



ReConnect Program FY 2023 Funding Opportunity Announcement Awardees

The Broadband ReConnect Program is a pilot program offering unique federal financing options in the form of grants, loans, and combinations thereof to create or improve rural e-Connectivity for rural customers across America.

To-date, USDA has invested in 3 projects in the fourth round of the ReConnect Program. The investments represent \$40.22 million in grant and loan funding for high-speed internet. The funded service areas include a total of 319 households.

Below are details about the FY 2023 Funding Opportunity Announcement awardees.

View Awardees for Each Funding Category

[Projects serving areas where 90% of households lack sufficient access to broadband](#)

Applicant: Western New Mexico Telephone Company, Inc.

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 94.7

Funded Service Area Households: 124

Award amount: \$23,770,661

The Western New Mexico Telephone Company Inc. is receiving a \$23.8 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet access to people in Catron County. The company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs (ACP). It also will provide a \$34.99 monthly plan with 75 megabits per second upload and download speeds for subscribers within the project area who are enrolled in the ACP.

[100% Grant for Alaska Native Corporations, Tribal Governments, Colonias, Persistent Poverty Areas and Socially Vulnerable Communities](#)

Applicant: E.N.M.R. Telephone Cooperative

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 5.4

Funded Service Area Households: 11

Award amount: \$2,603,946

The E.N.M.R. Telephone Cooperative is receiving a \$2.6 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet access to people in De Baca, Guadalupe, Harding, Quay, San Miguel, Socorro and Union counties. E.N.M.R. will

make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in De Baca, Guadalupe, San Miguel and Socorro counties.

[100% Grant](#)

Applicant: Penasco Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 506.5

Funded Service Area Households: 184

Award amount: \$13,850,542

The Peñasco Valley Telephone (PVT) Cooperative is receiving a \$13.9 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet access to 550 people, 48 farms and 11 businesses in Chaves, Eddy, Otero and Lincoln counties. PVT will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). PVT also offers a program that can provide free internet for households participating in the ACP. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Chaves, Eddy and Otero counties.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Biden-Harris Administration Invests \$63 Million in High-Speed Internet for People in Rural Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Mississippi

Release & Contact Info

Press Release

Release No. 0040.23

Contact: USDA Press

Email: press@usda.gov

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 2023 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced today that the Department is investing \$63 million to bring high-speed internet access to people living and working in rural areas in Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Mississippi. Today's investments include funding from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which provides a historic \$65 billion to expand reliable, affordable, high-speed internet to all communities across the U.S.

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The \$63 million in grants comes from the third funding round of the [ReConnect Program](#), in which USDA invested a total of \$1.7 billion. Since the beginning of the ReConnect program, the Department has invested \$3.2 billion to bring high-speed internet access to people in rural communities across the country.

The four projects being funded today are:

- McDonough Telephone Cooperative is receiving an \$18 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in Illinois. The network will connect 1,583 people, 274 farms and 41 businesses to high-speed internet in Hancock, Henderson, McDonough and Warren counties. The company will make internet access affordable through the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs.
- Alpha Enterprises Limited, Inc. is receiving a \$19.5 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network that will connect 1,023 people, 19 businesses and 10 farms to high-speed internet in Chippewa and Mackinac counties in Michigan. Alpha Enterprises Limited, Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable through the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. The project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Mackinac County.
- Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative is receiving a \$10 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in Minnesota. The network will connect

3,529 people, 71 businesses, 35 farms and two public schools to high-speed internet in Hubbard, Itasca and St. Louis counties.

- Uplink Internet LLC is receiving a \$15 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in Mississippi. This network will connect 2,340 people, 143 farms, 45 businesses and a public school to high-speed internet in Coahoma, Quitman and Tunica counties. It also will serve socially vulnerable communities in these counties, which are supported by the [Rural Partners Network](#), an all-of-government initiative that combines federal, state and local resources to address specific needs in rural and tribal communities across the country.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Biden-Harris Administration Provides \$759 Million to Bring High-Speed Internet Access to Communities Across Rural America

Funding Includes Awards Made Possible by President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Press Release: Release No. 0230.22

Contact: USDA Press

Email: press@usda.gov

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 27, 2022 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the Department is providing [\\$759 million to bring high-speed internet access](#) (PDF, 204 KB) to people living and working across 24 states, Puerto Rico, Guam and Palau. Today’s investments include funding from President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which provides a historic \$65 billion to expand reliable, affordable, high-speed internet to all communities across the U.S.

“People living in rural towns across the nation need high-speed internet to run their businesses, go to school and connect with their loved ones,” Vilsack said. “USDA partners with small towns, local utilities and cooperatives, and private companies to increase access to high-speed internet so people in rural America have the opportunity to build brighter futures. Under the leadership of President Biden and Vice President Harris, USDA is committed to making sure that people, no matter where they live, have access to high-speed internet. That’s how you grow the economy – not just in rural communities, but across the nation.”

