

Opportunities the Proposed System Seeks to Address

The Community of McCarthy, Alaska, currently has no terrestrial connections to outside networks, all communications into and out of McCarthy utilizes earth orbiting satellites. Copper Valley Wireless, Inc. (CVW) currently is operating a wireless network consisting of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] base stations, but due to latency (delay) in the satellite link, CVW cannot provide wireless broadband services in McCarthy. The Middle Mile Project proposed by CVW, will provide a low latency, carrier-grade, terrestrial based licensed microwave backhaul system allowing CVW to provide wireless broadband services to households, businesses, and key community organizations that are currently unserved. These wireless broadband services will create the potential for increased business growth, public services, public safety, and quality of life for the residents of McCarthy.

General Description of the Proposed Funded Service Areas

The proposed project will allow for providing wireless broadband services to the following communities:

McCarthy Population: [REDACTED] Status: [REDACTED]

Last Mile Passed

The proposed Middle Mile Project will allow CVW's existing [REDACTED] last mile system to provide wireless broadband services to all of these households and businesses within its service area.

Population in Last Mile Coverage Area: [REDACTED]

The population in the last mile coverage area quantities utilized throughout the application is based on Copper Valley Wireless, Inc.'s actual maps and records for the effected serving areas.

Number of Community Anchor Institutions, Public Safety Entities, and Critical Community Organizations Passed and/or Involved with Project

The proposed Middle Mile Project microwave system will provide a carrier-grade backhaul network, allowing CVW's existing last mile [REDACTED] system to pass [REDACTED] strategic institutions including community anchor institutions, public safety entities, and critical community organizations with wireless broadband. Through the wireless broadband services and enhanced communications capabilities, the Middle Mile Project will greatly improve the ability of these key community organizations to provide public services.

Proposed Services and Applications for the Proposed Funded Service Areas and Users

The proposed Middle Mile Project microwave system will provide a carrier-grade backhaul network, allowing CVW the ability to utilize its existing last mile system to offer a variety of mobile communications and entertainment services, including interactive two-way broadband services and digital multimedia. The proposed microwave system will be the first terrestrial based communications link for the McCarthy area that will not only allow for mobile broadband delivery, but will alleviate the latency constraints experienced with the existing satellite backhaul facilities.

Approach to Addressing the Non-discrimination and Interconnection Obligations

The existing last mile network will be available to any and all end-users that subscribe to the service(s) provided by the service provider, assuming that they are in good standing. The existing last mile network will not discriminate against any lawful Internet applications or content. The existing last mile network will not be a private network from the standpoint that it will be utilized by the end users and the World Wide Web. However, the existing last mile network could be used as a private network for businesses that span multiple locations.

Type of Broadband System that will be Deployed

CVW will utilize its existing [REDACTED] infrastructure to deliver mobile broadband services. It is CVW's intent to deliver the highest quality and the broadest range of telecommunications services that are available today, as well as the maximum bandwidth to their subscribers. Mobile services that will be available include high-speed Internet access, digital multimedia, and voice services.

Qualifications of the Applicant that Demonstrate the Ability to Implement and Operate a Broadband Infrastructure, and/or be a Sustainable Broadband Services Provider

CVW has a proven reputation of deploying applications that can reduce operating costs, increase services, improve customer satisfaction and increase revenue generation. CVW is headquartered in Valdez, Alaska, and has provided cellular services in south central Alaska since it was first incorporated as Copper Valley Cellular in 1993. CVW is led by experienced key staff that can manage their established organization to successfully implement and operate the proposed broadband infrastructure. Key information demonstrating the qualifications of Company has been included in the application.

Overall Infrastructure Cost of the Broadband System

The overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system is \$5,216,450.

Overall Expected subscriber Projections for the Project

The following is a summary of the five year broadband subscriber projections.



Number of Jobs Estimated to be Created or Saved as a Result of this Project

The Middle Mile Project is estimated to create and save a significant number of jobs. These include jobs required for the construction of tower sites, the outside plant network and installation of the backhaul electronics. These jobs have been estimated based on the requirements of the project scope. Additionally, the broadband services will provide an opportunity for business and organizations to grow within the existing last mile equipment's service area.

The Middle Mile Project construction is estimated to require [REDACTED] man-days. The number of man-days work requirements and the staff additions will have a great economical impact to this rural area.