



**Broadband Infrastructure Application
Submission to RUS (BIP) and NTIA (BTOP)**

Submitted Date: 8/18/2009 12:38:28 PM	Easygrants ID: 393
Funding Opportunity: Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program	Applicant Organization: DigitalBridge Communications Corp.
Task: Submit Application - Infrastructure Programs	Applicant Name: Mr. William Wallace

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A. General Application Information

1. Applicant Information	
1-A. Name, Address, and Federal ID for Applicant	
i. Legal Name:	DigitalBridge Communications Corp.
ii. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):	141975127
Street 1:	44675 Cape Court
Street 2:	Suite 130
City:	Ashburn
County:	Loudoun
State:	VA
Country	United States
Zip/Postal Code:	20147

1-B. Name and Contact Information of Person to be Contacted on Matters Involving this Application:	
Prefix:	Mr.
First Name:	William
Middle Name:	
Last Name:	Wallace
Suffix:	
Telephone Number:	703-723-6272
Fax Number:	
Email:	william.wallace@dbcmail.com
Title:	Executive V.P. Policy & External Affairs



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1-C. Other Required Identification Numbers	
i. Organizational DUNS:	626155035
ii. CCR # (CAGE):	53P68
iii. Funding Opportunity Number:	1
iv. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	BTOP CFDA Number: 11.557 BIP CFDA Number: 10.787 BTOP CFDA Title: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program BIP CFDA Title: Broadband Initiatives Program

1-D Eligible Entities

Please classify your organization. (Note: If there are multiple organizations involved in the project, designate the lead applicant that would enter into a Loan or Grant agreement with the Agency and assume operational and financial responsibility should an award be made). **For-Profit Corporation**

1-E. RUS Borrower Status

No

1-F. Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation

Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? **No**
Federal debt delinquency Explanation:

2. Project Description & Project Title

2-A. Project Title: Last Mile Broadband for Underserved Portions of Cassia County, Idaho

2-B. Project Description: DigitalBridge Communications Corp. will bring affordable, fourth-generation broadband services to the underserved portions of Cassia County, ID. It has also proposed programs to support key anchor institutions. As a proven WiMAX operator, DBC brings the track record needed to deploy within 6-9 months, generate jobs, and ensure financial sustainability at a very low cost-per-household-covered.



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3. Application ID for Multiple Submissions for Identified Service Areas:

BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption Easygrants ID: 1391
Public Computer Centers and Sustainable Broadband Adoption

In addition to submitting a number of last-mile infrastructure applications, DBC has also submitted an integrated Sustainable Broadband Adoption proposal. The “Rebate PC Bundle Project” is a partnership among DBC, Intel, PC manufacturers, and local training officials to stimulate sustainable broadband adoption in unserved and underserved areas by providing vulnerable populations with: 1) digital literacy education; 2) substantial discounts on new broadband-enabled computers; and 3) affordable broadband services.

4. Rural Area Determination

At least 75 percent of the proposed service area to be funded falls within rural areas that are unserved or underserved.

Yes

5. Applications for Rural Areas: Please choose the funding program(s) to which you are submitting this application.

a) BIP broadband infrastructure category to which you are applying:

BIP - Last Mile Non-Remote Area

b) Would you like this Application for Rural Areas to also be considered for BTOP funding?

Yes

c) BTOP Infrastructure category for which you are applying.

Last Mile

6. Applications for All Other Areas: Per the NOFA, all applications to fund broadband infrastructure projects in areas that are less than 75% rural must be submitted to NTIA for consideration under BTOP.

BTOP broadband infrastructure category to which you are applying: **Last Mile**

B. Eligibility Factors

7. Application Submission



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BIP and BTOP Factors Selected By Applicant:

Applicant has submitted a completed application and provided all supporting documentation required for the application.

The Project will be substantially complete within 2nd year from the award date, and the project will be fully complete by the end of the 3rd year from the award date.

For projects seeking more than \$1 million funding, the Applicant agrees to submit a certification, from a Professional Engineer, that attests that a) the system will deliver the stated performance; and b) the projected project will be substantially completed within two years, and fully completed within three years.

The Applicant provides two-way data transmission with advertised speeds of at least 768 kbps downstream and 200 kbps upstream.

Applicant understands and agrees to comply with the nondiscrimination and interconnection obligations outlined in the NOFA.

If applying for a last mile Broadband Infrastructure project, applicant understands and agrees to comply with the last mile coverage obligations as outlined in the NOFA.

Additional Factors for BIP Selected By Applicant

At least 75 percent of the proposed funded service area qualifies as unserved and underserved rural areas in accordance with the NOFA.

Applicant understands and agrees that the project will be fully funded in accordance with the requirements



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of the NOFA.

Applicant understands and agrees that only projects that RUS determines to be financially feasible and/or economically sustainable will be eligible under this NOFA.

Additional BTOP Factors Selected By Applicant

- **Conformity with Statutory Purposes**
- **Cost Sharing/Matching**
- **Reasonableness of Project Budget**

The project advances at least one of the statutory purposes for BTOP

Applicant has provided documentation that the project would not have been implemented during the grant period without federal grant assistance.

Applicant has provided a budget that is appropriate to the proposed technical solution and only includes eligible costs.

- **Demonstration the Project Could not be Implemented But For Federal Grant Assistance**
Applicant is providing matching funds of at least 20 percent towards the total eligible project costs?
Yes

7-k. Cost Sharing/Matching Fund Explanation

C. Executive Summary



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Executive Summary of Project for BIP and BTOP:

8. Infrastructure Projects Executive Summary

Special note for RUS review of this application: Consistent with the NoFA, DBC has proposed a 49% grant/51% loan proportion for funding total project cost. It has included its equity contribution toward total project cost in its calculation of the loan portion of the funding per guidance from FAQ # 10, July 30, 2009, which explicitly states an applicant may substitute equity for the loan portion of the project. If DBC has misinterpreted the answer to this question, it is willing to adjust its proposed financials or equity contribution allocation to meet the proposed 49%/51% proportion.

Overview: Cassia County, Idaho (“County”) is rural and underserved. DigitalBridge Communications Corp. (“DBC”) proposes to bring affordable, fourth-generation broadband services to customers and key anchor institutions within the rural, underserved portions of the County. As a proven WiMAX operator with operations in six states covering 600,000 people, DBC brings the track record and management team needed to deploy within 6-12 months, generate jobs, and ensure financial sustainability. Its very low cost-per-household will enable far more households to receive broadband services per network dollar spent than competing technologies. DBC will be assisted in these efforts by its partners, including Intel, Alvarion, Cisco, Syringa Networks, TeleWorld Solutions and Arise Virtual Solutions. Anticipated project benefits over the 5-year planning period include the following:

- 2637 new broadband subscribers added.
- 3 new jobs created.
- \$317 network capital cost per household served.
- 4 years for DBC to reach cash-flow positive

a) Opportunity the proposed system seeks to address:

All constituencies in the County – residents, schools, libraries, healthcare and public safety facilities – need better broadband access and the opportunity to experience the transformative impact of broadband. DBC proposes a last mile infrastructure project, including middle mile components, to improve access to broadband for consumers, institutions, and government throughout underserved portions of the County where today just 35% of consumers have subscribed to broadband services.