The \$759 million in loans and grants comes from the third funding round of the [ReConnect Program](#). As part of today’s announcement, for example:

- North Carolina’s AccessOn Networks Inc. is receiving a \$17.5 million grant to connect thousands of people, 100 businesses, 76 farms and 22 educational facilities to high-speed internet in Halifax and Warren counties in North Carolina. The company will make high-speed internet service affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Halifax and Warren counties and people in the Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Statistical Area.
- Tekstar Communications is receiving a \$12.6 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect thousands of people, 171 farms, 103 businesses and an educational facility to high-speed internet in Douglas, Otter Tail, St. Louis, Stearns and Todd counties in Minnesota. Tekstar will make high-speed internet affordable by providing its “Gig for Life” service, where households that sign up for internet will not have their internet prices raised as long as they stay at the same address and continue

service. Tekstar also will participate in the FCC's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs.

- In Colorado, the Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association is receiving an \$18.7 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network connecting thousands of people, 898 farms, 110 businesses and 17 educational facilities to high-speed internet in Adams, Arapahoe, Cheyenne, Crowley, Elbert, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Lincoln and Washington counties. The company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.

USDA is making 49 awards in Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Washington, Wyoming, Puerto Rico, Guam and Palau. This list includes awards to the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, and the utility authorities for the Navajo Nation and the Tohono O'odham Nation. Many of the awards will help rural people and businesses on Tribal lands.

In 2022, the Department has announced \$1.6 billion from the third round of ReConnect funding.

Background: ReConnect Program

To be eligible for ReConnect Program funding, an applicant must serve an area that does not have access to service at speeds of 100 megabits per second (Mbps) (download) and 20 Mbps (upload). The applicant must also commit to building facilities capable of providing high-speed internet service with speeds of 100 Mbps (download and upload) to every location in its proposed service area.

To learn more about investment resources for rural areas, visit www.rd.usda.gov or contact the nearest [USDA Rural Development state office](#).

Background: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

President Biden forged consensus and compromise between Democrats, Republicans and Independents to demonstrate our democracy can deliver big wins for the American people. After decades of talk on rebuilding America's crumbling infrastructure, President Biden delivered the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) – a historic investment in America that will change people's lives for the better and get America moving again.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides \$65 billion to ensure every American has access to affordable, reliable high-speed internet through a historic investment in broadband infrastructure deployment. The legislation also lowers costs for internet service and helps close the digital divide, so that more Americans can take full advantage of the opportunities provided by internet access.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal and high-poverty areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate-smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean-energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

To subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit the [GovDelivery subscriber page](#).



**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Loan and Grant Program
October 27, 2022**

State	Senators	Representatives	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
AK	Lisa Murkowski Dan Sullivan	Mary Sattler Peltola (At-Large)	Dena' Nena' Henash (Tanana Chiefs Conference)		\$30,323,227	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 301 people, 17 businesses and three educational facilities to high-speed internet in the Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area in Alaska. Dena' Nena' Henash will make high-speed internet affordable by implementing the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Tribal Lifeline programs. This project will serve the Hughes, Huslia, Alatna, and Allakaket Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas as well as the socially vulnerable communities of Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area.
AL	Richard Shelby Tommy Tuberville	Terri Sewell (07)	Hayneville Telephone Company Inc.		\$24,781,800	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 4,646 people, 154 farms, 96 businesses and three public schools to high-speed internet in Lowndes County, Alabama. Hayneville Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Lowndes County.
AR	John Boozman Tom Cotton	Bruce Westerman (04)	Scott County Telephone Company LLC		\$1,680,750	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 89 people, 17 farms and a business to high-speed internet in Scott County, Arkansas. Scott County Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity programs.
AR	John Boozman Tom Cotton	Rick Crawford (01) Bruce Westerman (04)	Southwestern Bell Telephone Company		\$16,036,684	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 999 people, 100 farms and 33 businesses to high-speed internet in Jefferson and Lincoln counties in Arkansas. Southwestern Bell Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Jefferson and Lincoln counties in Arkansas.
AZ	Kyrsten Sinema Mark Kelly	Tom O'Halleran (01)	Navajo Tribal Utility Authority		\$7,157,869	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 4,784 people, 27 businesses, 10 educational facilities and two farms to high-speed internet in Navajo County in Arizona. Navajo Tribal Utility Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve the Navajo Nation Reservation and socially vulnerable communities in Navajo County.
AZ	Kyrsten Sinema Mark Kelly	Paul Gosar (04) Raul Grijalva (03)	Tohono O'odham Utility Authority		\$9,957,228	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,624 people, 123 farms, 11 businesses and four educational facilities in Maricopa, Pima, and Pinal counties in Arizona. Tohono O'odham Utility Authority will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Maricopa, Pima and Pinal counties as well as the Tohono O'odham Nation Reservation and Tohono O'odham Nation Off-Reservation Trust Land.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Alex Padilla	Doug LaMalfa (01)	Cal-Ore Telephone Co.		\$17,622,667	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 321 people, seven farms, six businesses and three public schools to high-speed internet in Siskiyou County, California. Cal-Ore Telephone will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Siskiyou County, California.



