NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

FACT SHEET
REGIONAL BROADBAND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
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The NM Broadband Program (NMBBP) goal is to map available broadband resources within the state to identify gaps in coverage and to help fill those gaps. To facilitate this goal, DOIT has created a _Community Broadband Guide_ to assist the planning and implementation of broadband within regions and implemented a Regional Broadband Implementation Plan (RBIP) to provide technical assistance to two pilots through September 2014.

The objective of the RBIP is to make broadband around the state equally **affordable, redundant,** and **abundant** and to demonstrate the use of technologies and strategies that are most effective for rural areas. This program is funded by the National Telecommunications and Information Agency (NTIA) and the NM Dept. of information Technology (DOIT).

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HOW WILL IT WORK?
The NM Broadband Program is founded upon the belief that the Internet is an important tool for economic, education, health, and civic growth and every resident in New Mexico should have connectivity to the Internet.

The RBIP will provide technical assistance to two regional Pilots to help them plan for and obtain improved broadband services where current services are inadequate in terms of speed and availability and to showcase the use of technologies and strategies for bringing broadband to rural areas. The following tasks will be performed by the Pilots with training and documentation provided by RBIP:

Assess Current Community Supply
Identify current telecommunications infrastructure and available services using the State's broadband map, conducting survey and speed tests of broadband consumers and creating profiles of network outages.

Assess Current and Future Demand
Conduct a demand survey for community anchor institutions, businesses and residential users that will define current and future needs within the region.

Create Technology Plan
Review existing technologies and solutions with particular attention to those most cost-effective in rural areas as well as identification of local resources that could make the project more cost-effective. These could include the identification of existing infrastructure and supporting requirements such as towers, rights of way, community-owned real estate, existing dark fiber, and local funding sources.

Create and Implement Broadband Plan
Identify and apply for funding, select

strategies for implementing the project, and identify and select potential vendors and private sector partners.

Plan for Sustainability
On the technology side, this could include ownership models for rural broadband providers similar to rural electric co-ops or state bonding authority for rural broadband cooperatives. On the adoption side, this could include strategies such as digital literacy training to increase broadband subscription.

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SELECTION CRITERIA:
The selection of an organization will be based on need for broadband in the region and benefits to be derived from new or improved broadband, challenges faced, explanation of local community involvement in planning and implementing the project, and the level of experience of the regional group. More specifically the candidate must demonstrate the following:

Readiness
- Analysis of the challenges faced by the region in terms of the region's economic and geographic characteristics, why the region will be a good pilot site for overcoming these challenges and how the region will work to sustain the work of the Pilot.
- Possess the legal capacity and authority to enter into the activities of this project.
- Demonstrated planning experience to identify regional broadband needs and find solutions.
- Evidence of strong regional support.

Demonstrated Need
- Identified areas in the region showing broadband services and speeds; underserved areas or groups, and needs of all sectors, e.g., education, health, public safety as well as business and residential customers.
- A description of the benefits that will come to the region with increased broadband.

Application and Instructions: http://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/surveys.shtml
Due Date: May 24, 2013

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Support Information:
- NM Broadband Portal:
  http://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/index.shtml
- NM Community Broadband Master Plan Guidebook:
  http://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/reports/NM_Broadband_Guidebook_v1_1_final.pdf
- NM Regional Broadband Implementation Plan Framework:
  http://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/reports/ober_RBIP_rpt_final_v2.pdf
- NM Broadband Program Overview Video
  http://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/news.shtml

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