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b) A general description of the proposed funded service areas (location, number of communities, etc.)

DBC's proposed funded service area is 100% rural and encompasses 960 contiguous census blocks. (DBC is committed to serving 100% of each census block within its proposed funded service area map, even if the BIP/BTOP mapping tool suggests partial coverage due to imprecision of the initial RF design or the mapping tool itself.) The proposed funded service area includes 6 census-designated communities.

The proposed funded service area covers 406 square miles. The service area's total population was 18,544 (6,556 households). County-wide the median income was \$33,322, 21% below the national average, and its household density averaged 3 homes per square mile. Such low household density often makes broadband service uneconomic even at very high subsidy levels, which is why federal funding is critically needed to build out broadband networks.

c) Number of households and businesses passed

DBC's network is designed to cover the proposed funded service area in the County and will pass 6556 households and 262 businesses.

d) Number of community anchor institutions, public safety entities, and critical community organizations passed and/or involved with project (e.g., health care, education, libraries, etc.)

The proposed funded service area covers a number critical community facilities, community anchor institutions, and public safety entities. Specific counts can be found in the Supplemental 3 section of this application. DBC's proposal for the County includes providing free broadband access, education, awareness, training and equipment for up to 25 of these anchor institutions located throughout the County, including but not limited to the County's courthouse, its libraries, community centers, volunteer fire stations, and K-12 schools.

e) Proposed services and applications for the proposed funded service areas and users
DBC will offer last mile broadband access via fixed and mobile WiMAX technology throughout the proposed funded service area. The last mile fixed service will include public Internet access and Voice over IP services at speeds of 2Mbps and 3Mbps downstream and 500Kbps and 768Kbps upstream, with a proven migration path to 12Mbps downstream. The network will also permit users to connect any WiMAX-enabled device to the Internet,



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including USB adaptors, netbooks, and “portable hotspot” devices. Middle mile components of the predominantly last mile system include 3 new towers and 32 additional fiber miles.

f) Approach to addressing the non-discrimination and interconnection obligations

DBC will not need to adopt a new approach in order to comply with the non-discrimination and interconnection obligations. In its 15 already-deployed communities DBC complies with the FCC’s four broadband principles (Internet Policy Statement, 05-151), and DBC is willing and able to comply with all non-discrimination and interconnection obligations set forth in the NoFA.

g) Type of broadband system that will be deployed (network type and technology standard)

DBC will be deploying a WiMAX network with an established, fourth-generation technology well-suited to the County’s current needs. At launch, DBC will offer last mile downstream speeds up to 2Mbps, with a clear development path to mobile applications and faster speeds, up to 12Mbps. WiMAX – Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access - is an established international standard for wireless telecommunications that operates on licensed frequencies to deliver high-bandwidth data services using an all-IP architecture. WiMAX delivers the high speeds and security of cable and DSL landline broadband but wirelessly and without the high deployment costs. Whereas a WiFi hotspot can provide wireless connectivity to a small area, like a coffee shop, a WiMAX network can blanket an entire town with high-speed, wireless Internet connectivity. No other technology offers such a full set of differentiated data and voice services in a variety of wireless fashions--fixed, portable and mobile. Using WiMAX in a rural area like the County, with low population densities, will allow DBC to provide the greatest broadband speeds possible to the greatest population of users in the proposed funded service area.

h) Qualifications of the applicant that demonstrate the ability to implement and operate a broadband infrastructure, and/or be a sustainable broadband services provider

DBC’s mission is to bring affordable broadband to rural, unserved and underserved communities. Today, under the brand name BridgeMAXX, DBC provides wireless broadband service to 15 underserved and rural communities, covering 600,000 people. DBC is the largest private WiMAX operator in the U.S. today, targeting markets with populations as small as



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1,000 people. In June 2007, DBC launched the first, standards-based commercial WiMAX system in the U.S. in Rexburg, Idaho. In June 2008 it deployed the first, commercial mobile WiMAX system in the country. Four months later, DBC launched Voice over Internet Protocol service (“VoIP”) over its WiMAX systems.

DBC’s experience demonstrates that it will be able to rapidly and affordably bring fourth-generation broadband to the County within 6-12 months of tower/fiber leasing or buildout, due to a number of advantages: (1) readily-deployable, standards-based WiMAX technology; (2) experienced deployment teams; (3) already-operational, state-of-the-art, Network Operations Center located in Ashburn, VA; (4) already-operational billing and customer care systems capable of serving over 1 million customers; (5) an open, all-IP network costing a fraction of traditional networks; (6) a strong licensed spectrum position that allows fast, reliable, secure and interference-free operations; and (7) a solid operating record and a seasoned management team, part of which has worked together for 12 years.

i) Overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system

DBC anticipates that the overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system to be deployed in the County will be \$2,075,000 or \$317 per household passed. With suitable loan or grant funding, DBC anticipates generating positive EBITDA/cash flow in Year 4, thereby ensuring project sustainability without additional government support.

j) Overall expected subscriber projections for the project

DBC expects that its County deployment will attract 2180 subscribers and 2637 connections over the initial five-year period between 2010 and 2014.

k) Number of jobs estimated to be created or saved as a result of this project

It is estimated that a total of 3 new jobs will be created as a result of DBC’s deployment of broadband in the County in the following areas:

- 1 network deployment and construction job
- 1 local sales and marketing job
- 1 home-based call center job

In addition, other jobs will be created as a result of the increase in broadband penetration



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throughout the County. According to a July 2007 Study by the Brookings Institution, every 1% increase in broadband penetration is projected to yield a .2%-.3% increase in non-farm employment.

Description of BTOP Project Purpose (BTOP Applicants Only Next Three Questions)

9. BTOP Statutory Purpose:

Provide improved access to broadband service to consumers residing in “underserved” areas of the United States.
Provide broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to schools, libraries, medical and healthcare providers, community colleges and other institutions of higher education, and other community support organizations by or through these organizations.
Provide broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to organizations and agencies that provide outreach, access, equipment and support services to facilitate greater use of broadband service by low-income, unemployed, aged, and otherwise vulnerable populations.
Improve access to, and use of, broadband service by public safety agencies.
Stimulate the demand for broadband, economic growth, and job creation.

10. Description of BTOP Project Purpose:

a) Project addresses compelling problem or presents an opportunity consistent with the BTOP statutory goals

The service planned for rural, underserved portions of the County will address multiple broadband needs consistent with ARRA goals:

- The proposed last mile infrastructure project, including middle mile components, will improve access to broadband service to consumers residing in underserved portions of the County where today just 35% of consumers have subscribed to broadband service.
- In addition, improved broadband education, awareness, access and equipment will be provided to schools, libraries, and health care facilities throughout the County.
- DBC has agreed to provide free broadband service to a number of K-12 schools in



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Cassia County and it will provide significantly-discounted WiMAX-enabled laptops to students and teachers through its partnership with Intel.