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CO	Michael Bennet John Hickenlooper	Ken Buck (04)	Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association Inc.		\$18,738,398	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 2,284 people, 898 farms, 110 businesses and 17 educational facilities to high-speed internet in Adams, Arapahoe, Cheyenne, Crowley, Elbert, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Lincoln, and Washington counties in Colorado. Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
GA	Jon Ossoff Raphael G. Warnock	Sanford Bishop (02) Austin Scott (08)	Public Service Telephone Company	\$36,492,568		This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 21,289 people, 569 businesses, 323 farms and 29 educational facilities to high-speed internet in Bibb, Crawford, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Talbot and Taylor counties in Georgia.
GU		Michael San Nicholas	Teleguam Holdings LLC		\$29,767,352	Teleguam Holdings LLC is receiving \$29,767,352 to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 8,622 households to high-speed internet in Guam. Teleguam Holdings Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by implementing the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Guam.
IA	Chuck Grassley Joni Ernst	Randy Feenstra (04)	Complete Communication Services Corp.	\$3,797,296		This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 2,827 people, 77 businesses, five farms and three educational facilities to high-speed internet in Hamilton County, Iowa.
IA	Chuck Grassley Joni Ernst	Mariannette Miller-Meeks (02)	Kalona Cooperative Telephone Company	\$881,072	\$881,072	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 463 people, 59 farms and 11 businesses to high-speed internet in Washington County, Iowa. The Kalona Cooperative Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Lifeline and E-Rate programs.
ID	Mike Crapo James Risch	Mike Simpson (02)	Columbine Telephone Company Inc.		\$2,103,857	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 469 people, 32 businesses, and four farms to high-speed internet in Madison County, Idaho. Columbine Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
IL	Richard Durbin Tammy Duckworth	Mike Bost (12) Mary Miller (15)	Hamilton County Telephone Co-Op	\$12,413,362	\$12,413,362	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 3,202 people, 248 farms and 52 business to high-speed internet in Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Saline, Wayne and White counties in Illinois. Hamilton County Telephone Co-Op will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.



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IL	Richard Durbin Tammy Duckworth	Rodney Davis (13) Mary Miller (15)	Shelby Electric Cooperative Inc.		\$23,690,245	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 4,057 people, 511 farms, 61 businesses and two educational facilities to high-speed internet in Christian, Cumberland, Effingham, Fayette, Montgomery, Moultrie, and Shelby counties in Illinois. Shelby Electric Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
KS	Jerry Moran Roger Marshall	Jake LaTurner (02) Tracey Mann (01)	Blue Valley Tele-Communications Inc.		\$3,066,752	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 3,000 people, 255 businesses, 14 educational facilities and four farms to high-speed internet in Marshall and Washington counties in Kansas. Blue Valley Tele-Communications Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
KY	Mitch McConnell Rand Paul	Andy Barr (06)	Mountain Rural Telephone Coop Corp Inc.		\$9,378,184	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 871 people, 50 farms, 45 businesses and two educational facilities to high-speed internet in Powell County, Kentucky. Mountain Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Lifeline Program.
KY	Mitch McConnell Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company Inc.	\$12,188,991	\$12,188,991	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 4,466 people, 39 businesses, 27 farms and four educational facilities to high-speed internet in Breathitt and Leslie counties in Kentucky. Thacker-Grisby Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
MI	Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters	Jack Bergman (01)	Baraga Telephone Company	\$3,302,981		This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 362 people, four farms and two businesses to high-speed internet in Houghton County, Michigan.
MI	Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters	Tim Walberg (07)	DMCI Broadband LLC	\$3,122,745	\$3,122,745	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 2,899 people, 94 farms, 56 businesses and four educational facilities to high-speed internet in Branch and Hillsdale counties in Michigan. DMCI Broadband LLC will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
MI	Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters	Jack Bergman (01)	Michigan Central Broadband Company LLC		\$14,948,004	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-home network to connect 360 people, 52 farms and seven businesses to high-speed internet in Crawford, Kalkaska, Otsego and Presque Isle counties in Michigan. Michigan Central Broadband Company LLC will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.



