## FIRST PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT 2010



1. Recipient Organization ( <i>Name and complete address including zip code</i> )
Vermont Telephone Company, Inc.
354 River Street
Springfield, VT 05156

2. Award Identification Number

NT10BIX5570085

3. Performance Narrative (Q1)

Please describe your project activities and progress for the first quarter of your award period. This should include a description of federal expenditures to date, key milestones, the primary activities needed to accomplish those milestones, significant project accomplishments, and any delays or challenges. Please use the milestone categories provided in your baseline report (e.g., environmental assessment, design, rights of way) to structure your answer. (500 words or less)

There are two primary milestones that we focused on in this first quarter of our project: Environmental Assessment and Overlap Resolution.

Environmental Assessment: We engaged the services of a firm, with environmental engineering experience, to compile our Environmental Assessment report. Letters outlining our project were submitted to the required entities, such as the State Historic Preservation offices, and Fish & Wildlife offices.

Overlap Resolution: Several areas of overlap with another ARRA-funded project were identified. We, and the other awardee, engaged the services of a mediator to resolve the overlap.

We purchased and installed a data storage solution to support off-site data storage service for the Community Anchor Institutions in our project and continue to work with our environmental firm to complete the Environmental Assessment. Expenditures for the first quarter were \$42,947.70 recipient funds.

Accomplishments:

- Environmental Assessment: Engaged environmental firm to put this together. A draft has been completed; however updates are needed due to modifications from overlap resolution.
- Network Design: Work is continuing. The rough design is complete. The final design is pending the last modifications from overlap resolution.
- Rights-of-Way / Permits: We have contacted several pole-owning utilities and discussed the scope of our project with them. This is to prepare them for the many requests we will be making for access in the coming months.
- Equipment Procurement: No construction materials have been acquired; however we have obtained and installed data storage solution.

## 4. Performance Projections (Q2)

Please describe your anticipated project activities and progress for the next quarter. This should include a description of federal expenditures, key milestones, the primary activities needed to accomplish those milestones, significant project accomplishments, and any potential delays or challenges you foresee. Please use the milestone categories provided in your baseline report (e.g., environmental assessment, design, rights of way) to structure your answer. (500 words or less)

We anticipate some challenges for the coming quarter. The primary challenge will be to complete our Environmental Assessment. The delays caused by the overlap resolution have shortened the time we have available to complete the consultation with the various agencies, such as the State Historic Preservation Office. These delays do not put the project completion in jeopardy; however they are a challenge we need to overcome over the next quarter.

The identified overlap will be resolved in late November or early December. As mentioned above the resolution of the identified overlap will impact the completion of our environmental assessment. These changes are causing us to seek updated feedback from the required entities involved in the development of our Environmental Assessment.

We will engage an outside plant engineering firm to do detailed engineering of the routes and building entrances for our project. We will begin to seek required permits and rights of way identified by the engineering process.

5. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.

5a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Justin M Robinson Vice President Engineering	5c. Telephone <i>(area code, number and extension)</i> 802-885-7708
	5d. Email Address
	jmrobins@vermontel.com
5b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official	5e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year)
Justin M Robinson	November 29, 2010
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