$277,315	\$121,135	
Cash	\$2,000	\$277,315	\$121,135	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:				
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:				
Grant (source EDA)	\$8,000	\$1,109,260	\$484,540	
Total	\$10,000	\$1,386,575	\$605,675	
Appropriation No:		Amount:	\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
		Total	\$	

APR 09 2013

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.

Appointing Authority Name: _____ Agreed by: CT (initial)

12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):

Signature: <u>Christopher J. Campbell</u>	Date: <u>2/4/13</u>
Title: Christopher J. Campbell, Executive Director	
Signature: _____	Date: _____
Title: _____	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

Approved: _____ (Secretary or designee signature) Date: 02/05/13

15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

Accepted _____ (Governor's signature) Date: 02/09/13

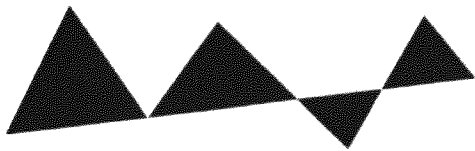
Rejected _____ Date: 0

16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

- Required GRANT Documentation**
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request Memo | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget | |

End Form AA-1

(*) The term "grant" refers to any grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value to be accepted by any agency, department, commission, board, or other part of state government (see 32 V.S.A. §5).



Vermont Telecommunications Authority

April 9, 2013

Mr. Jeb Spaulding, Secretary of Administration
Vermont Agency of Administration
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609

Dear Secretary Spaulding:

Please find attached a Form AA-1 Request for Grant Acceptance for a grant awarded to the Vermont Telecommunications Authority (VTA) by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). VTA is delighted to be receiving this \$1.6 million grant to deploy disaster-resilient cellular and broadband services to towns impacted by Tropical Storm Irene and other 2011 flooding. The VTA will use the funding to implement its Cellular Resiliency Project to expand cellular service on approximately 133 miles of roadway in the counties of Addison, Essex, Orange, Orleans, Washington, Windham and Windsor near communities most impacted by 2011 flooding.

Under terms of this award, the VTA will receive \$1,601,800 from the EDA. The VTA will provide \$400,450 in matching funds from monies awarded to the VTA under the Fiscal Year 2011 capital appropriation in Act 161 FY2011 Capital Bill Section 2(b). On August 10, 2012 the VTA Board of Directors unanimously approved the use of these funds as match for this grant project. VTA would be unable to deploy cellular and broadband services to these approximately 133-miles of unserved corridors without this grant Award.

We require faster than normal acceptance of this Award because, per the Award notice [PDF copy attached], VTA must sign and return the grant agreement within 30 days of receipt [which was April 4th] lest EDA unilaterally terminate the grant. Therefore, we contacted the Joint Fiscal Committee (JFC) on April 8th to request that JFC begin expedited consideration and approval of this Award immediately in parallel with the Administration's review and approval process, rather than subsequent to Administration approval as would normally be the case.

The following documents are attached:

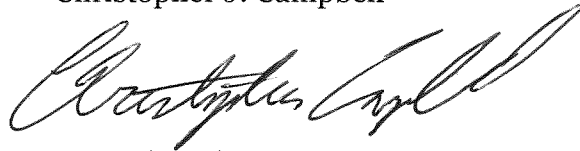
- 1) Form AA-1;
- 2) Announcement of the Award issued jointly by Senators Leahy & Sanders, Congressman Welch, and Governor Shumlin;
- 3) The grant application submitted by the VTA to EDA which contains a description of the project scope and a project budget;
- 4) The EDA grant Award letter containing the grant agreement which VTA must execute.

Please be aware that although the Award period extends 31 months from approval, through November 2015, VTA expects to complete the project prior to June 30, 2015 and therefore the Form AA-1 budget for the grant only extends through FY2015 [displayed as "SFY 3" on the form].

As soon as the VTA has received the approved Form AA-1, we will execute the grant agreement and commence project activity.

Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to phone or email if you have any questions.

Christopher J. Campbell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher J. Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "J".