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MI	Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters	Jack Bergman (01)	Upper Peninsula Telephone Company		\$34,532,301	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,625 people, 69 farms, 40 businesses and two educational facilities to high-speed internet in Dickinson, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Menominee and Ontonagon counties in Michigan. Upper Peninsula Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and the Lifeline programs.
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith	Pete Stauber (08)	Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative		\$3,788,680	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-home network to connect 473 people, 15 farms and nine businesses to high-speed internet in Aitkin and Crow Wing counties in Minnesota. Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith	Michelle Fischbach (07) Pete Stauber (08)	Tekstar Communications		\$12,602,274	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 3,113 people, 171 farms, 103 businesses and a school to high-speed internet in Douglas, Otter Tail, St. Louis, Stearns and Todd counties in Minnesota. Tekstar Communications Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by offering its "Gig Price for Life" promotion for new services. Tekstar Communications Inc. also will participate in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Sam Graves (06)	Grand River Mutual Telephone Corporation		\$15,664,704	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the home network to connect 3,107 people, 521 farms, 59 businesses and nine educational facilities to high-speed internet in Daviess, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Livingston, Mercer and Nodaway counties in Missouri. Grand Mutual Telephone Company will make high-speed internet by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Sam Graves (06)	IAMO Communications Inc.		\$3,621,782	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 291 people, 57 farms and six businesses to high-speed internet in Atchison and Nodaway counties in Missouri. IAMO Communications Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and E-Rate programs.
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Sam Graves (06) Vicky Hartzler (04) Blaine Luetkmeyer (03)	Kingdom Telephone		\$23,007,295	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 4,941 people, 611 farms and 84 businesses to high-speed internet in Audrain, Boone, Callaway, and Montgomery counties in Missouri. Kingdom Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.



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MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Sam Graves (06)	Rock Port Telephone Company		\$15,783,423	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-home network to connect 1,121 people, 297 farms and 30 businesses to high-speed internet in Holt and Atchison counties in Missouri. Rockport Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
MS	Roger Wicker Cindy Hyde-Smith	Michael Guest (03)	Decatur Telephone Company		\$6,160,331	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,251 people, 48 farms, 34 businesses and an educational facility to high-speed internet in Newton County in Mississippi. Decatur Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Newton County.
MS	Roger Wicker Cindy Hyde-Smith	Bennie Thompson (02)	Sledge Telephone Company Inc.		\$2,336,547	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,115 people, 19 businesses and two educational facilities to high-speed internet in Sunflower County, Mississippi. Sledge Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. Sledge Telephone Company Inc. will serve socially vulnerable communities in Sunflower County.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01)	AccessOn Networks Inc.		\$17,467,025	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 5,434 people, 100 businesses, 76 farms and 22 educational facilities to high-speed internet in Halifax and Warren counties in North Carolina. AccessOn Networks Inc. will make high-speed internet service affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Warren and Halifax counties and the Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Statistical Area.
NM	Martin Heinrich Ben Ray Lujan	Teresa Leger Fernandez (03)	Kit Carson Electric Cooperative Inc.		\$23,624,986	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 2,693 people, 42 businesses, 34 farms and eight educational facilities to high-speed internet in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Kit Carson Electric Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and the Lifeline programs.
NM	Martin Heinrich Ben Ray Lujan	Yvette Herrell (02)	Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$24,999,998	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 2,970 people and 56 businesses to high-speed internet in Chaves and Lea counties in New Mexico. Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by implementing the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Chaves County.



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State	Senators	Representatives	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
NM	Martin Heinrich Ben Ray Lujan	Yvette Herrell (02)	Western New Mexico Telephone Company Inc.		\$34,897,442	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 678 people, 10 businesses and a farm to high-speed internet in Catron, Grant, and Hidalgo counties in New Mexico. Western New Mexico Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
NM	Martin Heinrich Ben Ray Lujan	Yvette Herrell (02)	WNM Communications Corporation		\$24,926,765	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 3,093 people, 30 businesses, five farms and four educational facilities to high-speed internet in Grant and Luna counties in New Mexico. WNM Communications Corporation will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Luna County.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Frank Lucas (03)	Pawnee Nation Of Oklahoma		\$24,996,065	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 3,486 people, 792 farms, 124 businesses and 12 educational facilities in Noble, Osage, and Pawnee counties in Oklahoma. This project will serve the Pawnee, Ponca and Otoe-Missouria Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas in Oklahoma.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Pine Cellular Phones Inc.		\$11,105,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,901 people, 95 farms and 47 businesses in McCurtain County, Oklahoma. Pine Cellular Phones Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in McCurtain County in Oklahoma and the Choctaw Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Frank Lucas (03)	Pioneer Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$24,760,303	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 3,975 people, 981 farms, 216 businesses and 11 public schools to high-speed internet in Alfalfa, Harper, Major, Woods, and Woodward counties in Oklahoma. Pioneer Telephone Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Lifeline Program.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Tom Cole (04)	Terral Telephone Company		\$7,497,965	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,529 people, 90 farms, 37 businesses and six educational facilities to high-speed internet in Jefferson County, Oklahoma. Terral Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Jefferson County and the Chickasaw Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	The Pine Telephone Company Inc.		\$13,552,987	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 2,031 people, 359 farms and 34 businesses to high-speed internet in Le Flore, McCurtain and Pushmataha counties in Oklahoma. The Pine Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve the Choctaw Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area and socially vulnerable communities in Le Flore County.



