

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Project Title: 3 Rivers - 10 Exchange MT FTTP System

Project Type: Last Mile Non-Remote

Executive Summary

Opportunities the Proposed System Seeks to Address 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc.'s proposed Fiber to the Premises (FTTP) project will provide broadband services to households, businesses, and key community organizations that are currently underserved. These broadband services will create the potential for increased business growth, public services, public safety, and quality of life for the residents of Augusta, Dupuyer, Ennis, Fort Shaw, Geysler, Harrison, Pendroy, Power, Raynesford and Stockett, Montana. A General Description of the Proposed Funded Service Areas The proposed project will provide broadband services to the following communities: Augusta & Fort Shaw Population: 2358 Status: underserved Dupuyer & Pendroy Population: 920 Status: underserved Harrison & Ennis Population: 2086 Status: underserved Power Population: 672 Status: underserved Stockett, Raynesford & Geysler Population: 2393 Status: underserved Number of Households and Businesses Passed The following is a summary of the number of households and businesses passed by the proposed project. With funding for this project, 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. will be able to provide broadband services to all of these households and businesses. Household Quantity Passed: 4683 Business Quantity Passed: 490 The household quantities utilized throughout the application are based on 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc.'s actual maps and records for the proposed serving areas. Number of Community Anchor Institutions, Public Safety Entities, and Critical Community Organizations Passed and/or Involved with Project 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc.'s FTTP project will pass 82 strategic institutions including community anchor institutions, public safety entities, and critical community organizations. Through the broadband services and enhanced communications capabilities, the FTTP project will greatly improve the ability of these key community organizations to provide public services. Proposed Services and Applications for the Proposed Funded Service Areas and Users FTTP technology will enable 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. the ability to offer a variety of communications and entertainment services, including interactive two-way broadband services, carrier-class telephony, digital multimedia and VoIP. Once a fiber distribution network is constructed, bandwidth is limited only by the electronics that are placed on the fiber. 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. will not only be able to continue to provide the "triple play" services residents, businesses, and public institutions want today but also will create a system that can easily be upgraded in the future as the end user's needs evolve. Approach to Addressing the Non-discrimination and Interconnection Obligations The network will be available to any and all end-users that subscribe to the service(s) provided by the service provider, assuming that they are in good standing. The proposed network will not discriminate against any lawful Internet applications or content. The proposed network will not be a private network from the standpoint that it will be utilized by the end users and the World Wide Web. However, the proposed

network could be used as a private network for businesses that span multiple locations. Type of Broadband System that will be Deployed 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. is proposing to construct a FTTP outside plant and electronics network infrastructure. The FTTP network architecture would provide the customers of 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. access to broadband data services, voice and multimedia over one unified transport. It is 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc.'s intent to deliver the highest quality and the broadest range of telecommunications services that are available today, as well as, the maximum bandwidth to their subscribers. Services that will be available include high-speed Internet access, digital multimedia, and voice telephone services. Qualifications of the Applicant that Demonstrate the Ability to Implement and Operate a Broadband Infrastructure, and/or be a Sustainable Broadband Services Provider 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. has a proven reputation of deploying applications that can reduce operating costs, increase services, improve customer satisfaction and increase revenue generation. 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. has provided telecommunications services to the area since 1953 and is headquartered in Fairfield, MT. 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. is led by experienced key staff that can manage their established organization to successfully implement and operate the proposed broadband infrastructure. Key information demonstrating the qualifications of 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. have been included in the application. Overall Infrastructure Cost of the Broadband System The overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system is \$68,370,980. Overall Expected subscriber Projections for the Project The following is a summary of the five year broadband subscriber projections. Year 1: 232 Year 2: 1162 Year 3: 2100 Year 4: 2265 Year 5: 2378 Number of Jobs Estimated to be Created or Saved as a Result of this Project The FTTP project is estimated to create and save a significant number of jobs. These include jobs required for the construction of the outside plant network and installation of the network electronics. These jobs have been estimated based on the requirements of the project scope. Additionally, the broadband services will provide an opportunity for business and organizations to grow within the funded service area The FTTP project construction is estimated to require 38,425 man-days. Additionally a support letter from the Virginia City Chamber of Commerce indicates that 25 jobs will be retained or added as a result of this FTTP project. 3 Rivers anticipates similar job impacts in other communities that will be served by this project. This number of man-days work requirements and the staff additions will have a great economical impact to this rural area.