Executive Director
Vermont Telecommunications Authority

NEWS from
Senator Patrick Leahy | Senator Bernie Sanders
Congressman Peter Welch | Governor Peter Shumlin

Leahy, Sanders, Welch, and Shumlin: \$1.6 M. Disaster Grant Will Help Prevent Digital Isolation In Future Disasters

MONTPELIER, Vt. (Friday, April 5) – U.S. Sens. Patrick Leahy, Bernie Sanders, Congressman Peter Welch, and Governor Peter Shumlin announced Friday that the U.S. Department of Economic Development (EDA) has awarded the Vermont Telecommunications Authority (VTA) a \$1.6 million grant to help deploy disaster resilient cellular and broadband services to towns impacted by Irene and other 2011 flooding. The grant comes from disaster funding Leahy, Sanders, and Welch fought to include in the 2012 federal budget in the wake of Irene.

As the lawmakers and governor traveled the state following Irene, they repeatedly heard from Vermonters who recounted being in digital isolation following the flooding. Communities across the state either didn't have cell and broadband service pre-flooding or had cell and broadband service interrupted by Irene-related damage and power outages.

Leahy, Sanders, and Welch said, "As too many Vermonters learned when Irene struck, without cell service or broadband service, it was nearly impossible to contact emergency services, call family members, or begin to rebuild. Families struggled and businesses suffered as a result. This grant will help ensure fewer Vermonters ever face that type of digital isolation again while enabling communities to quickly recover from future disasters."

Shumlin said, "This is another great step forward as we work to ensure that our cellular infrastructure is further enhanced. These funds will greatly help Vermont and thanks to our federal delegation for their support of this project."

The VTA will use the funding to implement its Cellular Resiliency Project to expand cellular service on 120 miles of roadway in Addison County, Essex County, Washington County, Windham County and Windsor County near communities most impacted by 2011 flooding. The VTA will also build communication hotspots in cooperation with nine communities that took part in the grant planning. The hotspots, which will offer both wireless Internet and cellular service, will be disaster resilient and able to operate through power outages by incorporating

stand-alone solar power sources and secondary broadband connectivity. The towns include Dover, Halifax, Hancock, Norton, Rochester, Roxbury, Stockbridge, Townshend and Whitingham.

VTA Executive Director Christopher Campbell said, "The VTA is very appreciative of the support that the delegation and the Governor have contributed to this project. We are proud to be a part of rebuilding stronger and more resilient communications in these areas."

Leahy, Sanders and Welch fought to include special one-time EDA disaster funding in the 2011 disaster recovery bill, and then advocated for funding for the Vermont Telecommunications Authority and several other Vermont applicants in a letter sent to the EDA Regional Director in June 2012. Including Friday's announcement, Vermont organizations have received \$4.3 million in EDA disaster assistance, including \$1.8 million for the Vermont Council on Rural Development's Vermont Digital Economy Project, \$472,000 for the Southern Vermont Disaster Recovery Project, \$300,000 for the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, and \$140,000 for the Village of Waterbury.

The EDA is a sub-agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The VTA grant was funded through the federal fiscal year 2012 Disaster Relief Opportunity notice. The EDA awards disaster grants to support a community's long-term recovery, spur job creation, leverage private investment, and promote disaster recovery.

The VTA supports broadband and cellular expansion across Vermont. To stay up-to-date on projects, visit www.telecomvt.org and www.broadbandvt.org.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economic Development Administration
The Curtis Center
601 Walnut Street
Suite 140S
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3323

APR 04 2013

In reply refer to
Investment No.: 01-79-14230

Mr. Christopher Campbell
Executive Director
Vermont Telecommunications Authority
Capitol Plaza Building,
100 State Street, Suite 342
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Dear Mr. Campbell:

I am pleased to inform you that the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) has approved your application for a \$1,601,800 EDA investment to implement the Vermont Cellular Resiliency Project. The proposed project is estimated to cost \$2,002,250 and is to be funded under the FY 2012 Disaster Relief Opportunity pursuant to the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, Pub. L. No. 112-55, 125 Stat. 552 (2011) with availability of funds under section 703 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3233) (PWEDA).

Enclosed are three signed copies of the Financial Assistance Award. Your agreement to the terms and conditions of the award should be indicated by the signature of your principal official on each of the signed copies of the Financial Assistance Award. Two of these executed copies should be returned to Mr. Willie C. Taylor, Regional Director, The Curtis Center, Suite 140 South, 601 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-3323. If not signed and returned within 30 days of receipt, EDA may declare the Award null and void.

Please do not make any commitments in reliance on this award until you have carefully reviewed and accepted the terms and conditions. Any commitments entered into prior to obtaining the approval of EDA in accordance with its regulations and requirements will be at your own risk.

