



# PSIC Hot Topics

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# Today's Agenda

- PSIC Grant Program Progress
- Hot Topics
  - Grantee Assistance
  - Investment Modifications
  - Commerce Audits
  - Match Documentation
- Extension Process Overview
- Closeout



# PSIC Grant Program Progress



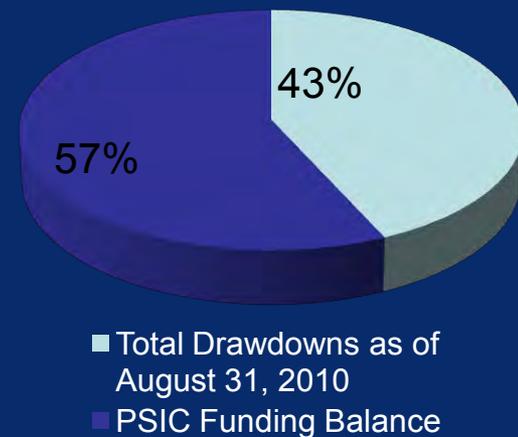
# Defining PSIC Program Success

- At the program level, success is defined by the interoperable communications improvement across the Nation
- Grantees are overall making progress in meeting the PSIC Grant Program goals
- Team is gathering data to measure success through informal grantee pulse checks, Biannual Strategy Implementation Reports (BSIR), and submitted National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation



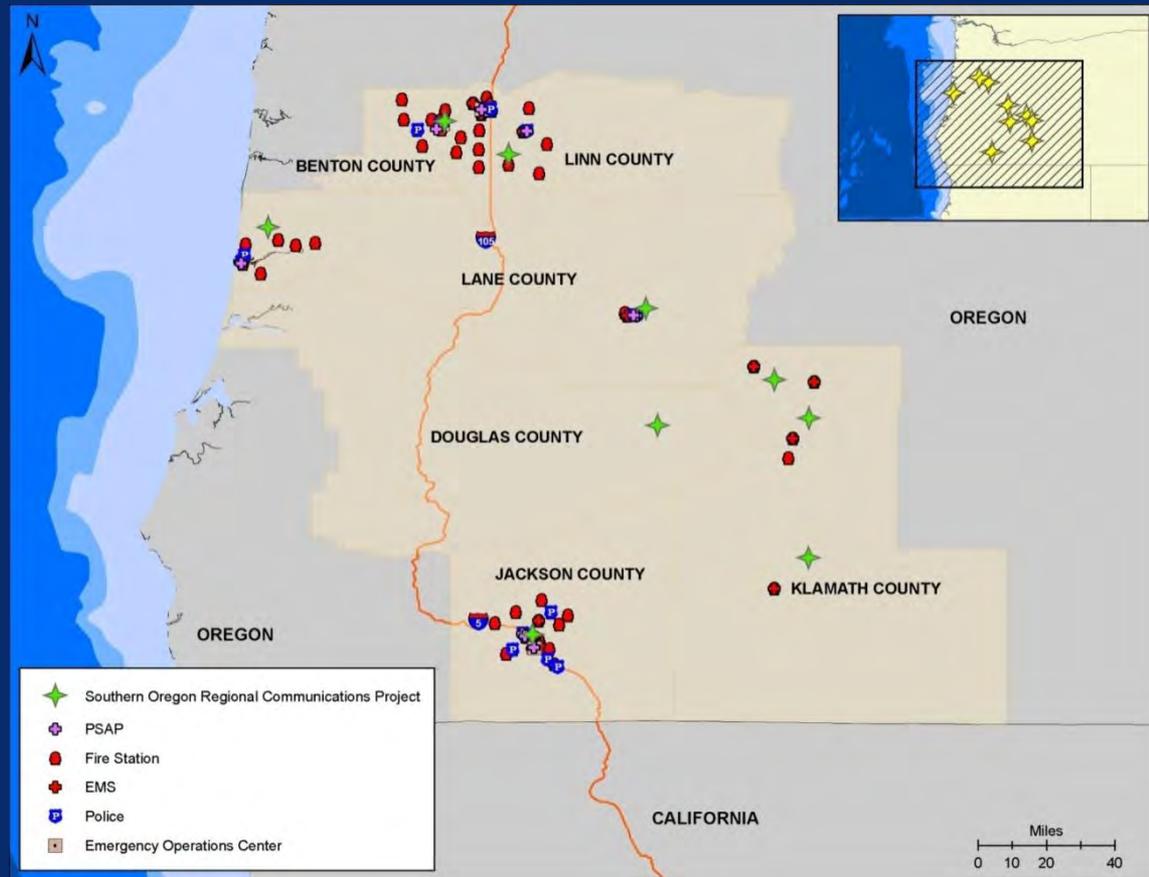
# Defining PSIC Grantee Success

- At the grantee level, success is defined as the completion of Investments and the expenditure of all allotted grant funds
- As of August 31, 2010, grantees have drawn down \$418,174,272 out of the available \$968,385,000 in Federal funding
- A recent pulse check of grantees reveals many purchases are complete, towers are constructed, radios have been distributed to end users, and identified gaps have been filled



# Measuring PSIC Success: Example

- Example Investment-level new fixed equipment surrounded by responder sites



# Communicating PSIC Success

- Grantees need to continue to complete projects and draw down funds so PSIC can continue to show success in improving interoperable communications capabilities
- We must all work together to communicate this progress that PSIC funds have facilitated
- NTIA and FEMA are always looking for new, innovative ways to share PSIC successes and progress.
  - How do you define and measure success for your jurisdiction?
  - How do you communicate that success to key stakeholders, political figures, and the public?
  - Email [PSIC@dhs.gov](mailto:PSIC@dhs.gov) or speak with a PSIC team member



# Hot Topics



# Grantee Assistance

- Programmatic grantee assistance has helped grantees modify their PSIC Investments, determine the allowability of expenditures, and meet reporting requirements
- Grantee assistance tools include:
  - PSIC Program Management Handbook
  - Investment Modification Packet
  - Allowable Costs Matrix
- NEPA grantee assistance has helped grantees navigate complicated environmental requirements, including advising on the development of site-specific Environmental Assessments
- NTIA has approved over 3,700 environmental compliance letters



# Investment Modifications

- Between February 2009 and today, grantees have submitted a total of 53 Investment modifications
  - 43 were approved
  - 3 were denied or withdrawn
  - 4 did not require a modification
  - 3 are currently under review
- Grantees should evaluate current expenditures and consider opportunities to realign any unobligated funds to get the most out of their PSIC grants