- In order to provide broadband to low-income and vulnerable populations in the County, DBC has agreed to provide free accounts and free WiMAX-enabled laptops to the County's community center, the Burley Public Library, 1300 Miller Avenue, Burley ID 83318, 208-878-7708.
- DBC will improve broadband access for public safety and healthcare facilities by making broadband mobile data (i.e., for use in police and fire vehicles) and backup broadband services available in the County (i.e., for use in case of outages with existing high-capacity connections).
- Through its partnership with Intel, DBC will help stimulate demand for broadband by making affordable broadband service and affordable hardware much more widely available.

Combined, these opportunities should improve the quality of life in the County and create economic growth and jobs on a sustainable basis. 3 new jobs are anticipated

b) Project offers an effective solution to that problem or addresses the opportunity

DBC will be deploying a last mile WiMAX network with an established, fourth-generation technology that is technically-feasible, sustainable, scalable and well-suited to the County's current needs. Wireless Broadband is ideal for deployment in rural areas such as the County, because it affords the most expeditious, cost-efficient and future-proofed deployments for rural America. Due to the simplicity of its architecture, WiMAX systems can be quickly and cost-efficiently deployed in rural areas. DBC is able to deploy most systems in rural areas within 6-12 months of completion of tower/backhaul leasing or buildout. This timeline compares very favorably to cable, DSL, or fiber deployments, which often take years to deploy in sparsely populated areas.

WiMAX broadband systems can typically be deployed in rural areas at an average network cost of \$175 or less per household passed. DBC's WiMAX deployments are, therefore, capable of serving approximately 5-10 times the number of households per network dollar spent than comparable landline solutions. Moreover, DBC's services are more affordable than competitive offerings. In Appomattox, VA, for example, DBC's \$34.99 broadband service (2Mbps downstream and 500Kbps upstream) has been adopted by nearly 35% of the households in the DBC coverage area. Using WiMAX in a rural area like the County, with low



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population densities, will allow DBC to provide the greatest broadband speeds possible to the greatest population of users in the proposed funding area.

c) Proposed solution demonstrates broad significance and includes developments that can be replicated to improve future projects

The proposed WiMAX solution to bring broadband to the County can easily be replicated in other markets. DBC itself has already replicated its network across the country in 15 markets. The benefits of WiMAX include:

- Fast Speeds (2-4Mbps per user), with an upgrade path to 12Mbps
- Carrier-grade quality of service (via licensed spectrum)
- Mobile, portable, or fixed end user equipment
- Broad coverage areas (75+ sq. miles per base station)
- Capital-efficient (<8-15% of cable/telco network cost per household)

d) Whether the proposed funded service area is in an unserved or underserved area

DBC's proposed funded service area is "underserved" and encompasses 960 contiguous census blocks. With just 35% of consumers having subscribed to broadband services, the proposed funded service area meets the definition of underserved.

e) The extent to which the project addresses more than one statutory purpose.

As described in (a) above, the project proposed by DBC for the County will meet many of the BIP, BTOP, and Recovery Act objectives. Through its partnership with Intel and its Rebate PC Bundle Project, DBC will offer consumer rebates of \$140-\$175 per laptop County-wide, helping to overcome one of the primary barriers to broadband adoption. Together, DBC and Intel are requesting funding for these efforts through round one of BTOP's Sustainable Broadband Adoption program.

11. BTOP Enhanced Services for Health Care Delivery, Education, and Children:

DBC proposes an enhanced broadband solution for the residents of the County, with particular focus on how the project will affect education, children and healthcare.



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Schools

In partnership with the County, DBC has agreed to provide free broadband service to a number of K-12 schools in the County. It is also partnering with Intel to make WiMAX-enabled laptops available to teachers and students at significantly discounted prices so that they will be able to access high-bandwidth content both in their classrooms and at home. DBC has been selected by Intel to participate in its Discount PC Bundle Project, which is a public-private partnership to stimulate sustainable broadband adoption in unserved and underserved areas.

Community Center

DBC also has also agreed to provide free accounts and significantly-discounted, WiMAX-enabled laptops to the County's community center, The Burley Public Library, 1300 Miller Avenue, Burley ID 83318, 208-878-7708. This center will have the potential to become the primary location within the county for continuing broadband training and adoption.

Healthcare IT

In addition to making mobile broadband data and reliable, high-capacity backup services available to local healthcare facilities, DBC plans to partner with Cisco to explore the application of its "HealthPresence" program in the County's community center. The program is delivered through WiMAX-enabled kiosks that can perform remote medical diagnostics for patients in rural areas, and transmit those results to doctors many miles away in order to expedite health care delivery. The program has achieved high success rates in its early trials and DBC is eager to expand its success to other communities.

D. Proposed Funded Service Area

12. Proposed Funded Service Area Maps:

12-A. Service Area Map (Reference Number): 72E7-4547-4E5E-AAA9

12-B. Is the applicant is seeking a waiver for providing less than 100% coverage of a census block. No

13. Proposed Funded Service Area (BIP - Last Mile Projects):

Please refer to section M at the end of document.

14. Proposed Funded Service Area (BTOP - Middle Mile Project):



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Please refer to section M at the end of document.

15. Non-Funded Service Area(BIP Only):

If applicable, for all areas of an applicant's service area that will not be funded by BIP or BTOP, please provide the following information in the aggregate for such areas:

- 600,000 – total population using the last decennial census
- 230,000 – total number of households
- 10,350 – total number of businesses
- 23,000 – total subscriber numbers

16. Coverage Waiver:

Applicant is seeking a waiver for providing less than 100% coverage of a census block.

No

For Response of “Yes” please refer to upload section for additional supporting documentation.

17. Methodology for Area Status:

DBC believes that the most defensible source for defining an area as underserved is the consumer as measured by the 40% and below subscribership threshold. This measure is particularly appropriate since it measures not only availability of broadband, but also quality and price—two important factors in shaping whether a consumer becomes a broadband subscriber. For that reason, DBC engaged Princeton Survey Research Associates International (“PSRAI”) to conduct statistically-valid telephone surveys. Based on the findings of PSRAI, DBC concluded that the proposed funded service area within the County is underserved, with just 35% of consumers subscribing to broadband (i.e., either “DSL-enabled phone line,” “cable modem,” “wireless connection through AirCard or cell phone,” “connection to fixed wireless provider,” “fiber optic connection,” or “T-1 connection”). Satellite service was excluded per direction from the RUS/NTIA FAQ sheet of 7/31/09. “AirCard or cell phone” service was also excluded from this and a small subset of other PSRAI surveys since such 2G/3G services are designed for mobile service (with short bursts of high speed above 768Kbps), not fixed, continuous broadband service. Numerous independent speed tests have supported the conclusion that 2G/3G services do not deliver consistent download speeds of 768Kbps or above (e.g., Computer World, May 13, 2008). The number of completed interviews in the underserved portions of the County was 250. (The entire survey instrument has been uploaded as a part of Supplemental 3.)