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OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Wyandotte Telephone Company	\$3,822,049	\$3,822,049	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,407 people, 54 farms, 52 businesses and four educational facilities to high-speed internet in Ottawa County, Oklahoma. Wyandotte Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve the Wyandotte Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area in Ottawa County in Oklahoma.
OR	Ron Wyden Jeff Merkley	Peter DeFazio (04) Kurt Schrader (05)	Pioneer Telephone Cooperative		\$24,952,007	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 3,570 people, 558 farms and 72 businesses to high-speed internet in Benton, Lane, Lincoln, and Polk counties in Oregon. Pioneer Telephone Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
OR	Ron Wyden Jeff Merkley	Peter DeFazio (04)	Siuslaw Broadband LLC	\$10,636,789		This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,407 people, 28 businesses, 21 farms and two educational facilities to high-speed internet in Lane County, Oregon.
PR		Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon (98)	VPNet Inc.		\$8,783,620	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect seven public schools and a person to high-speed internet in Patillas and Arroyo municipios in Puerto Rico. VPNet Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity programs. This enables VPNet to further discount the cost of broadband services to low-income households. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Patillas and Arroyo municipios.
PW			Palau National Communications Corporation		\$34,991,340	Palau National Communications Corporation is receiving \$34,991,340 to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 7,855 households and three educational facilities to high-speed internet in Angaur, Babeldaob, Kayangel, Koro, Meyuns and Peleliu in Palau. Palau National Communications Corporation will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Palau.
SD	John Thune Mike Rounds	Dusty Johnson (At-Large)	Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone		\$16,957,883	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 488 people, 88 farms and seven businesses to high-speed internet in Corson and Dewey counties in South Dakota. Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Corson and Dewey counties and on the Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Reservations.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	Jake Ellzey (06) Roger Williams (25)	Legacy ISP LLC	\$4,815,750		This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 24,306 people, 1,064 businesses, 73 educational facilities and 40 farms to high-speed internet in Ellis and Hill counties in Texas.



**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Loan and Grant Program
October 27, 2022**

State	Senators	Representatives	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
WA	Patty Murray Maria Cantwell	Jaime Herrera Beutler (03)	Kalama Telephone Company		\$8,637,540	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 4,330 people, 61 businesses and 21 farms to high-speed internet in rural Cowlitz County. Kalama Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
WY	John Barrasso Cynthia Lummis	Liz Cheney (At-Large)	Silver Star Telephone Company Inc.		\$6,303,581	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 475 people, 15 businesses, two farms and two public schools to high-speed internet in Lincoln and Teton counties in Wyoming. Silver Star Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
				\$91,473,603	\$667,633,080	
			TOTAL	\$759,106,683		

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$502 Million for High-Speed Internet in Rural Communities

Funding Will Provide High-Speed Internet Access to People and Businesses in Rural and Remote Areas across 20 States; Additional Funding Will Come From President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in Coming Months

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22, 2022 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the Department is awarding [\\$502 million in loans and grants](#) (PDF, 221 KB) to provide high-speed internet access for rural residents and businesses in 20 states. The funding is part of the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to investing in rural infrastructure and providing reliable, affordable, high-speed internet for all. USDA is making the investments through the third funding round of the [ReConnect Program](#). The Department will make additional investments for rural high-speed internet in the coming months, including funding from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which provides a historic \$65 billion investment to expand affordable, high-speed internet to all communities across the U.S.

ReConnect Program FY 2022 Funding Opportunity Announcement Awardees

Below are details about the FY 2022 Funding Opportunity Announcement awardees.

[View Awardees for Each Funding Category](#)

[100% Grant for Tribal Governments and Socially Vulnerable Communities](#)

Applicant: Arctic Slope Telephone

Location: Alaska

Total square miles: 0.3

Funded Service Area Households: 151

Award amount: \$30,970,030

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 476 people, 15 businesses and a public school to high-speed internet in North Slope Borough, Alaska. Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve the socially vulnerable communities of North Slope Borough and portions of the Anaktuvuk and the Point Lay Alaska Native Village Tribal Areas.

Applicant: Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa

Location: Michigan

Total square miles: 0.6

Funded Service Area Households: 403

Award amount: \$24,944,355

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,217 people and 26 businesses to high-speed internet in Chippewa and Mackinac counties. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa will make high-speed internet affordable by requiring its service provider to participate in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This program provides low-income consumers with discounts on high-speed internet services. This project will serve Sault Ste. Marie Off-Reservation Trust Land, the Sault Ste. Marie Reservation as well as socially vulnerable communities in Chippewa and Mackinac counties.

Applicant: Osage Nation

Location: Oklahoma

Total square miles: 206.4

Funded Service Area Households: 329

Award amount: \$13,907,500

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 831 people, 18 businesses, and 128 farms to high-speed internet in Osage county in Oklahoma. Osage Nation will make highspeed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve the Osage Nation and Socially Vulnerable Communities in Osage County.

Applicant: Big Bend Telephone Company Inc.

Location: Texas

Total square miles: 147.4

Funded Service Area Households: 53

Award amount: \$24,018,756

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 98 people, one business and five farms to high-speed internet in Presidio and Terrell counties in Texas. Big Bend Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve the Socially Vulnerable Community in Presidio County.

Applicant: Bristol Bay Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Location: Alaska

Total square miles: 26.7

Funded Service Area Households: 269

Award amount: \$34,885,420

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 844 people, 22 businesses and seven public schools to high-speed internet in Bristol Bay Borough, Dillingham Census Area, Lake Borough, and Peninsula Borough in Alaska.

Bristol Bay Telephone Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program and Lifeline Program. Eligible households receive discounts for broadband services in tribal entities and one-time discounts toward the purchase of a computer or tablet. This project will serve New Stuyahok, Levelock, King Salmon, New Koliganek, Naknek, South Naknek, and Ekwok Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas and the socially vulnerable communities of Dillingham, Lake and Peninsula.

Applicant: Unicom, Inc.

Location: Alaska

Total square miles: 2.5

Funded Service Area Households: 520

Award amount: \$31,039,615

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 2,165 people, 14 businesses and three public schools to high-speed internet in the Bethel Census Area in Alaska. Unicom Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline Program, the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program and the FCC's new Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve the Atmautluak, Nunapitchuk, Kasigluk, Tuntutuliak, Kwethluk and Kwinhagak Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas and the socially vulnerable community of Bethel County.

Applicant: Table Top Telephone Company, Inc.

Location: Arizona

Total square miles: 5.6

Funded Service Area Households: 58

Award amount: \$3,775,276

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 201 people, seven businesses and two farms to high-speed internet in Apache County. Table Top Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by offering 100 megabits per second symmetrical service free for residents that participate in the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline Affordable Connectivity Programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Apache County and will serve the Navajo Nation Reservation.

Applicant: San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative

Location: Colorado

Total square miles: 52.1

Funded Service Area Households: 63

Award amount: \$1,998,448

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 129 people, eight businesses, a public school and 20 farms to high-speed internet in Conejos and Alamosa counties. The cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program. It proposes not to charge for routers or modems. This project will serve the socially vulnerable communities in Conejos and Alamosa Counties.

Applicant: Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Location: Montana

Total square miles: 1418.4

Funded Service Area Households: 383

Award amount: \$24,972,692

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,058 people, 25 businesses and 282 farms to high-speed internet in Roosevelt and Valley counties. Nemont will make high-speed internet affordable by offering a suite of broadband services designed to be simple. It will target residents and businesses on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. All services offered will be symmetrical and capable of supporting multiple simultaneous users for many applications, including teleworking and remote learning. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Roosevelt County and on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

Applicant: Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 115

Funded Service Area Households: 249

Award amount: \$3,681,000

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premise network. This network will connect 606 people, eight businesses, 34 farms and two public schools to high-speed internet in Cibola and McKinley counties. Continental will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Emergency Broadband Benefit and Affordable Connectivity Plans. This project will serve the Laguna Pueblo, the Acoma Pueblo, and the Acoma Off-Reservation Trust Land tribal entities as well as socially vulnerable communities in Cibola and McKinley counties.

Applicant: E.N.M.R. Telephone Cooperative

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 73
Funded Service Area Households: 32
Award amount: \$14,797,747

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) network to connect people, businesses and farms to high-speed internet in Chaves, Colfax, De Baca, Guadalupe, Harding, Lincoln, San Miguel, Socorro, Torrance and Union counties. E.N.M.R. will make high-speed internet affordable by offering price plans that match the pricing offered to all other FTTP Cooperative members. All three plans will include free Wi-Fi service. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Colfax, De Baca, Guadalupe, San Miguel and Socorro counties.

Applicant: Five Area Telephone Cooperative Inc.
Location: Texas
Total square miles: 1408
Funded Service Area Households: 538
Award amount: \$16,606,750

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,402 people, 50 businesses, 712 farms and four public schools to high-speed internet in Bailey, Cochran, Hockley, Lamb and Parmer counties. The Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline Programs, giving residents discounts on their services. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Parmer, Bailey, Cochran and Lamb counties.



