

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: FPL FIBERNET, LLC

Project Title: FPL FiberNet and Miami-Dade Broadband Coalition: Digital Partnership for Tomorrow

Project Type: Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Executive Summary

Opportunity the proposed system seeks to address; With NTIA's help, this project will establish Miami-Dade County as a national leader and model for infrastructure deployment for use in 21st century and beyond healthcare, education, public safety, and e-government applications; create an economic development engine that attracts new businesses coupled with high-paying wages, and provide the communications tools for institutions and their community to succeed in the 21st century. This public-private partnership of FPL FiberNet, LLC and the Miami Dade Broadband Coalition (MDBC) will construct a robust and open, carrier neutral, broadband network that will connect anchor institutions and extend broadband services to Miami-Dade's underserved. The proposed network is a comprehensive, effective solution that is consistent with the BTOP goals. By connecting anchor institutions, they will have the ability to aggregate demand for enhanced access and services, lower costs, improve access to the community, and create an unprecedented environment for collaboration, allowing efficiencies in the delivery of healthcare, education and governmental services. The proposed funded service area is primarily comprised of selected Miami-Dade County, FL areas based upon need of our core anchor institutions. Although FPL FiberNet does not intend to provide household access with fiber, third party providers and MDBC intend to provide last mile services from our network. The businesses passed are a key component to the business model as FPL FiberNet will be able to provide service more affordably to a larger percentage of Miami-Dade's commercial broadband users. Forty anchor institution locations will be connected to the network, including 17 community college campuses and outreach centers, and multiple municipalities, public safety entities, universities and healthcare institutions. The proposed network is vital to economic development and the continued success and expansion of online services and applications depends on the performance of underlying network services. FPL FiberNet Ethernet VPN and Dedicated Internet Access are the high quality solutions necessary for these online services. Services provided will include bandwidth aggregation to reduce costs while at the same time increasing capacity. Our proposed project will adhere to all of the principles contained in the FCC's Broadband Policy Statement (FCC 05-151 adopted Aug. 5, 2005), including: not favoring any lawful Internet applications or content over others; displaying network management policies and promptly notifying customers of any changes; connecting to the public Internet either directly or indirectly; offering interconnection where technically feasible; and full CALEA compliance, using access control lifts in our routers to segregate and block access to illegal or harmful content by IP addresses. This adherence is limited to the operations of FPL FiberNet and does not extend to the operations of its parent company FPL Group, Inc or to the operations of FPL Group's other subsidiaries. Based on a ring topology, our middle mile infrastructure project will utilize an optical network that will be capable of supporting multi-

media payload, such as real time voice and video traffic, and data packets in a single transport network. The DWDM optical network will provide physical network infrastructure (fibers and cables) and virtual infrastructure (wavelengths). Various services with different kinds of traffic and Quality of Service (QoS) requirements will be allocated to different wavelengths in a single multiplexed optical network in order to satisfy the requirements of the customer's particular services and security requirements. With over 10 years of experience in the telecom industry and more than 150 employees, FPL FiberNet is well prepared to execute this network construction and operation project. All systems and support functions required to successfully support this project, including but not limited to, project management, operations, sales, customer care and billing are in place today. FPL FiberNet has a highly skilled team of experienced engineers and project managers to support the implementation of large scale network projects. Our project management teams have enabled FPL FiberNet to successfully deliver fiber to over 550 cell sites within the last two (2) years. FPL FiberNet consistently meets customer deliverables on all projects. Additional recent large projects include the deployment of a new metro area network from Naples to Fort Myers, a dedicated, statewide SONET-based network for a large wireless carrier and a statewide virtual private Ethernet network for a large legal firm. FPL FiberNet was recognized as a best-in-class provider at the ATLANTIC-ACM Metro Carrier Excellence Awards for the third consecutive year in 2009. FPL FiberNet has been named the best-in-class metro wholesale provider in the categories of sales representatives, customer service and provisioning. The awards were based on the results from the latest edition of ATLANTIC-ACM's Metro Carrier Report Card, the industry's principal benchmarking study among major telecommunication companies, which was derived from more than 900 individual carrier ratings by their wholesale customers. The Miami-Dade Broadband Coalition is partnered with FPL FiberNet, and brings deep experience in managing and operating large scale infrastructure in the public sector, as well as a C-level view of our community as a whole. MDBC's board primarily consists of the CIOs of the county and municipal governments; the local community college and other higher educational institutions; and healthcare institutions, as well as the CEOs and executives of community based organizations and private industry. The staff of MDBC has deep relationships in all of these sectors, including the telecom sector, providing the base to market the service offerings, define substantial opportunities for its members, and promote the mission of the Coalition at all levels of the community. The overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system; \$20,002,075, 30% of which will provided in a cash match by FPL FiberNet.