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The overall methodology employed by DBC and PSRAI for defining the nature of the proposed funded service area involved three steps: 1) Survey the entire county by zip code (and therefore by census block) using a sample size sufficient to ensure statistically-valid results; 2) Perform county-wide RF mapping to determine the optimum proposed funded service area; and 3) Remove zip codes (and therefore census blocks) from the survey sample as needed to match the proposed funded service area while maintaining the statistical validity of the sample (in some areas, this step required the addition of respondents).

PSRAI is an independent firm dedicated to providing reliable, high-quality results. Since 2000, PSRAI has conceived, designed and executed the fundamental Pew research on the impact of the Internet on America that is now the most respected and most quoted source of facts on the Internet in the U.S.

With respect to the County, the data on Internet penetration is based on telephone interviews within the County or selected portions. The telephone interviews were directed by PSRAI and conducted by Braun Research between July 17 and July 26, 2009. Further methodological issues are described below:

- **Sample:** In each county, telephone numbers were randomly generated by the sample provider to cover listed and unlisted telephones.
- **Error margins:** A one-sided sampling error margin at 90% confidence was calculated, based on the total number of completes in the county and on the total number of households in the county. This statistic for these data ranges from 2.5 percentage points to 4.7 percentage points.

For determining the rurality of the proposed funded service area, DBC calculated the square miles covered by non-rural areas within the service area and divided that by the total square miles of the proposed funded service area to confirm that at least 75% of the area was rural. These calculations confirmed that the proposed funded service area within Cassia County is 100% rural.

18. Middle Mile Benefits



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E. Proposed Service Offering

19. Broadband Service Offerings for Last Mile Project:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

20. Service Offerings for Middle Mile Project:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

Competing Service Providers

21. Existing Broadband Service Providers and Services Offered:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

Non-Discrimination, Interconnection

22. Description of Network Openness:

DBC will not need to adopt a new approach in order to comply with the non-discrimination and interconnection obligations. In the 15 communities where its service is already provided, DBC complies with the FCC's four broadband principles from its 2005 policy statement (Internet Policy Statement, 05-151). DBC customers already are entitled to access lawful Internet content of their choice; DBC will not favor any lawful Internet applications and content over others; customers are allowed to run applications and services of their choice, subject to the needs of law enforcement; and connect their choice of legal devices that do not harm the network.

DBC agrees with the FCC that consumers are entitled to competition among network providers, application and service providers, and content providers. Where feasible from a spectrum capacity perspective, DigitalBridge offers a wholesale program on reasonable rates and terms to other wireless operators that wish to provide consumer or small business high-speed Internet service up to and including business-grade T-1 replacement services. In addition, DBC offers interconnection, where technically feasible without exceeding current or reasonably anticipated capacity limitations, on reasonable rates and terms to be negotiated with requesting parties. DBC will commit to binding private arbitration of disputes concerning the



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awardees' interconnection obligations. Finally, DBC is willing and able to comply with all non-discrimination and interconnection obligations set forth in the NoFA

DBC already displays its network management policies in a prominent location on its web page (www.digitalbridgecommunications.com) and provides notice to customers of changes to these policies. DBC customers connect to the public Internet directly. DBC does not operate a private closed network.

Non-Discrimination and Interconnection (BTOP applicants only for next three questions)

23. Non-Discrimination Obligations (applicable to Last Mile and Middle Mile Applicants):

Adhere to the minimum non-discrimination requirements as set forth in the NOFA.
Display the nondiscrimination practices in a prominent location on the service provider's web page, and provide notice to customers of changes to these policies.

24. Interconnection Obligations (applicable to Last Mile Applicants):

Adhere to the minimum interconnection requirements as set forth in the NOFA.
Display the interconnection policies in a prominent location on the service provider's web page, and provide notice to customers of changes to these policies.
Commit to offering wholesale access to the project facilities at reasonable rates and terms.
Commit to binding private arbitration of disputes concerning interconnection obligations.



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25. Interconnection Obligations Middle Mile Applicants:

--

Cost Effectiveness and Affordability

26. Cost per Household (BTOP only):

DigitalBridge anticipates that the overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system to be deployed in the County will be \$2,075,000 or a cost of \$317 per household passed. This compares very favorably to landline alternatives that often range from \$1,000 per household to over \$2,000 per household in the case of fiber-to-the-home systems.

27. Affordability

Due to the simplicity of its all-IP architecture, WiMAX broadband systems can typically be deployed in rural areas at a fraction of the cost of other networks. As a result, DBC's service offerings are usually more affordable for consumers than those offered by competitors within the proposed funded service area. DBC's offerings represent not only high-quality fixed broadband, but also mobile broadband connections to the Internet through USB adaptors or any other WiMAX-enabled device.

For example, while DBC's most-popular 2Mbps/500Kbps service costs \$34.99 per month, prices for the comparable offering from Qwest are \$39.99—\$5 above DBC's price, and from CableOne are \$43 - \$8 above DBC's price. Such affordable prices have enabled DBC to achieve high adoption rates; in Appomattox County, VA, for example, some 35% of consumers in the coverage area have subscribed to DBC's service.

F. Technology Strategy



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28. Technology Type:

Wireless - Terrestrial Fixed
Wireless - Terrestrial Mobile

Other:

29. System Design

Specific advantages: WiMAX presents a differentiated value proposition to consumers today, namely:

- A true broadband experience (i.e., 2+ Mbps per user connection) ...
- ... wherever, whenever consumers want to access the Internet ...
- ... on whatever WiMAX-enabled device they choose ...
- ... that is reliable due to its flat, all-IP infrastructure over licensed spectrum
- ... simple to install and use, often through self-installation ...
- ... affordable, and available now.

WiMAX is particularly well-suited for rural deployments. It delivers the high speeds of cable and DSL landline service but wirelessly and without the high deployment costs. Whereas a WiFi hotspot can provide wireless connectivity to a small area, like a coffee shop, a WiMAX network can blanket an entire town or county with secure, high-speed Internet service. No other technology offers such a full set of differentiated data and voice services in a variety of wireless fashions--fixed, portable and mobile. In short, DBC will provide the “greatest broadband speeds possible to the greatest population of users.”

WiMAX is a superior solution for the County because it affords the most expeditious, cost-efficient and future-proofed solution. First, due to the simplicity of their architecture, WiMAX systems can be deployed quickly in rural areas. DBC is able to launch most services in rural areas within 6-12 months of tower and backhaul acquisition.