**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Loan/Grant Program**

State	Senators	Representative	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
AK	Lisa Murkowski Dan Sullivan	Mary Sattler Peltola (At Large)	Alaska Telephone Company		\$33,017,636	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 211 people and five businesses to high-speed internet in Haines Borough, the Hoonah-Angoon Census Area and the Skagway Municipality in Alaska. Alaska Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by implementing the FCC's Lifeline Program. This project will serve Skagway and Chilkat Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas.
AK	Lisa Murkowski Dan Sullivan	Mary Sattler Peltola (At Large)	Arctic Slope Telephone		\$30,970,030	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 476 people, 15 businesses and a public school to high-speed internet in North Slope Borough, Alaska. Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve the socially vulnerable communities of North Slope Borough and portions of the Anaktuvuk and the Point Lay Alaska Native Village Tribal Areas.
AL	Richard Shelby Tommy Tuberville	Jerry Carl (01) Terri Sewell (07)	Pine Belt Telephone Company Inc.	\$24,865,787	\$24,865,787	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 15,989 people, 608 businesses, 52 educational facilities and 407 farms to high-speed internet in Choctaw, Clarke, Dallas, Marengo, Perry and Wilcox counties. Pine Belt Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Choctaw, Dallas and Clarke counties.
AL	Richard Shelby Tommy Tuberville	Barry Moore (02) Terri Sewell (07)	Mon-Cre Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$3,951,801	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,812 people, 30 businesses, 53 farms and four public schools to high-speed internet in Butler, Crenshaw, Lowndes, and Montgomery counties in Alabama. Mon-Cre Telephone Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs, providing discounts to qualifying subscribers. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Lowndes County.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Alex Padilla	Jay Obernolte (08)	Fort Mojave Telecommunications Inc.	\$3,504,580	\$3,504,580	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 3,498 people, 137 businesses, and seven schools to high-speed internet in San Bernardino County in California. Fort Mojave Telecommunications Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in San Bernardino County.



**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Loan/Grant Program**

State	Senators	Representative	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
CO	Michael Bennet John Hickenlooper	Lauren Boebert (03)	Delta-Montrose Electric Association		\$13,885,361	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-home network. This network will connect 3,577 people, 148 businesses, one school, and 765 farms to high-speed internet in the Colorado counties of Delta, Montrose and Gunnison. Delta-Montrose Electrical Association will make high-speed internet affordable by participation in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs to provide low-cost internet to its service area. This project will also serve the socially vulnerable community of Delta County.
IL	Tammy Duckworth Richard Durbin	Mike Bost (12)	Egyptian Telephone Cooperative Association	\$25,282,255		This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,140 people, 22 businesses, and 84 farms to high-speed internet in Jackson and Randolph counties in Illinois.
KS/NE	Roger Marshall (KS) Jerry Moran (KS) Deb Fischer (NE) Ben Sasse (NE)	Jake LaTurner (KS 02) Tracey Mann (KS 01) Adrian Smith (NE 03)	JBN Telephone Company Inc.		\$6,319,640	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 704 people, 17 businesses, and 225 farms to high-speed internet in Jackson, Nemaha, Pottawatomie, Republic, Washington, and Riley counties in Kansas as well as Jefferson and Thayer counties in Nebraska. JBN Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs by providing low-income consumers who qualify up to \$30 in monthly service credit.
MI	Gary Peters Debbie Stabenow	Jack Bergman (01)	Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa		\$24,944,355	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,217 people and 26 businesses to high-speed internet in Chippewa and Mackinac counties. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa will make high-speed internet affordable by requiring its service provider to participate in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This program provides low-income consumers with discounts on high-speed internet services. This project will serve Sault Ste. Marie Off-Reservation Trust Land, the Sault Ste. Marie Reservation as well as socially vulnerable communities in Chippewa and Mackinac counties.
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith	Brad Finstad (01)	Winnebago Cooperative Telephone Association	\$12,556,772	\$12,556,772	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the home network. This network will connect 3,597 people, 80 businesses and 458 farms to high-speed internet in Freeborn County in Minnesota. Winnebago Cooperative Telephone Association will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.



