



North Dakota (ND)

PSIC Federal Award: \$7,052,490

(Awarded September 30, 2007)

Summary

PSIC Investment Justification	Federal Funds
Gateway Equipment - Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)	\$546,205
Local/Tribal Interoperable Communications	\$5,205,028
State Radio Interoperable Communications Infrastructure	\$548,480
North Dakota Signal Operating Instructions, Frequency Management Plan, and Standard Response Protocols	\$500,000
Management and Administration (M&A)	\$211,575
Statewide Planning	\$41,202
Total PSIC Award	\$7,052,490

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

Strategic Technology Reserve (STR): North Dakota allocated \$546,205 to its STR Investment.

Investments

State-level Match Amount: \$278,671

Gateway Equipment — Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)

Federal Amount:	\$ 546,205
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 0
Total Project Cost:	\$ 546,205



89%* Acquisition & Deployment	11% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Currently, North Dakota has already invested in some equipment through the Civil Support Team communications unified command suite vehicles, which includes portable antenna system, mast, internet connection, telephones, and fax lines. However, local public safety agencies in North Dakota have equipment that is incompatible with many State or Federal agencies, hindering communication during mutual aid events. This Investment will enable the State to deploy gateways in the State's four quadrants to interconnect disparate communications systems within and between those regions. The Investment will enable a communication link to every county and will provide a link to first responders and secondary response agencies (e.g., private ambulance, power companies), as well as Canadian, Federal, and State agencies. This Investment satisfies the PSIC Program requirement to develop and implement a Strategic Technology Reserve (STR) that is pre-positioned, deployable, and able to reestablish communications when critical communications equipment is damaged or destroyed.

Local/Tribal Interoperable Communications

Federal Amount:	\$ 5,205,028
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 1,251,257
Total Project Cost:	\$ 6,456,285



97%* Acquisition & Deployment	3% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

North Dakota is currently operating on an outdated and obsolete analog communications system. This Investment addresses local and tribal communications equipment needs as defined in the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services Needs Assessment. With PSIC funding, the State will acquire Project 25 (P25) portable and mobile radios, base stations, repeaters (in-car and fixed), radio consoles, and antenna/tower systems, which will increase interoperability and reliability in emergency communications amongst first responders from all disciplines and between local and tribal jurisdictions. Overall, this Investment addresses first responder equipment and training needs, upgrades the State's antiquated system from analog to digital, establishes a uniform frequency plan, and creates the foundation for future efforts to transition the State to a modern, coordinated digital communications system.

State Radio Interoperable Communications Infrastructure



Federal Amount:	\$ 548,480
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 0
Total Project Cost:	\$ 548,480

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

The Stark/Morton Area Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan Validation Exercise exposed gaps in North Dakota's first responders' ability to communicate effectively after an incident. In response to these findings and to the critical need for improvements to its aging communications system, North Dakota embarked on a larger statewide initiative to improve interoperability across the State through proposed upgrades to its tower network. The initiative is expected to expand coverage and increase interoperability and will transition its communications system from analog to digital. This Investment provides for the retrofitting of 40 towers with new equipment to accommodate digital transmission, as well as upgrades to its central site to enable interoperability. The Investment will transition North Dakota's emergency communications systems into a modern, coordinated, interoperable system that is necessary to respond to and mitigate major incidents of disasters.

North Dakota Signal Operating Instructions, Frequency Management Plan, and Standard Response Protocols



Federal Amount:	\$ 500,000
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 0
Total Project Cost:	\$ 500,000

16%* Acquisition & Deployment	12% Training & Exercise	72% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

In its Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP), North Dakota identified a need for standard response protocols and signal operating instructions. The current frequency management plan does not encompass all frequencies in use across the State. This Investment will enable the State to develop a frequency management plan that identifies all statewide frequencies in use, as well as standard response protocols and standard signal operating instructions. Additionally, the Investment will fund a training program to educate first responders on frequency use and standard response protocols to enhance interoperability and foster cooperation and coordination among public safety and emergency response personnel.

PSIC Administration and Statewide Planning Costs

Management and Administration (M&A)

Federal Amount:	\$ 211,575
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 52,894
Total Project Cost:	\$ 264,469

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	\$ 41,202
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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.
