



Montana (MT)

PSIC Federal Award: \$6,549,685

(Awarded September 30, 2007)

Summary

PSIC Investment Justification	Federal Funds
Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)	\$507,263
Wide-Area Infrastructure Development and Digital Microwave Installation Connecting the Master Control Site to Billings and Eastern Montana	\$2,426,731
Wide-Area Infrastructure Development and Digital Microwave Installation Connecting the Master Control Site to Butte, Bozeman, and Southwest Regions	\$3,419,200
Management and Administration (M&A)	\$196,491
Statewide Planning	-
Total PSIC Award	\$6,549,685

Pass Through: The State of Montana fulfilled the PSIC Grant Program requirement by passing through a minimum of 80 percent of the total award amount to local or tribal governments or authorized nongovernmental public safety agencies.

Strategic Technology Reserve (STR): Montana received a partial STR waiver after demonstrating that it has communication equipment pre-positioned throughout the State and has the ability to deploy the equipment during a natural or man-made disaster. The State of Montana will use a portion of the PSIC STR set aside in the amount of \$132,263 to purchase additional resources that should allow the State to re-establish communications and interoperate among the various public safety agencies if existing critical infrastructure is damaged.

Investments

Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)

Federal Amount:	\$ 507,263
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 126,816
Total Project Cost:	\$ 634,079



100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Montana has identified a number of key communications assets that lie directly within regions that could be impacted by various natural and man-made disasters. The State will spend \$132,263 of the PSIC STR set aside to enhance the existing STR and purchase mobile emergency generators, mobile VHF repeater, and mobile towers to help restore connectivity. With the remaining portion of the Investment, the State will purchase master controller emergency spare kits, radio site rapid response maintenance packages, and microwave rapid response maintenance packages to support the statewide system and serve the needs of first responders in the State. This Investment satisfies the PSIC Program requirement to develop and implement an STR that is pre-positioned, deployable, and able to re-establish communications when critical communications equipment is damaged or destroyed.

Wide Area Infrastructure Development and Digital Microwave Installation Connecting Billings and Eastern Montana

Federal Amount:	\$ 3,419,200
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 854,800
Total Project Cost:	\$ 4,274,000



100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Montana's strategic communications plans were developed to address ways to improve connectivity, enhance technical resources available to responders, advance statewide interoperable communications, and address gaps identified in the Tactical Interoperability Communications Plans for the Yellowstone County Region. This Investment impacts the urban area of Billings and Yellowstone County by providing Internet Protocol (IP)-based digital connectivity between the State capitol in Helena and Billings, the largest urban area. The Investment will provide for the development of a digital microwave communications ring that connects the Northern Tier Project in Northeast Montana with South Central Montana and Billings. Six communications sites will either be built or upgraded, and eleven microwave 'hops' will be created, providing digital microwave links between two tower locations or a tower and endpoint. This Investment will expand the capabilities of State and local responders to transmit voice and data across jurisdictions, using this IP network.

Wide Area Infrastructure Development and Digital Microwave Installation Connecting the Master Control Site to Butte, Bozeman and Southwest Regions



Federal Amount:	\$ 3,419,200
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 854,800
Total Project Cost:	\$ 4,274,000

100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Similar to the previous Investment, this Investment addresses the current lack of IP-based digital connectivity between Helena, where the master radio/data control site is located, and the southwest region of Montana. This Investment will be used to develop a digital communications ring in Southwest Montana and increase microwave capacity for connectivity to other regions of the State. Eight communications sites will either be built or upgraded, and twelve microwave hops will be created. Like the previous Investment, this Investment will expand the capabilities of State and local responders to transmit voice and data across jurisdictions, using this IP network.

PSIC Administration and Statewide Planning Costs

Management and Administration (M&A)

Federal Amount:	\$ 196,491
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 49,123
Total Project Cost:	\$ 245,614

The State was allowed to retain up to three percent of the total PSIC award for costs associated with the administration of the State’s PSIC Investments. The M&A costs could include hiring full-time or part-time staff or contractors for grant management services related to reporting, monitoring and audit compliance, and associated travel and meeting expenses.

Statewide Planning

Federal Amount	\$ 0
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The State was allowed to retain up to five percent of the total PSIC award for Statewide Planning costs associated with the incorporation of the PSIC criteria into the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP). The Statewide Planning period of performance was April 1, 2007–December 3, 2007, with the submission of the SCIP. Montana, however, chose not to allocate its PSIC funds in this manner.