Second, with access to licensed spectrum and affordable middle-mile backhaul, DigitalBridge is able to provide WiMAX services to its average rural communities for under \$175 per household passed. Its WiMAX deployments are, therefore, capable of serving approximately 5-10 times the number of households per network dollar spent versus comparable landline



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solutions.

Third, using WiMAX technology and licensed spectrum, DBC is able to offer a reliable, sustainable, high-quality broadband service, with speeds exceeding 2 Mbps. In addition, unlike cable or DSL plant that is buried, wireless broadband solutions are future-proofed and can be easily upgraded to include mobility or additional system capacity and performance without the need to dig up streets. In fact, these capacity upgrades can be performed without adding equipment or labor for the swap of tower-mounted radio equipment, a considerable savings in terms of capital and time. DBC has already begun performing these software-only upgrades to its existing network hardware, and it has nearly doubled the capacity of existing networks and added mobile capabilities without having to replace any tower-mounted radio equipment or CPE. All upgrades are performed remotely and are backwards-compatible to existing customer devices. The standards-setting community anticipates that the WiMAX infrastructure deployed today will, with modest network improvements, be capable of exceeding speeds of 12Mbps and system capacity will be increased fourfold without stranding any capital investment.

Network components: DBC's existing and proposed networks include consumer devices, a radio access network, a core network, and a Network Operations Center ("NOC").

Consumer devices: DBC's equipment partner Alvarion offers a wide variety of WiMAX-certified devices, including:

- **Indoor devices:**BreezeMAX Self-install (Si) devices are compact, nomadic, desktop-mounted gateway devices. They are designed for plug-and-play operation with easy-to-install and self-provisioning capabilities. The BreezeMAX RGW Si is suitable for home networking, and includes four 10/100 Base-T for IP data, 802.11b/g for Wi-Fi access point, two VoIP (RJ11) ports for voice services, and optional battery backup.
- **Outdoor:**BreezeMAX Professional Install antennas serve as an outdoor (roof-mounted) access unit. BreezeMAX PRO is comprised of an outdoor radio unit (ODU) and an indoor network interface unit (IDU). The ODU contains a modem, radio and integral or external high-gain flat antenna.
- **Mobile devices:**BreezeMAX portable devices include PCMCIA and USB WiMAX adaptors, enabling laptop and desktop users to connect to WiMAX networks. The Alvarion network will also support connection to the WiMAX network via the WiMAX-enabled laptops currently on the market from major manufacturers such as Dell, Lenovo, and Acer.
- **Voice:**Primary managed voice capabilities using QoS and voice prioritization mechanisms. BreezeMAX Si-V – offers an integrated solution for data and voice services.



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Radio access network: The base stations and other radio access network components to be deployed in the County are identical to those DBC has deployed in its other 15 communities covering 600,000 people. DBC's current customer base of over 22,000 is supported by more than 60 WiMAX base station sectors provided by Alvarion. The proposed 4Motion BreezeMAX solution in this application is a WiMAX-Forum certified 802.16e-compliant MIMO base station that meets the requirements of a myriad of service environments, from sparsely populated rural areas to high-density urban areas and that delivers broadband access to a wide range of customers, including residential, multi-tenant, SOHO, SME and large enterprise customers. The base station features high power orthogonal frequency division multiple access (OFDMA) technology that supports non-line-of-sight (NLOS) operation, adaptive modulation up to QAM64, diversity with 4-branch receiver and the highest spectral efficiency available.

The BreezeMAX Macro Base Station supports the Profile C R1, R6, and R8 for fast handoff reference points defined in the WiMAX Forum Network Architecture as exposed interfaces. Base stations must allow for connectivity to one or more ASN gateways at distributed locations for redundancy and resiliency of the network.

Additional features of the radio access network include the following:

- Supports up to 6 sectors in a chassis-based architecture.
- Frequency bands available – 3.4-3.6GHz and 3.6-3.8GHz frequency ranges, 2.3GHz, 2.5GHz operating in TDD duplex scheme.
- Channel bandwidths – 5MHz, 7MHz and 10MHz.
- Multi-Channel Access Unit – 4-channel access unit at the base station for antenna diversity, with modem and MAC mechanism common to all channels.
- High Power Radio – high-power outdoor radio unit delivers up to 38dBm output power to antenna at base station with a variety of configurations: (1X1), (4x2), and coming soon (2x2) and (4X4) cost-effective radio units.
- Base station clock synchronization using GPS.
- Uplink sub-channels using SOFDMA for increased service efficiency and improved link budget.
- Smart Antenna Techniques – supports MIMO Matrix A (MRRC), MIMO Matrix B and beam-forming for improved link budget and increase capacity.
- Frequency reuse of N=3; N=1; N=1/3 (and smart management of maps and data transmissions).



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- Automatic frequency scanning and best access unit selection algorithms in self-install (Si) CPE.
- Enhanced Automatic Transmit Power Control and dynamic rate selection (MultiMate) optimized for multiple sub-channels in the uplink.
- Advanced Dynamic Rate Adaptation capability with unique self-learning mechanism to bring best performance results out of each mobile station.

Core network: DBC has built an all-IP core networking infrastructure that was specifically built over the past four years to provide wireless broadband and VOIP service over WiMAX. This core network comprises:

- Switching and routing equipment provided by Cisco:
 - o Cisco 2960 switches
 - o Cisco 3845 routers
- Subscriber authentication and management equipment provided by Cisco:
 - o Cisco AAA server
 - o Cisco DHCP server
- Traffic and service management equipment provided by Sandvine:
 - o Sandvine SRP3000 equipment residing in the NOC and PTS8210 models in the field.
- Wireless access service network (ASN) gateways for mobile subscriber roaming and access management provided by Cisco:
 - o Cisco 7609 ASN gateways

These core network elements are owned, managed, and operated by DBC for networks currently operated nationwide. They are hosted at collocation facilities provided by DBC's partners and vendors including Equinix, 360 Networks, Indiana Fiber Networks, Syringa Networks, SDN, Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative, and others. These facilities are linked together and are linked to DBC's service territories via fiber optic network connections leased from those partners listed above.

Network Operations Center: Each element of this network including equipment, all wireless subscribers, and all leased circuits are managed from DBC's NOC which provides 24 hours a day/7day a week/365 day a year monitoring and management from Ashburn, Idaho. The company's proprietary network software tools allow for remote configuration, trouble



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shooting, and resolution of network components down to the subscriber equipment. Any issues that require on-site resolution will be dispatched to a locally-based technician for repair or maintenance. The NOC also manages DBC's existing billing, provisioning, and Tier 1 and 2 customer care systems.

Spectrum: For the County deployment, DBC will be using 2.5 GHz spectrum in the Educational Broadband Service/Broadband Radio Service band. 196 MHz of EBS/BRS spectrum will be available for this deployment.

30. Network Diagram:

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

31. Certification by Professional Engineer:

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

32. Buy American Waiver Request:

Is the applicant seeking an individual waiver of the Buy American provision? **No**

Buy American Waiver Request – Legal Justification

33. Choice of Service Provider:

Does the project's Infrastructure and the Company's business plan allow more than one provider to serve end users in the proposed funded service area?

Yes

G. Project Milestones and Completion Factors

Timeline & Milestones



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34. Infrastructure Build-out Timeline:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

35. Licenses, Regulatory Approvals and Agreements:

The following is a list of all licenses and regulatory approvals required to implement and operate the proposed project as well as the status of each.

FCC Authorizations: The services provided by DigitalBridge require access to 2.3MHz or 2.5MHz spectrum which is licensed by the FCC. DigitalBridge currently owns, leases or otherwise has access to sufficient 2.3MHz and/or 2.5MHz spectrum to provide affordable WiMAX service within the proposed service area.

To the extent possible, DigitalBridge will utilize the FCC's Tower Construction Notification System and Electronic Section-106 System (E-106) to facilitate compliance with the FCC's rules and streamline the review process for construction of towers.

DigitalBridge intends to operate point-to-point microwave links to backhaul traffic from the last mile WiMAX network access tier to a central traffic aggregation point. Microwave links will be operated in the 6 GHz, 11 GHz, 18 GHz, or 23 GHz bands depending on the specific requirements. Consistent with the FCC rules for point-to-point microwave operations above 3 GHz (47 CFR Part 101), DigitalBridge will complete the Prior Coordination Notice and obtain a License of all microwave links in the proposed network.

State Authorization. DigitalBridge is currently authorized to conduct business in the state in which the proposed service area is located. To our knowledge, there are no other state authorizations which are required for DigitalBridge to provide affordable WiMAX service within the proposed service area.

Local Authorizations: State and local authorizations vary depending on the type of installations which will be required in the proposed service area. We have been in contact with local zoning officials in the proposed service area and have determined that the zoning requirements that affect the proposed service area are as follows:



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Zoning - new tower: "Conditional use permit, review by P&Z, 60-120 days, 1.5x tower height setback required"

Zoning - existing tower: None

Building Permit: "None if <120 sq ft, 2-4 days on others."

Local contact information for approvals:

"Cassia County Courthouse, 1459 Overland Ave"

Burley, ID 83318

"Dee Yeaman, Bldg Official"

208-878-7302

DigitalBridge is poised to submit all applicable zoning applications within 3 months of this application being approved.

36. Construction and Vendor Contracts

Tower Leases: DigitalBridge currently has master agreements with several national tower companies, copies of which can be found in Supplemental Information #1. In addition, DigitalBridge has site acquisition specialist that will be dispatched to the proposed service area within 1 month of the application being approved and it is anticipated that tower leases will be obtained within 3 months of this application being approved.

Equipment agreements: DigitalBridge currently has agreements with several national construction management, equipment manufacturers, and other firms, copies of which can be found in Supplemental #2. These agreements are already in place and will allow the company to immediately start construction upon approval of this application.

Contractors: DigitalBridge intends to work with a number of national construction firms and integrators to accomplish this work. One of its primary contractors is Widelity, Inc., which will serve as project manager for this effort. A copy of the Master Service Agreement between DigitalBridge and Widelity can be found in Supplemental #2.

Additionally, Widelity and DigitalBridge often contract with local firms to provide services such as electrical contracting, civil and environmental contracting, and other labor. Below is a



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list of firms that serve the proposed funded service area which Widely and DigitalBridge have contacted and may hire if this application is approved:

Electrical Contractor:
Snake River Electrical
Blackfoot ID
Chris (208) 785-0140

A & E Services:
Westminster Services
Debbie Auriema 847-277-0070

Qualification of Management Team and Organizational Readiness

37. Management Team Resumes:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

38. Organizational Readiness:

DBC is organizationally ready to implement, manage and operate the broadband network proposed in this application. Today, under the name BridgeMAXX, DBC provides wireless broadband service to 15 underserved and rural communities, covering 600,000 people. DBC is able to rapidly and affordably bring next-generation broadband services to new markets, typically within 6-12 months of tower/fiber lease or build, due to a number of DBC advantages, including: (1) readily-deployable WiMAX technology; (2) experienced deployment teams and capabilities; (3) an already-deployed state-of-the-art, national Network Operations Center located in Ashburn, VA; (4) already-deployed billing and customer care systems scalable to over 1 million customers; (5) an open, all-IP network costing a fraction of traditional networks; (6) a strong licensed spectrum position which allows fast, reliable, sustainable, secure and interference-free operations; and (7) a solid operating record and a seasoned management team that has worked together for 12 years.

Led by DBC's Vice President of Operations, DBC has established the cross-functional program management processes and partner commitments needed to deploy new markets on a large-



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scale. DBC's program management processes are characterized by tight upfront planning with a focus on identifying and addressing interdependencies and potential bottlenecks, on-line monitoring tools, exception-based reporting, and success-based compensation systems. The success of DBC's initial market launches has shown that the company's deployment and launch processes have been well refined and are ready to undertake this project. DBC deployed its first two markets using only its own employees in order to understand the necessary tradeoffs involved in any deployment. For its next 13 markets, it leveraged outsourced contractors to deploy multiple networks simultaneously--all on-time and on-budget. Today, DBC has the necessary contractor master agreements negotiated and signed; deployment activities can begin immediately upon award of BIP or BTOP funding. Supplemental attachments 1 and 2 include contracts with the following network equipment and services:

- Consumer devices: Alvarion, Inc.
- Radio access network: Alvarion, Inc.
- Core network: Cisco and Sandvine.
- Network Operations Center: Arise, Aria, and Equinix
- Tower access: American Tower, Crown Castle.
- Fiber carriers: Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative, 360 Networks, Syringa, Indiana Fiber Network, and others depending upon the region.
- Deployment services and project management: Widelity

Every DBC network is proactively monitored and managed on a 24/7/365 basis from DBC's Network Operations Center. DBC's network software tools allow for remote configuration, trouble shooting, and resolution of network components down to the customer premises. Any issues that require on-site resolution will be dispatched to a locally-based technician for repair or maintenance. DBC strives to resolve trouble tickets within a 24-hour period based on the nature and extent of the network event.

DBC NOC personnel are presented with many reporting capabilities to assess the health of the networks that it monitors and manages, ranging from but not limited to: Network Uptime Performance, Network Latency Analysis, Network Trend Analysis (multi-timeframe), Ping and Performance Analysis, and Network Capacity Analysis.



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Other

39. Organizational Chart:

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

40. Legal Opinion:

Please refer to upload section at the end of document

41. Government and other Key Partnerships:

Cassia County. DBC is fortunate to have support for this project from the County government. Letters of support are attached demonstrating the extent of its commitment to this project and to working with DigitalBridge to improve broadband access for the underserved portions of the county.

Intel. DBC has been selected to participate in the Discount PC Bundle Project sponsored by Intel. The Discount PC Bundle Project is a public-private partnership to stimulate sustainable broadband adoption in unserved and underserved areas. Together, DBC and Intel will be applying for funding under the BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption program.

Arise. DBC's partnership with Arise, ties local communities, like those found in the County, to the broader economy through "home-sourced" customer care agents, enabled with DigitalBridge service, that are able to work from their homes, performing customer service functions for companies around the country. DBC will submit a plan on hiring locally and will advertise in local papers and at local community centers.

42. Recovery Act and Other Governmental Collaboration.

DBC will explore WiMAX Smartgrid opportunities once its all-IP network is deployed in the County. With such a network, any device with an embedded WiMAX chip can establish a broadband connection to the Internet. Already Smartgrid pilots are underway in the U.S. led by companies such as GridNet and GE. It is anticipated that smart meters containing WiMAX chips may be able to play a dual role over the next 2-3 years—both serving as a modem enabling broadband connections to the home and as a smart grid "controller" for use by the



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local electric utility in managing its power grid most efficiently.

Community Involvement (BTOP Applicants Only)

43. Partnering with Disadvantaged Businesses

DBC's Radio Frequency mapping partner, TeleWorld Solutions, is registered as a Small Disadvantaged Business. Under its existing contract with DBC, TeleWorld has performed most of the RF design work for DBC's stimulus applications and will be responsible for completing more detailed network designs if DBC progresses to the second stage of stimulus funding.

TeleWorld Solutions was founded in 2002, focusing on providing Engineering and Consulting services to carriers and operators for network deployment, optimization, and operations. During these seven years, TeleWorld Solutions has had experience with all major access technologies (iDEN, GSM, UMTS, CDMA, EVDO, and WiMAX) and with multiple Tier 1 and Tier 2 operators and infrastructure vendors. TeleWorld Solutions is focused on providing world-class services to its clients by integrating industry standard solutions, processes, and tools that allow its customers to increase their productivity and capital efficiency. TeleWorld Solution's management team has over 50+ years of combined experience in the wireless telecommunications industry, encompassing planning, operations, services, tier-3 support, and national standards.

TeleWorld Solutions has recently focused its attention on providing world-class RF Engineering services to wireless operators by providing turn-key RF Engineering services that enable them to utilize industry- standard tools, engineering expertise, and network management at a fraction of in-house costs. TeleWorld Solutions is also registered as a Small Disadvantaged Business, registered in February 2007.

H. Project Budget

44. General Overall Budget



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Budget	Loan Request	Grant Request	Equity	Debt	Bond	Other
Network & Access Equipment (switching, routing, transport, access)	371,050	443,450				90,500
Outside Plant (cables, conduits, ducts, poles, towers, repeaters, etc.)	57,400	68,600				14,000
Buildings and Land – (new construction, improvements, renovations, lease)	246,000	294,000				60,000
Customer Premise Equipment (modems, set-top boxes, inside wiring, etc.)	101,627	121,457				24,787
Billing and Operational Support Systems (IT systems, software, etc.)						
Operating Equipment						



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(vehicles, office equipment, other)						
Engineering/ Professional Services (engineering design, project management, consulting, etc.)	176,300	210,700				43,000
Testing (network elements, IT system elements, user devices, test generators, lab furnishings, servers/computers, etc.)						
Site Preparation						
Other	2,688	3,212				656
TOTAL BROADBAND SYSTEM	955,065	1,141,419				232,943



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Total Budget: \$ 2,329,427

45. Detailed Budget:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

Sustainability

46. Reasonableness

The projected unit pricing and total number of units included within DBC's budget are based on industry benchmarks and DBC's experience in deploying WiMAX systems over the past two years to cover 600,000 people in six states. As mentioned in previous questions, WiMAX network costs per household are substantially lower than those for competing technologies. In the County, the proposed network costs per household are \$317 which enable DBC to deliver broadband services to 6556 households. In short, WiMAX technology enables DBC to spend the lowest possible cost to deliver the highest possible benefit to the greatest number of constituencies.

Since the launch of its first service in June 2007, DBC has monitored customer coverage results to determine the optimum ratio of base station-to-covered households under alternative terrain and foliage conditions, as well as the best ratio of other network and access equipment to each base station. It has also pursued competitive sourcing and bidding procedures to ensure that its unit costs are as low as possible. Key unit costs within DBC's proposed budget include the following:

Network Access and Equipment

- Radio access network costs per sector are approximately [REDACTED] including antenna, radio, and base station costs. Most base stations include three sectors and cover approximately 2,500 households.
- Routing equipment costs approximately [REDACTED] per router.
- Microwave transport equipment costs approximately [REDACTED] per microwave radio.

Outside Plant

- Fiber pulled to base station sites not suitable for microwave transport (i.e., too far from other towers to be linked via microwave radios) costs approximately [REDACTED] per mile of fiber.
- Capitalized labor per site costs approximately [REDACTED]



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New Tower Construction

- Construction costs per new tower are approximately \$200,000.
- Pre-fabricated cabinets supporting each new tower cost approximately [REDACTED]

Customer Premise Equipment

- Self-install indoor modems cost approximately [REDACTED] per modem.
- Outdoor professional-install equipment costs approximately [REDACTED] per unit. Each unit includes an outdoor radio unit (which includes a modem, radio, and antenna) and an indoor network interface unit.

In summary DBC has achieved the unit costs outlined above through competitive sourcing and bidding processes conducted over the past four years and validated by comparisons to industry benchmarks. It has determined the appropriate number of total units required per market through monitoring of actual results at the customer level and then taking steps to optimize performance. It has built these unit costs and total number of units into a comprehensive 5-year model that has been used to raise over \$68.9 million in equity and bank debt financing. Finally, it has constructed project models for multiple proposed funded service areas based on these unit and total costs, while meeting year-five TIER benchmarks on a service area-by-service area basis.

47. Historical Financial Statements:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

48. Broadband Subscriber Estimates:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

49. Other Services:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

50. Pro Forma 5-Year Financial Forecast and Assumptions:

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.

51. Commitment of Capital Funding Support

To date, DBC has raised \$68.9 million in financing – \$47.9 million in equity and \$21 in bank debt financing. The equity portion of DBC’s funding has come from the National Rural Telecommunications Association (“NRTC”), representing nearly 1,500 rural electric coops and



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rural telephone operators, and four venture capital firms with combined funds under management of nearly \$2 billion, including:

- Paladin Capital Group, Washington, DC: (\$980 million under management)
- Novak Biddle Venture Partners, Bethesda, MD (\$580 million under management)
- CNF Investments, Bethesda, MD (\$175 million under management)
- RedShift Ventures, Arlington, VA (\$220 million under management)

Along with NRTC, these four venture capital firms have agreed to support DBC’s stimulus efforts either through funding on their own or through raising of additional equity capital. Currently, DBC has three term sheets for additional capital totaling \$10 million signed and pending completion of due diligence. It is anticipated that this additional funding will be completed by the end of August. Given its strong record of success raising both debt and equity, DBC does not anticipate problems in raising the additional funds needed to make down payments or cash matches for any BIP or BTOP awards.

BTOP Requirements

52. Matching Funds:

- a. **Cash:** \$.00
- b. **In-Kind:** \$.00
- c. **Percent of Total Project Cost:** 0

53. Demonstration of Financial Need:

Obtaining financing for rural broadband projects has always been difficult, but it has been particularly difficult since the breakdown of the economy last year. There is no question that the gap in America between the “served” -- in urban and suburban markets -- and the “unserved” or “underserved” in rural markets is financial. Rural areas, like the County, are handicapped due to the simple fact that widely dispersed populations cost a great deal to serve through traditional broadband technologies and the return on investment has not been sufficient to entice private investment. Stimulus funding, if properly awarded, will help to close the gap.



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DBC would not undertake to deploy service in the County without federal stimulus support. Without stimulus support, the payback period for the project would not be achievable, and is outside of DBC's investment threshold, demonstrating that the project would not be economic without loan/grant or grant financing.

54. Unjust Enrichment

No other federal support was sought related to this project.

55. Disclosure of Federal and/or State Funding Sources

None

I. Self Scoring – BIP Only Self Scoring

56. Self Scoring Sheet



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Criteria	Method	Points	Self Scores
<u>PROJECT PURPOSE</u>			
Proportion of Rural Residents Served in Unserved Areas	1 point for every 10,000 unserved households	Up to 5	0
Rural Area Targeting	1 point for every 5% increase in the rural service area up the minimum 75% rural area requirement	Up to 5	5
Remote Area targeting	1 point for every 50 miles a service area is located from a non-rural area	Up to 5	0
Title II Borrower	If you are or were a Title II borrower	5	0
Recovery Act and other governmental collaboration	1 point will be awarded for each governmental or Recovery program the applicant is partnering with	Up to 5	5
<u>PROJECT BENEFITS</u>			
Performance of the offered services	If a last mile wireline project delivers 20M to household – if a last mile wireless projects delivers 2M to end-user – if a middle mile projects delivers 100M to end points	10	10
Affordable of services offered	Points awarded based on the proposed rate structure and the logistics of the proposed service area	Up to 5	5



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Choice of service provider	If the proposed infrastructure is available to be used by multiple service providers	5	5
Critical Community Facilities	If discounted rate packages at least 25% lower than advertise rates are available to critical facilities	5	5
<u>PROJECT VIABILITY</u>			
Applicant's organizational capability	Points will be awarded on the strengths and accomplishments of key management	Up to 12	12
Community Support	If a letter of support has been received from a designated representative of the community for every community in the proposed service territory	2	2
Ability to promptly start project	If the applicant can demonstrate that all licenses and regulatory approvals have been received, contractors and vendors are ready to enter into contracts, and equity has been deposited into applicant accounts	10	10
Socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses (SDB), as defined by section 8(a) of the Small Business Act, 15 U.S.C. §637.	If the applicant is a Section 8(a) entity	1	0
<u>PROJECT BUDGET AND SUSTAINABILITY</u>			
Reasonableness of the budget	Points will be awarded based the	Up to 5	5



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	adequacy of the proposed budget		
Leverage of outside resources (outside funding/financing requested)	(i) 10 points if this ratio is greater than 100% (ii) 7 points if this ratio is between 100% and 75% (iii) 5 points if this ratio is between 75% and 50% (iv) 3 points if this ratio is between 50% and 25% (v) 1 points if this ratio is lower than 25%	10	3
Extent of grant funding (Grant funds/loan funds)	(i) 0 points if this ratio equals 100% (ii) 1 points if this ratio is between 100% and 75% (iii) 3 points if this ratio is between 75% and 50% (iv) 5 points if this ratio is lower than 50% (v) 10 points if no grant funds are requested	10	5
Total Points		100	72



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J. BTOP Certification Requirements

Certification (Requested for BTOP)

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document regarding following uploads.

1. U.S. Department of Commerce, Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
2. SF-424D Assurances—Construction Programs (Schedule N)
3. CD-511, Certification Regarding Lobbying (Attachment O)
4. SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Attachment P)
5. CD-512, Certification Regarding Lobbying—Lower-Tier Covered Transactions (Attachment Q) This certification will not be required until the time of the grant award, because it applies to subcontractors, etc.

K. BIP Certification Requirements

Certification (Requested for BIP)

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document regarding following uploads.

1. Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination Certification
2. Certification Regarding Architectural Barriers
3. Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition - Policies Act of 1970 Certification
4. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters – Primary Covered Transactions
5. Certification Regarding Lobbying for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements



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6. Network Design and Implementation Plan Certification (to be complete for projects requesting more than \$1 million in federal assistance)

L. Schedules

Schedule: A-1 Congressional Districts

1. State the Congressional District of the Applicant's headquarters
Virginia - 10

2. State the Congressional District for each area covered by the Project.
Idaho - 2

M. Proposed Funded Service Area Details (BIP & BTOP)

13. Proposed Funded Service Area (BIP - Last Mile Projects):

Proposed Funded Service Area Name: Cassia ID
Census Blocks in Proposed Funded Service Area: See Supplemental Information 3 for Census Block details to this question. There is not enough room to list all of the census block details in this space.
Community Name: See Supplemental Information 3 for Community Name/CDP details including rural and non-rural.
Rural Classification of the Community: Rural
BIP - Service Status: Underserved

BIP - If Service Status is "Underserved" please select at least one applicable option from this list.
 The rate of broadband subscribership for the census-designated community [or other area] is 40% of households or less.

BTOP – Service Status: Underserved



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BTOP - If Service Status is "Underserved" please select at least one applicable option from this list.
The rate of broadband subscribership for the proposed funded service area is 40% of households or less.

Total Square Miles of Community: 406
Total Population : 18,544
Total Number of Households: 6,556
Total Number of Businesses: 262
Total Number of Critical Community Facilities, Anchor Institutions and Public Safety Entities: 33

14. Proposed Service Area (BTOP - Middle Mile Project):

Middle Mile Span Name:
Census Blocks in Middle Mile Span:
Last Mile Service Area Name:
Community Name:
Rural Classification of the Community:
BIP – Service Status:

BIP - If Service Status is "Underserved" please select at least one applicable option from this list.

BTOP - Service Status:

BTOP - If Service Status is "Underserved" please select at least one applicable option from this list.

Total Square Miles of Service Area:
Total Population :
Total Number of Households:
Total Number of Businesses:
Total Number of Critical Community Facilities, Anchor Institutions and Public Safety Entities:



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N. Uploads

In order to improve system performance and help ensure that all applicants are able to complete their applications by the deadline, we have changed the way your application PDF is created. This PDF contains all of the information you entered throughout the Easygrants data entry screens. PDF copies of all documents that have been uploaded can be viewed and printed separately from the **Main page of the application after you submit**. These will continue to be available to you in read-only format after your application has been submitted.