Opportunity ENMR'Plateau is pleased to submit this proposal requesting BTOP grant funds from NTIA provided by the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act. As a telecommunications provider in New Mexico and Texas, ENMR'Plateau is proposing fiber connectivity services as a middle mile project to anchor locations throughout New Mexico and Texas. These fiber connectivity services will meet both the immediate and future bandwidth requirements of community anchor institutions including K-12 education, colleges and universities, public libraries, public safety agencies, hospitals and other medical facilities, city, county and state offices and will provide the ability to connect to other public and private institutions across the city and across the state. ENMR'Plateau understands that in order to provide the amount of aggregated bandwidth required in the next three years and beyond will require a very robust core network. In fact, the core network is the key to ensuring long-term bandwidth needs are met.

ENMR'Plateau is proposing additional DWDM (Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing) optical equipment across much of New Mexico to provide very high bandwidth POP's (Point of Presence) in the major communities along the fiber routes. These POP's will provide opportunities for public and private entities to connect to the core network with speeds up to 1 Gbps and even higher. This will work in complement to the core network being created with the round 1 award that ENMR'Plateau received.

ENMR'Plateau has already invested in most of the communities in this proposal in some way whether offering FTTP (fiber to the premise), wireless Internet, cellular, or transport services. These investments allow for shovel ready projects to be started immediately and also help to reduce the costs of the projects in this proposal. ENMR'Plateau's design considerations include ensuring that construction of fiber to anchor locations is done strategically to serve business corridors instead of building the shortest routes. This enables ENMR'Plateau to serve the businesses passed in the future with minimal construction. Of course, construction and equipment costs to serve those customers are not considered in this proposal. This project addresses several opportunities related to the BTOP program including support to schools, libraries, medical and healthcare providers, community colleges and other institutions of higher education, and other community support organizations, organizations that provide outreach to facilitate greater use of broadband service, and improved broadband service to public safety agencies.

Proposed Funded Service Areas This project can be viewed in two parts: 1) DWDM network and 2) fiber to anchor institutions. With that in mind, in part 1 of the project, there are a number of communities that will be served with DWDM nodes. These nodes will enable connectivity of either existing or proposed infrastructure from our company or existing infrastructure from another provider in the community. There are 6 additional communities that will be served with interconnection points by this project extending the core network into more areas of New Mexico. They will complement the core
network that is being created with the current round 1 award that includes 20 interconnection points across central and eastern New Mexico and west Texas. The second part consists of fiber construction to 423 anchor institutions in 23 communities in New Mexico and the Texas Panhandle. These community anchor institutions consist of K-12 schools, community colleges, university branches, public libraries, hospitals and medical facilities, public safety entities, city, county and state offices. Most of these communities are considered underserved markets based on having less than 40% broadband subscribership. Households and Businesses Passed As a result of constructing middle mile fiber in multiple communities, there are a number of businesses and homes passed. The numbers breakdown as shown: Businesses 3,883; Homes 48,659. Anchor Institutions Passed There are 423 anchor institutions that will be served by this middle mile project. Proposed Services ENMR'Plateau is proposing to offer special access and Internet connectivity to critical community facilities, community anchor institutions, and public safety agencies. By consolidating services onto a single core network, we feel that we will be able to offer very competitive and reasonable rates to the customers. An added benefit of having the core network with multiple Tier 1 Internet providers is the ability to buy more Internet bandwidth in bulk. ENMR'Plateau intends to pass these bulk savings onto the customers. Another benefit of providing services to anchor institutions is the ability to consolidate services. Non-discrimination and Interconnection Obligations ENMR'Plateau has always provided the ability for other companies to interconnect to our network. The proposed project will be consistent with the NOFA's non-discrimination and network interconnection obligations. Type of Broadband System ENMR'Plateau intends to install additional DWDM network nodes in New Mexico utilizing current fiber infrastructure. This system has a minimum overall capacity of 400 Gbps enabling flexibility in the network to provide many types of solutions for both public and private entities. ENMR'Plateau also intends to construct fiber to anchor institutions utilizing an active Ethernet solution which will provide for 1 Gbps connections or higher. Company Qualifications ENMR'Plateau has extensive experience in installing and operating fiber networks. In business since 1949, ENMR'Plateau has been on the leading edge of technology and services making it one of the premier small telephone companies in the country. We have experience constructing fiber to the premise solutions being the first company to deploy such a solution in New Mexico in 2004. Our management team has been in the telecommunications business a long time with an average of 21.5 years of experience. We have built fiber to anchor institutions including Clovis Schools with 20 locations and Roswell Schools with 4 locations. We have over 2,000 miles of long-haul fiber in New Mexico and Texas carrying high capacity circuits for large telecom and cable companies and other customers. Cost The total cost of the proposed project is $23,515,451. ENMR'Plateau intends to provide a cash contribution of $7,054,635 to this project. Subscriber Projections The subscriber projections for the project are estimated based on serving only those customers in the 23 markets where fiber to anchor institutions will be constructed. The estimates are based on locations provided to us by the state of New Mexico for state agencies, colleges and universities, schools and libraries, and our own evaluation of the communities to reach additional school locations, city and state offices, and local medical facilities. Job Creation and Retention Certainly the most obvious job creation is based on the stimulus package itself. By providing $7.2 billion in stimulus money and requiring it to be used in a short timeframe, it will generate additional business for many contractors and vendors across the country. Contractors to bury fiber, vendors to provide fiber and equipment, employees to install and maintain the networks will all be necessary. It is assumed that
many companies will have to hire additional people to support this massive build and deployment. One of the concerns of the rural telephone companies is the loss of people and families in their serving areas. The statistics show that the majority of customers disconnecting their landlines are moving from the area. By providing high speed broadband and other advanced services, businesses should be able to assist in keeping people from moving away from their communities by providing jobs with good salaries. More home-based businesses will spring up as improved broadband capabilities are provided in rural New Mexico. According to the calculations performed for this proposal, 113 direct jobs-years will be created from this project, 51 indirect jobs will be created, and 92 jobs will be induced. Summary ENMR'Plateau believes this project meets all the requirements of the BTOP program and the spirit of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act. Spending the past 12 months working with the state of New Mexico, other telecommunications companies, schools, colleges and universities, libraries, and other private businesses has certainly lifted the awareness for providing sufficient broadband to all citizens of New Mexico and the United States. ENMR'Plateau is committed to working with federal, state, and local entities to achieve broadband goals set by this initiative.