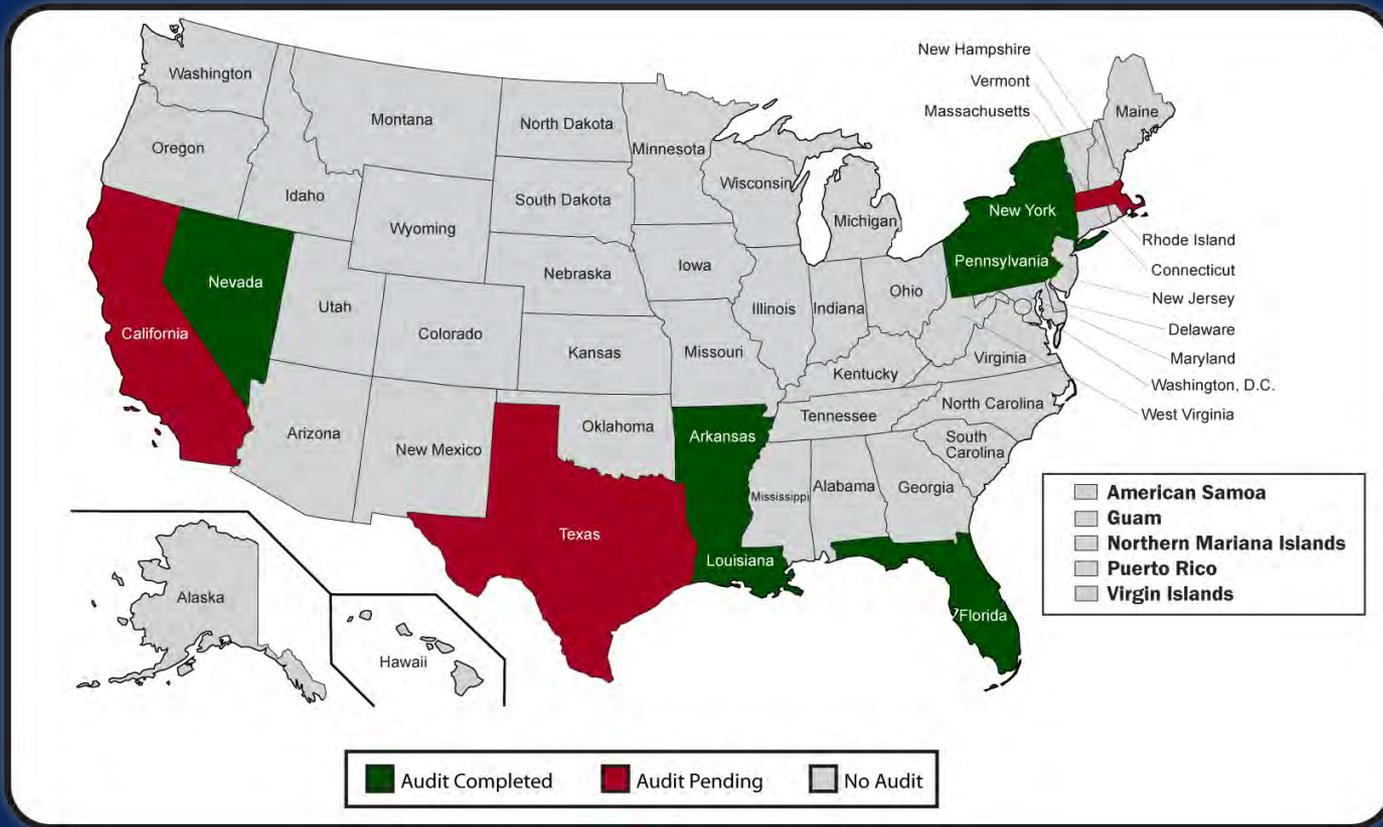


# Commerce Audits

- Pursuant to Public Law 110-53, the Commerce Office of Inspector General (OIG) will conduct no fewer than 25 financial audits of PSIC grantees
- To date, six audits have been completed
  - Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Nevada, and New York
  - Reports are publically available on the Commerce OIG Publications website ([http://www.oig.doc.gov/oig/reports/natl\\_telecommunications\\_information\\_administration/](http://www.oig.doc.gov/oig/reports/natl_telecommunications_information_administration/))
- Three audits are currently underway



# Commerce Audits



# Commerce Audits

- Potential Audit Areas
  - Investments on schedule
  - Properly documenting and valuing non-federal match
  - Reporting requirements (e.g., submit BSIR and FFR on time)
  - Cash drawdown requirements (e.g., interest)
  - Reasonable and allowable costs claimed
  - Prior audit recommendations
- Future audits will place greater emphasis on the operational aspects of the State and territory PSIC grants



# Match Documentation

- Grantees are having a difficult time meeting and documenting the required non-Federal match
- Each public safety agency receiving PSIC funds is required to provide not less than 20 percent of the costs of Acquisition, Deployment, and Management & Administration costs
- Per Information Bulletin #268, match may be provided at the Investment level or at the State level
- Sources of in-kind match include salaries, property, volunteer services, and equipment



