

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.recovery.gov www.broadbandusa.gov

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on *www.broadbandusa.gov.* 

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

| Organization:  | ION Hold Co., LLC                               |
|----------------|---|
| Project Name:  | ION Upstate New York Rural Broadband Initiative |
| Project Type:  | Infrastructure                                  |
| State(s):      | New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont             |
| Federal Award: | \$39,724,614                                    |

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The ION Upstate New York Rural Broadband Initiative proposes to build 10 new segments of fiber-optic, middle mile broadband infrastructure, serving more than 70 rural communities in upstate New York and parts of Pennsylvania and Vermont. The ION project plans to construct a 1,308-mile network to offer broadband speeds of one to 10 Gbps to serve more than 300 anchor institutions and immediately connect more than 100, including libraries, state and community colleges, state and county agencies, and health clinics. ION plans to extend its relationship with the New York State Office for Mental Health, along with the Basset Hospital and Healthcare System, to expand many of its telemedicine practices.

The project would enable wired and wireless last mile service providers to make broadband more readily available to 250,000 households and 38,000 businesses, and provide much-needed investments and job creation to unserved and underserved areas of the state. The project proposes to provide broadband education, training, equipment, and support to educational and healthcare entities and other community support organizations.

The ION Upstate New York Rural Broadband Initiative project expects to:

- Extend middle mile infrastructure to low-income rural areas with higher than average unemployment rates.
- Support local workforce investment boards, state and local chambers of commerce, community training facilities, and federal and state training facilities.
- Strengthen its relationship with regional and local arms of The Appalachian Regional Commission, which
  is a federal-state partnership that works for sustainable community and economic development in
  Appalachia.

# ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

ION Hold Co., LLC has already developed and managed more than 2,200 existing miles of fiber throughout rural New York, and the Development Authority of the North Country manages a fiber route of more than 750 miles in New York. These partners have pooled their resources and knowledge of the upstate rural markets to present a comprehensive plan for improving broadband access in underserved areas of New York.

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Development Authority of the North Country
- Sovernet Communications



Made possible by the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

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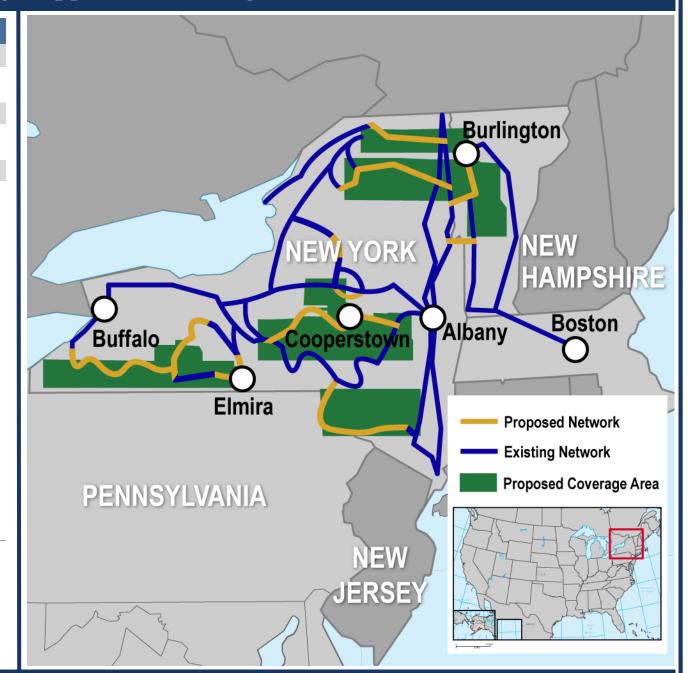
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#### DISCLAIMER

This map serves for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect precise coverage areas or network lines.

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