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Organization:	South Dakota Network, LLC (SDN)
Project Name:	Project Connect South Dakota
Project Type:	Infrastructure
State(s):	South Dakota
Federal Award:	\$20,572,242

ABOUT THE PROJECT

South Dakota Network (SDN), a partnership of 27 independent telecom providers, proposed Project Connect South Dakota to add 140 miles of backbone network and 219 miles of middle mile spurs to SDN's 1,850-mile fiber-optic network. This improvement in the network proposes to enable the delivery of at least 10 Mbps service to more than 220 existing anchor institution customers in rural and underserved areas of the state. The network also intends to connect more than 300 new anchor institutions, including public middle and high schools, libraries, universities, hospitals, clinics, public safety agencies, courthouses, government buildings, and National Guard facilities. Patients and hospitals are expected to benefit from the network through the use of telemedicine to update medical records, to conduct remote testing, and to provide diagnostic services. School children in sparsely populated areas are expected to benefit through improved participation in distance-learning programs.

Project Connect South Dakota proposes to:

- Provide improved services to more than 300 existing anchor institutions and more than 200 new anchor institutions.
- Work with Avera Health Care Systems and Sanford Lab healthcare providers to support telemedicine in rural areas.
- Assist the South Dakota Research Education Economic Development Network to connect the state government, state universities, and the Earth Resources Observation and Science Data Center.
- Provide state-of-the-art equipment and technology for use at the Mitchell Technical Institute in training students for careers in broadband applications and deployment.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

South Dakota Network's 20 years of industry experience and current operation of a statewide network demonstrates its ability to operate and maintain the proposed middle mile network. SDN already provides broadband services to more than 200 anchor institutions.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Alliance Communications Cooperative
- Armour Independent Telephone Company
- Avera Health Care Systems
- Beresford Municipal Telephone Company
- Bridgewater/Canistota Telephone Company
- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority
- Faith Municipal Telephone Company
- Golden West Telecommunications
- Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative
- James Valley Telecommunications
- Kennebec Telephone Company
- Long Lines
- McCook Cooperative Telephone Company
- Midstate Communications
- Mitchell Technical Institute
- RC Communications
- Roberts County Telephone Cooperative
- Sanford Health Care Systems
- Santel Communications Cooperative
- Splitrock Properties
- Stockholm Strandburg Telephone
- Swiftel Communications
- Tricounty Telephone Company
- Union Telephone Company
- Valley Telecommunications Cooperative
- Venture Communications Cooperative
- West River Telecommunications Cooperative
- Western Telephone Company

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.broadbandusa.gov.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov.
For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.





Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

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DISCLAIMER

This map serves for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect precise coverage areas or network lines.

An executive summary of this application can be found in the Application Database on www.broadbandusa.gov.

