

**To:** Department of Commerce  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

**From:** Bloomingdale Communications, Inc.

**Subject:** Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Extension Request,  
Van Buren County Fiber Ring Project (Award ID: NT 10BIX5570099)  
for Award Period August 1, 2010 to July 31, 2013

**Date:** July 17, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Bloomingdale Communications, Inc. requests a period of performance extension until September 30, 2013 to continue the successful implementation of our Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) award. This request includes this project's extension rationale and provides supporting documentation as attachments to the Award Action Request (AAR).

- 1) **Reason(s) for Extension Request:** Bloomingdale Communications, Inc. has experienced circumstances that have caused the need for an extension beyond the original project end date. The narrative below provides an explanation of how the project-specific circumstances resulted in the need for a period of performance extension; our proposed plan for addressing any outstanding issues; and the project benefits that will be delivered during the extension period.

**Bloomingdale Communications, Inc. (BCI) is requesting an extension of their BTOP project through September 30, 2013. Late in our project, it was determined that the project would benefit from additional electronics so that both BCI and its subrecipient, Great Lakes Comnet, would each be able to provision and manage its own equipment. We also determined the need for a larger capacity HVAC system and new batteries and rectifiers to support the new equipment in our Bloomingdale Central Office. While installation of these new systems is expected to be completed by the current award end date of July 31, 2013, an extension will allow BCI the time to inspect and test these systems.**

**Bloomingdale Communications, Inc. is currently awaiting delivery of a DC power board that has been delayed. This equipment is expected to be received the week of July 22, 2013 and installed by July 31, 2013. We will require time subsequent to installation in order to have the installation inspected and any modifications or corrections made. This will be completed by August 31, 2013.**

**Bloomingdale Communications is awaiting as-built records for a portion of the joint build section of the project with Merit Networks. We are also awaiting test results from Merit Networks. All of this documentation and testing will be completed by September 30, 2013.**

**Bloomingdale Communications, Inc. has not yet received all as-built records from its engineering firm for the project. This will be completed and received by September 30, 2013.**

The HVAC unit was installed at Bloomingdale Communications, Inc. in July, 2013, however, it must be inspected and any corrections or modifications made. This will be completed by September 30, 2013.

The new Cyan electronics installation is scheduled to be completed by July 31, 2013. However we will require time subsequent to installation in order to have the installation inspected and any modifications or corrections made. This will be completed by August 31, 2013.

Our contract with Thermo Bond Buildings the South Haven and Lawrence huts has not yet been closed out because we are waiting for a Certificate and Indemnity Agreement from Thermobond. This should be completed and the contract closed out by August 31, 2013.

During the two month extension, installation of the new electronics system and the HVAC system will be tested, inspected and the contracts closed out. Installation of the batteries and rectifiers will be completed, tested and inspected and the contract closed out. All testing of the network and as-built records will be completed and received from Merit Networks for the joint portion of our project. All as-built records and testing documentation will be completed and provided by our engineering firm. Our engineering contract and will be closed out.

2) **Supporting Documentation:** Bloomingdale Communications, Inc. submits the following documentation to assist NTIA with the review of this extension request. The attached materials have been updated according to revised project plans for an extended award period and reflect the narrative provided above.

- **SF-424 Revised Budget**
- **Revised Performance Projections** (justification of all revised project goals provided in above narrative – see table below)

<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Revised Project Goals</b>
New Network Miles Deployed	<b>137</b>
New Network Miles Leased	<b>1</b>
Existing Network Miles Upgraded	<b>15</b>
Existing Network Miles Leased	<b>0</b>
CAIs Receiving New Access	<b>29</b>
CAIs Receiving Improved Access	<b>4</b>

- **Project Plan (with updated milestones)**

Bloomingdale Communications, Inc. understands that it must continue to comply with all statutory and programmatic requirements and that this is a no-cost period of performance extension request only (i.e., no additional BTOP funding will be provided under this extension request).

Sincerely,

Mark Bahnson  
General Manager  
Bloomingdale Communications, Inc.