



Michael Preston
Secretary of Commerce,
Executive Director
Arkansas Economic
Development Commission

November 18, 2021

Senator Terry Rice & Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chairs
Arkansas Legislative Council
#1 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Proposed Broadband Grants – Round 2c

Dear Chairman Rice & Chairman Wardlaw:

As you know, on Tuesday the PEER subcommittee approved an appropriation for the ARC broadband grant program in the amount of \$124,766,141.48. This appropriation was intended to fund 32 broadband projects specified in an attachment to the appropriation request.

Since then, our broadband office has been contacted by various members and certain ISP's raising questions as to whether three of the proposed awards should be made. In order to more fully review the concerns raised with these proposed grants, we are withdrawing these three projects from the appropriation request to be considered by ALC tomorrow. The attached revised project list shows the proposed projects still cleared for approval (highlighted in green) with a revised appropriation amount of \$113,741,749.60.

If after reviewing the contested projects, and considering any information provided by those objecting, the broadband office determines that the projects highlighted in yellow on the attached list should proceed, we would request that ALC authorize the ALC chairs to approve the appropriation for the three projects in the amount of \$11,024,391.88.

Thank you for your leadership and assistance in extending broadband to Arkansans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Preston".

Mike Preston
Secretary of Commerce

ARC BROADBAND GRANT AWARDS - ROUND 2C

No.	Application Received	Project	Grant Requested	Technology	Status
1	9/10/2021	AVECC-Wave Rural Connect - Charleston	\$1,200,000.00	Fiber	Approved
2	9/23/2021	AVECC-Wave Rural Connect - Rural Crawford County	\$3,316,500.00	Fiber	Approved
3	7/15/2021	CableSouth Media 3 - Lincoln County (Palmyra)	\$4,119,296.08	Fiber	Approved
4	8/19/2021	Hillbilly Wireless - Sharp County South	\$8,958,197.00	Fiber	Approved
5	9/24/2021	IndCo Cable TV - Newark	\$6,803,125.00	Fiber	Approved
6	9/28/2021	MVTC - Stone Co-Mingues Turner/Hwy 87/Pleasant Grove	\$6,066,845.00	Fiber	Approved
7	9/24/2021	Premier Holdings LLC - Mineral Springs	\$4,477,692.52	Fiber	Approved
8	9/9/2021	Ritter - Cross County Crowley's Ridge	\$3,180,100.00	Fiber	Approved
9	9/9/2021	Ritter - Cross County West	\$4,257,650.00	Fiber	Approved
10	9/10/2021	Ritter - Jefferson County NE	\$4,636,917.00	Fiber	Approved
11	9/10/2021	Ritter - Jefferson County NW	\$11,305,061.00	Fiber	Approved
12	9/24/2021	Ritter - Poinsett County North Central Priority 1	\$2,893,700.00	Fiber	Approved
13	9/24/2021	Ritter - Poinsett County South Central Priority 2	\$1,631,845.00	Fiber	Approved
14	9/15/2021	Ritter - Pope County Appleton/Hector/Scottsville	\$5,665,012.00	Fiber	Approved
15	9/11/2021	Ritter - Pope County SouthWest Priority 4	\$7,053,243.00	Fiber	Approved
16	9/6/2021	Ritter - St. Francis County North Central	\$4,311,450.00	Fiber	Approved
17	9/6/2021	Ritter - St. Francis County NorthWest	\$3,296,875.00	Fiber	Approved
18	8/18/2021	SATCO - Bradley County	\$2,991,357.00	Fiber	Approved
19	9/2/2021	SATCO - Warren South	\$3,377,110.00	Fiber	Approved
20	8/31/2021	SWAT - Blevins & McCasill	\$3,696,764.00	Fiber	Approved
21	8/25/2021	SWAT - Columbia County	\$5,494,263.00	Fiber	Approved
22	8/27/2021	Walnut Hill Telephone - Ebenezer	\$1,953,060.00	Fiber	Approved
23	8/24/2021	Walnut Hill Telephone - Falcon	\$1,419,735.00	Fiber	Approved
24	8/27/2021	Walnut Hill Telephone - Medlock	\$793,461.00	Fiber	Approved
25	8/24/2021	Walnut Hill Telephone - Oak Grove Rd, Buckner	\$1,810,694.00	Fiber	Approved
26	8/24/2021	Walnut Hill Telephone - Shiloh	\$1,845,485.00	Fiber	Approved
27	8/27/2021	Walnut Hill Telephone - South Lake Columbia	\$1,943,357.00	Fiber	Approved
28	8/18/2021	Windstream - Cleburne County	\$2,802,321.00	Fiber	Approved
29	9/20/2021	Windstream - Dallas County 2	\$2,440,634.00	Fiber	Approved

Total Projects Ready for Legislative Approval \$113,741,749.60

1	9/15/2021	Premier Holdings LLC - Stamps	\$3,985,912.88	Fiber	Under Review
2	9/2/2021	Ritter - Craighead County Central	\$3,787,289.00	Fiber	Under Review
3	9/2/2021	Ritter - Craighead County East	\$3,251,190.00	Fiber	Under Review

Total Projects Under Further Review \$11,024,391.88