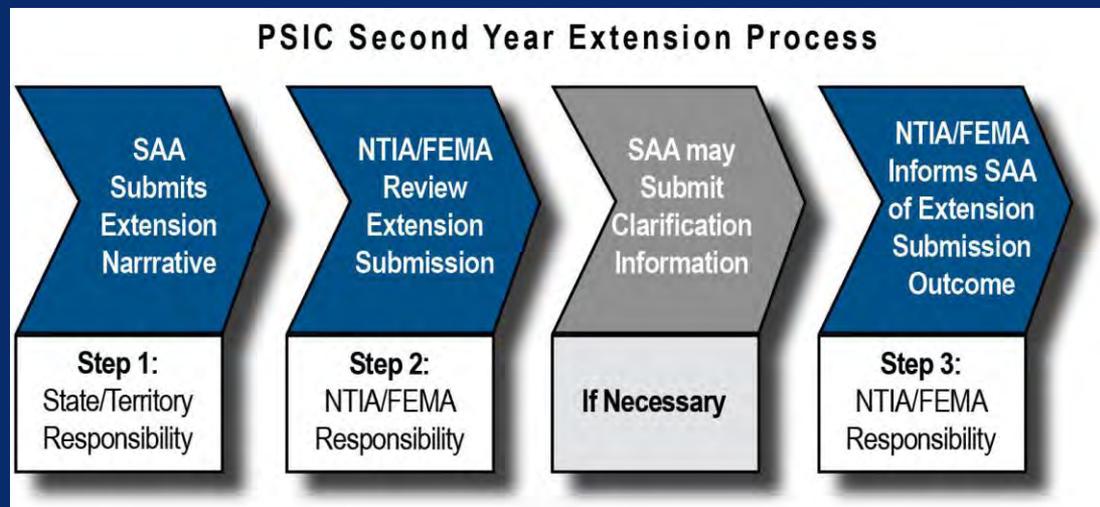
# Match Documentation

- Remember, match must be...
  - Contributed by non-Federal sources
  - Benefit PSIC
  - Allowable under the PSIC Grant Program
  - Documented or recorded in grantees' grant accounting records or grants management system
  - Expended during the PSIC Period of Performance
  - Applied only to PSIC
  - Provided at a rate that is proportional to the Federal funds drawn down
- See the PSIC Match slick sheet for additional guidance



# Extension Process Overview

- Information Bulletin #337: All PSIC grantees received a period of performance extension to September 30, 2011 and could apply for a second extension on a case-by case basis
- A second Information Bulletin further defining the extension process will be issued in the coming weeks



# Extension Process Overview

- Extension requests must be submitted by April 15, 2011
- The Second Year Extension extends a grantee's Period of Performance up to September 30, 2012
- Grantees must expend all PSIC funds prior to the close of the Period of Performance



# Grant Closeout

- It is the grantee's responsibility to...
  - Submit all financial and performance reports within 90 calendar days after the date of completion
  - Promptly refund any excess balances of unobligated cash
  - Reconcile final financial report with approved award budget
  - Collect unused or disallowed funds
  - Identify any disallowed costs



# Grant Closeout

- PSIC grants should not be closed if...
  - Refunds not submitted
  - Actions not completed
  - All costs not paid to recipient
  - Excess funds not de-obligated
  - All reports are not submitted
- Financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to an award must be retained by the Grants Office for a period of three years



# Grant Closeout

- At a minimum, before an award can be closed, the following documents must be available:
  - Basic Notice of Award and All Award Amendments and Modifications
  - All SF-425 (Federal Financial Reports)
  - Program Reports
  - Resolution of Audit and Disallowed Cost
  - Property/Equipment Status Report
  - Final BSIR



# Questions

- Questions?
- Visit our NEPA Help Desk here at the conference for specific NEPA questions and concerns
- Submit additional questions to [psic@dhs.gov](mailto:psic@dhs.gov)
- Visit <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/psic/>

