ABOUT THE PROJECT

To provide much-needed broadband capacity to critical community facilities in underserved west Texas and eastern New Mexico communities, ENMR-Plateau plans to construct 189 miles of new fiber and utilize 418 miles of additional existing fiber to create a middle mile broadband network spanning central and eastern New Mexico and parts of western Texas.

Expanding its $11.2M BTOP Round One infrastructure award, ENMR plans to deploy its network into additional underserved areas with 1 Gbps middle-mile speeds. The project proposes to facilitate distance learning and education for tens of thousands of residents by significantly improving broadband connections at schools and higher education institutions. ENMR-Plateau plans to partner with both New Mexico and Texas colleges and universities, regional utility companies, and other service providers as needed to further maximize use of fiber and broadband capacity.

The Extending the Middle Mile project also proposes to:

- Connect as many as 287 community anchor institutions with speeds between 10 Mbps and 10 Gbps, including 55 K-12 public schools, 53 public safety entities, 12 libraries, five community colleges or other institutions of higher learning, 27 healthcare facilities, and 111 government buildings and centers.
- Facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for up to 48,000 households and 3,800 businesses by creating 39 new points of interconnection, enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project’s open network.
- Enable local banks, schools, and hospitals to link branch locations together, creating efficient, industry-specific statewide networks.

ORGANIZATION’S HISTORY

ENMR-Plateau, founded in 1949 as Eastern New Mexico Rural Telephone Cooperative, is a regional telephone company in south-central and eastern New Mexico and western Texas. ENMR has a long history of deploying network services and is currently undergoing an extensive, long-term network modernization.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- New Mexico State University
- University of New Mexico
- PNM Resources
- Public Service Company of New Mexico
- Tularosa Basin Telephone Company