Organization: Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative

Project Name: Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications Middle Mile Fiber Project

Project Type: Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

State: California

Federal Award: $13,770,240

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Many of the community anchor institutions in the rural Sierra region of northeastern California currently lack adequate access to the bandwidth necessary to support e-healthcare, advanced learning opportunities, and economic development. The Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative plans to meet the broadband needs of these institutions by constructing 169 miles of new fiber for a middle mile network to deliver broadband speeds between 45 Mbps and 10 Gbps to anchor institutions and local Internet service providers. Among the 18 community anchor institutions currently expected to connect to the Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications Middle Mile Fiber Project’s network are seven government facilities, two community colleges, and two healthcare providers including the Plumas District Hospital, High Desert Prison, and Feather River College.

The Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications Middle Mile Fiber Project also proposes to:

- Facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for up to approximately 14,000 households, 2,100 businesses, and an additional 280 anchor institutions by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project’s open network.

- Create a broadband path to support regional Next Generation 911 and other public safety services, and enable telemedicine at regional correctional facilities, allowing for annual prisoner transport savings of up to $10,000 per prisoner seeking care.

- Provide enhanced broadband service to the Susanville Indian Rancheria tribe.

ORGANIZATION’S HISTORY

Plumas Sierra Telecommunications, which has delivered Internet service for more than 14 years, is a subsidiary of Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative and was established in 1987. PSREC is a member-owned electric distribution and transmission utility founded in 1937 that provides power and related utility services to Plumas, Lassen, and Sierra Counties in California and parts of Washoe County in Nevada.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Praxis Associates
- Susanville Indian Reservation Corporation
- Lassen County Office of Education
- Nevada Department of Transportation
- City of Portola
- New Day Broadband
- Eastern Plumas Health Care
- GotSKY
- Lassen Community College
- Plumas County Office of Education
- Office of the Nevada Chief Information Officer