

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 less than 90 days to complete once the utility poles have been replaced. The additional days of the extension past construction time will allow us to finalize connection and perform network testing.

Timeline:

- September – Utility pole owner, AEP, will replace utility poles
- October – complete construction by end of October or early November
- November – complete connection for service and complete network testing at location