



August 19, 2013

EXTENSION REQUEST AAR

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

From: Ronan Telephone Company

Subject: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) one-year Extension Request, Montana West (Award ID: NT10BIX5570148) for Award Period from 09/01/2010 to 08/31/2013

Date: Month 35, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Ronan Telephone Company requests a period of performance extension until August 31, 2014 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).

Reason(s) for Extension Request: Ronan Telephone Company has experienced circumstances that have caused the need for an extension beyond the original project end date. Ronan Telephone Company is requesting a one year no-cost extension to its award period. We have faced several delays over the past three years, including unanticipated permitting/make ready delays, unexpected environmental and historic preservation requirements, and extended right of way negotiations on the Blackfeet Reservation. We have resolved each of these issues but require the additional year to complete our project, particularly given the lengthy winters in Montana.

The Montana West project experienced a work stoppage issued by the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council (BTBC) on the Blackfeet Reservation on August 3, 2012. This stop work order was issued by Tribal Resolution #266-2012 and was enforced by the Blackfeet Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO).

No work was completed by Montana West on the Blackfeet Reservation from October 2012 until March of 2013. This loss of time has had a huge impact on the construction schedule for installation of fiber on the Blackfeet Reservation.





The benefits that will derive from a one-year extension are that Montana West will be able to finish the construction with 167 new miles on the Blackfeet Reservation, bringing the total miles installed for the project to 310, and finish the installation to the 33 CAI's outlined in the grant, including 6 CAI's on the Reservation.

- 1) **Supporting Documentation:** Ronan Telephone Company 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.

- 2)
 - **Revised SF-424C Budget and associated narrative** (documentation of how remaining Federal and match funds in each SF-424C category will be used)
We do not anticipate reallocation of funding categories for the remainder of the grant period, including the extension requested to August 31, 2014.
 - **Project Plan** (updated timeline/milestones needed to achieve benefits within the extension period)
Please see the attached revised Project plan, with tasks extended throughout the calendar year to August 31, 2014.
 - **Revised Performance Projections** (table below)

Revised Performance Projections
(We just need more time to finish the original plan)

Performance Indicator	Revised Project Goals							
New Network Miles Deployed	310 Miles of new network miles deployed in western Montana.. fiber available to 33 Community Anchor Institutions.							
New Network Miles Leased	797 existing network miles leased.							
Existing Network Miles Upgraded	106 miles of existing network miles upgraded							
Existing Network Miles Leased	No existing Network Miles Leased							
CAI's Receiving New Access	24 CAI's will receive new access <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr><td>Mission Valley Power</td></tr> <tr><td>St. Patricks Medical Center- Missoula</td></tr> <tr><td>Jocko Valley Library</td></tr> <tr><td>Arlee Fire Department</td></tr> <tr><td>Arlee Tribal Health</td></tr> <tr><td>Kicking Horse Job Corps</td></tr> <tr><td>Salish Kootenai Housing</td></tr> </table>	Mission Valley Power	St. Patricks Medical Center- Missoula	Jocko Valley Library	Arlee Fire Department	Arlee Tribal Health	Kicking Horse Job Corps	Salish Kootenai Housing
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polson Fire Department Valley View School Elmo-Tribal headquarters Charlo Fire Department Preston Town County Library Hot Springs Fire Department Kalispell Regional Medical Center- Upgrade Flathead Community College- Upgrade Family Health Care Kalispell Fire Department University of Montana-Missoula Blackfeet Tribal Headquarters Blackfeet Community College Blackfeet Community Hospital Blackfeet Housing Authority Browning School District Heart Butte Medical Clinic
CAI's Receiving Improved Access	<p>9 CAI's will receive improved access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salish Kootenai College - Upgrade St. Luke Medical Center-Ronan Upgrade Ronan City Library - Upgrade Polson School District- Upgrade Ronan School District- Upgrade Salish Kootenai Headquarters- Upgrade Ronan City Hall- Upgrade Ronan Fire Department- Upgrade Lake County Housing- Upgrade

**Planned Expended award funding
(No new funding is being requested)**

Funding Period	Planned Federal Amount	Planned Match Amount
Actual Funding Spent to Date and Planned Expended Funding to Sept. 30, 2013	\$ 12,291,741	\$ 5,602,430
Planned Funding Needed Beyond Sept. 30, 2013	\$ 1,504,899	*\$ 339,855

**Match Funding needed beyond 09/30/2013 will be supplied by program income + other sources.*





Ronan Telephone Company 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 funding will be provided under this extension request).

Sincerely,

Gerald Beeks
Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)
Ronan Telephone Company