EDA's mission is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. EDA implements this mission by making strategic investments in the nation's most economically distressed communities that encourage private sector collaboration and creation of higher-skill, higher wage jobs. EDA investments are results driven, embracing the principles of technological innovation, entrepreneurship and regional development.

I share your expectations regarding the impact of this investment and look forward to working with you to meet the economic development needs of your community. Please contact Christopher Christian, Senior Project Engineer for Vermont at (215) 597-8795 or by email at christopher.s.christian@eda.gov if you have any questions on the requirements of the investment.

Sincerely,



Willie C. Taylor
Regional Director



Enclosures

CD 450 Financial Assistance Award
U.S. Department of Commerce- EDA Special Award Conditions (Construction)
Form ED-508 Project Cost Classifications
U.S. Department of Commerce Standard Terms and Conditions (Construction)

GRANT COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARD

AWARD PERIOD
31 Months from Approval

RECIPIENT NAME
Vermont Telecommunications Authority

AWARD NUMBER
01-79-14230

STREET ADDRESS
Capital Plaza Building, 100 State Street, Suite 342

FEDERAL SHARE OF COST
\$ 1,601,800

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

RECIPIENT SHARE OF COST
\$ 400,450

AUTHORITY
Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended, (42 U.S.C. §3233)

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST
\$ 2,002,250

CFDA NO. AND PROJECT TITLE
11.307 The Vermont Cellular Resiliency Project

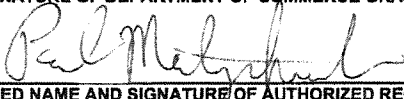
BUREAU	FUND	FCFY	PROJECT-TASK	ORGANIZATION	OBJECT CLASS
20	40	13	14230-00	01	41-10-00-00

This Award approved by the Grants Officer is issued in triplicate and constitutes an obligation of Federal funding. By signing the three documents, the Recipient agrees to comply with the Award provisions checked below and attached. Upon acceptance by the Recipient, two signed Award documents shall be returned to the Grants Officer and the third document shall be retained by the Recipient. If not signed and returned without modification by the Recipient within 30 days of receipt, the Grants Officer may unilaterally terminate this Award.

- Department of Commerce Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (March 2008)
- Special Award Conditions
- Line Item Budget
- 15 CFR Part 14, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Insitutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, Other Nonprofit, and Commercial Organizations
- 15 CFR Part 24, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements to State and Local Governments
- OMB Circular A-21, Cost Principles for Educational Institutions
- OMB Circular A-87, Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments
- OMB Circular A-122, Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations
- 48 CFR Part 31, Contract Cost Principles and Procedures
- OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Nonprofit Organizations
- Other(s): 1. Supplemental Guidance for EDA Grant Recipients on Reporting Requirements under the Transparency Act

2. EDA Standard Terms and Conditions for Construction Projects (October 2007 and Amended December, 2007)

SIGNATURE OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE GRANTS OFFICER



TITLE

Regional Director

DATE

4/4/13

TYPED NAME AND SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED RECIPIENT OFFICIAL

Christopher Campbell

TITLE

Executive Director

DATE

U.S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economic Development Administration
ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROJECT COST CLASSIFICATIONS

EDA Award No.: 01-79-14230State: Vermont

<u>Cost Classification</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Approved</u>
Administrative and Legal Expenses	\$ 54,250	\$ 54,250
Land, Structures, Right-of-Way, Appraisals, Etc.	\$ 134,100	\$ 134,100
Relocation Expenses and Payments	\$ -	\$ -
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ -	\$ 45,600
Other Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 45,600	\$ -
Project Inspection Fees	\$ 12,500	\$ 60,000
Site Work	\$ 83,700	\$ -
Demolition and Removal	\$ -	\$ -
Construction	\$ 397,600	\$ 1,508,075
Equipment	\$ 1,274,500	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -
Contingencies	\$ -	\$ 200,225
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$ 2,002,250	\$ 2,002,250

Explanation of Changes/Restrictions:

All contracts related to the above mentioned line items shall be procured competitively and exclusive for EDA's project scope (Cellular Communication). Any cost incurred prior to the Award will not be eligible for reimbursement. All contracts must be approved by the EDA. A/E and Project Inspection Fees were redefined/increased. Contingencies are allowed to 10% of the total budget. The equipment and site work line items was combined with the construction line item. Overall budget is unchanged.