Applicant Name: Westelcom Network, Inc.

Project Title: North Country Community Broadband Initiative (NCCBI)

Project Type: Last Mile Non-Remote

Executive Summary

a) Opportunity the proposed system seeks to address. This project seeks to address the following opportunities in the targeted service areas: - Provide affordable last-mile high-speed (10MB, 100MB, and 1GB) connectivity for 485 Medical Service Providers (MSPs) to existing and planned regional telemedicine networks. - Provide affordable last-mile high-speed connectivity to 1828 Businesses, 5 Industrial parks, 49 Public Safety, 198 Government Facilities. - Migrate Westelcom’s existing base of 583 business customers to fiber networks to enable offering of affordable high-speed services and ensure long term viability of Westelcom.

b) A general description of the proposed funded service areas (location, number of communities, etc.) - The project will provide affordable high-speed ethernet (10MB, 100MB, 1GB) services to the following communities in rural upstate New York: a. Malone, NY - 247 strategic facilities and businesses passed b. Dannemora, NY - 16 strategic facilities and businesses passed c. Elizabethtown, NY - 28 strategic facilities and businesses passed d. Clayton, NY - 157 strategic facilities and businesses passed e. Plattsburgh, NY - 1154 strategic facilities and businesses passed f. Watertown, NY - 1113 strategic facilities and businesses passed
c) Number of households and businesses passed. Service Area # of HH # of Biz # of Strategic Facilities Malone, NY 5,992 181 66 Dannemora, NY 422 10 6 Plattsburgh, NY 9,289 842 312 Elizabethtown, NY 526 11 17 Clayton, NY 2,068 137 20 Watertown, NY 12,024 801 312
d) Number of community anchor institutions, public safety entities, and critical community organizations passed and/or involved with project (e.g. health care, education, libraries, etc.) Please see matrix above in item c. e) Proposed services and applications for the proposed funded service areas and users. This project provides a fiber facility based solution that allows Businesses, MSPs and CCFs to afford to purchase: • 10MB connectivity at 10-13% of existing cost ($150/mo versus $1330 to $1500/mo) • 100MB connectivity at 10-18% of existing cost ($350/mo versus $2700 to $3490/mo). • 1GB connectivity at 9% of existing cost ($700/mo versus $7700/mo) Additionally, this project will enable Westelcom to provide affordable services to its existing customer base.
f) Approach to addressing the non-discrimination and interconnection obligations. Westelcom will adhere to the principles contained in the FCC's Internet Policy Statement (FCC 05-151) by ensuring that its broadband networks are widely deployed, open, affordable, and accessible to all consumers. Additionally, Westelcom will provide direct connectivity to its consumers to open access networks such as Development Authority of North Country’s (DANCS) Open Access Telecommunications Network (OATN) g) Type of broadband system that will be deployed (network type and technology standard) Westelcom will deploy a fiber-optic based broadband system using high-speed 10MB, 100MB, 1GB, and 10GB capable technologies. h) Qualifications of the applicant that demonstrate the ability to implement and operate a broadband infrastructure, and/or be a sustainable broadband services provider.
Westelcom Network has operated a 400 mile internet backbone and network serving over 22,000 network customers for 13 years. Additionally, the company and its parent (Chazy-Westport Telephone, a former title II borrower) has over 30 years experience with installing and maintaining over 600,000 feet of fiber in its CLEC and ILEC territories. i) Overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system. The proposed system cost including electronics, construction, and installation will cost approximately $3.95M. j) Overall expected subscriber projections for the project. The project will connect over 794 Businesses and Strategic Facilities of the 2714 passed within 60 months of start-up. k) Number of jobs estimated to be created or saved as a result of this project. This project will create 7 new jobs in construction, engineering, and maintenance and save another 53 jobs by ensuring growth, higher margins and long term corporate stability for Westelcom.