

May 9, 2019



Natalie Romanoff, Federal Program Officer
State and Local Implementation Grant Program
Office of Public Safety Communications
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
Department of Commerce

Ms. Romanoff:

The purpose of this letter is to request permission to move the Nebraska State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) and the responsibilities of the Nebraska Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for FIRSTNET from the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

The OCIO has been the authorized recipient agency for the SLIGP grants since the inception of the program. The OCIO has coordinated the engagement of outreach and education activities necessary to bring public safety agencies and stakeholders together and engaged in the discussion.

As FIRSTNET comes closer to fruition in Nebraska the need for developing and harmonizing policies, procedures and protocols among public safety agencies grows more urgent. Once the service is adopted by more agencies the ability to realize its full potential and success will be dependent upon exercising those network capabilities and procedures with the public safety users.

NEMA has helped coordinate public safety communications with a focus on interoperability through the facilitation of procedures and the exercising of interagency public safety communications capabilities. NEMA also facilitated the development of the Tactical Communications Interoperability Plan (TCIP) and the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) by working closely with Nebraska's state and local public safety jurisdictions.

Considering the above information the State of Nebraska agrees that the transfer of the SLIGP Grant and the SPOC responsibilities to NEMA is a logical step and a good thing for FIRSTNET and Nebraska. The state governance body over FIRSTNET concurs with this move. If approved Nebraska would propose that NEMA begin administration of the SLIGP grant and the SPOC position on July 1, 2019.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Ed Toner in black ink.

Ed Toner, Chief Information Officer
State of Nebraska

Handwritten signature of Bryan Tuma in black ink.

Bryan Tuma, Assistant Director
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency