

Region 18 ESC BTOP Extension Request

Budget Narrative:

- We will carry forward a total of \$482,579 during the extension period. 70% of this (\$337,805) is federal dollars. The remaining 30% (\$144,774) is matching dollars.
- The money will be spent on construction for the route to McDonald Observatory. This will include the cost of the final 12.30 miles of aerial fiber and its construction. As we have a fixed price contract the money will be paid to the vendor (Big Bend Telephone) when construction is completed.

Project Plan:

The request for an extension for the Region 18 ESC Connect Southwest Texas project is for the purpose of completing our final route to the McDonald Observatory. This route will:

- Connect 1 CAI location – the McDonald Observatory
- Install 12.30 miles of aerial fiber
- Provide 10gbs of capacity to the Observatory

We are working closely with the contracted party and have been assured that the construction will take 60 days to complete and we know that construction began the week of July 10th. The additional days of the extension past 60 days of construction time will allow us to finalize connection and perform network testing.

Timeline:

- July – construction begins on route to the Observatory.
- August – continue construction
- September – complete construction by mid September
- September – complete connection for service and complete network testing at location