**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Loan/Grant Program**

State	Senators	Representative	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith	Tom Emmer (06) Michelle Fischbach (07) Pete Stauber (08)	Upsala Cooperative Telephone Association	\$3,275,879	\$3,275,879	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,595 people, 32 businesses, 101 farms, and one educational facility to high-speed internet in Morrison, Stearns, and Todd counties in Minnesota. Upsala Cooperative Telephone Association will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program by providing low-income consumers who qualify up to \$30 monthly service credit.
MN/IA	Amy Klobuchar (MN) Tina Smith (MN) Joni Ernst (IA) Chuck Grassley (IA)	Ashley Hinson (IA 01) Brad Finstad (MN 01)	Spring Grove Communications	\$5,707,048	\$5,707,048	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 983 people, 42 businesses, and 122 farms to high-speed internet in Allamakee and Winneshiek counties in Iowa and Houston County in Minnesota. Spring Grove Communications will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Vicky Hartzler (04)	Net Vision Communications LLC	\$12,357,100		This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 4,587 people, 300 businesses, nine farms and 15 public schools to high-speed internet in Barton County. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Barton County.
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Sam Graves (06) Vicky Hartzler (04)	Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation		\$2,268,109	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 642 people, eight businesses, and 94 farms to high-speed internet in Monroe and Randolph counties in Missouri. Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Bay Springs Telephone Company Inc.		\$8,128,534	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-home network. This network will connect 1,123 people, nine businesses and 57 farms to high-speed internet in Jasper and Smith counties in Mississippi. Bay Springs Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03) Bennie Thompson (02)	TEC of Jackson Inc.		\$22,210,057	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network that will connect 9,770 people, 92 businesses and 310 farms to high-speed internet in Copiah, Scott, Lawrence, Newton and Simpson counties in Mississippi. TEC of Jackson Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Newton, Simpson and Lawrence counties.



**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Loan/Grant Program**

State	Senators	Representative	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
MT	Steve Daines Jon Tester	Matt Rosendale (At Large)	Project Telephone Company		\$8,579,820	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 693 people, 16 businesses, one educational facility, and 23 farms to high-speed internet in Big Horn and Yellowstone counties in Montana. Project Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by implementing the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve portions of the Crow Reservation, Fort Smith and Pompey's Pillar areas.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	Dan Bishop (09)	Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation		\$24,664,687	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation deploy a fiber-to-the-home network. This network will connect 13,972 people, 198 businesses, 166 farms and 18 public schools to high-speed internet in Robeson and Scotland counties in North Carolina. Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation will make high-speed internet affordable by implementing the FOCUS Broadband's Faster Internet for Robeson and Scotland Today (FIRST) program and offering four internet packages. This project will serve the Lumbee state designated tribal statistical area and the socially vulnerable communities of Scotland and Robeson counties.
ND	Kevin Cramer John Hoeven	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	Halstad Telephone Company		\$2,815,462	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 532 people, seven businesses and 86 farms to high-speed internet in Traill County. Halstad Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
ND	Kevin Cramer John Hoeven	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	Consolidated Enterprises Inc.		\$13,814,768	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 851 people, 38 businesses, 164 farms, and one school to high-speed internet in Billings and Stark counties in North Dakota. Consolidated Enterprises Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
ND	Kevin Cramer John Hoeven	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	Griggs County Telephone Co.	\$16,880,472		This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 2,943 people, 99 businesses, 11 educational facilities, and 173 farms to high-speed internet in Ransom, Cass, and Richland counties in North Dakota.
ND	Kevin Cramer John Hoeven	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	BEK Communications Cooperative		\$13,942,351	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,496 people, 61 businesses, 257 farms, and four schools to high-speed internet in Barnes, Cass, and Ransom counties in North Dakota. BEK Communications Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by continuing to participate in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.



**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Loan/Grant Program**

State	Senators	Representative	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Valliant Telephone Company Inc.		\$883,904	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 200 people, 16 businesses and one educational facility to high-speed internet in Choctaw and McCurtain counties in Oklahoma. Valliant Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by implementing the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs, and offering four internet packages. This project will serve the Choctaw Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area and socially vulnerable communities in McCurtain County.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Frank Lucas (03)	Osage Nation		\$13,907,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 831 people, 18 businesses, and 128 farms to high-speed internet in Osage County in Oklahoma. The Osage Nation will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve the Osage Nation and socially vulnerable communities in Osage County.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Tom Cole (04) Frank Lucas (03)	Southern Plains Cable LLC	\$8,134,548	\$8,134,548	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 7,093 people, 230 businesses, six farms and 29 schools to high-speed internet in Caddo, Comanche, Cotton and Grady counties. Southern Plains Cable will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve the Kiowa-Comanche-Apache-Fort Sill Apache Tribal Statistical Area and socially vulnerable communities in Cotton County.
OR	Jeff Merkley Ron Wyden	Cliff Bentz (02)	Oregon Telephone Corporation	\$10,264,049	\$10,264,049	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,163 people, 41 businesses, 70 farms, and four educational facilities to high-speed internet in Baker, Grant, and Malheur counties in Oregon. Oregon Telephone Corporation will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program and the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program, including Oregon Lifeline.
TN	Marsha Blackburn Bill Hagerty	Scott DesJarlais (04) John Rose (06)	Dekalb Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$11,683,600	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 6,056 people, 74 businesses, five schools, and 373 farms to high-speed internet in DeKalb, Cannon, Smith and Rutherford counties in Tennessee. The Dekalb Telephone Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participation in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs to provide low-cost internet to its service area.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	Pat Fallon (04)	Blossom Telephone Company	\$2,283,570	\$2,283,570	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 982 people, 14 businesses and 93 farms to high-speed internet in Lamar and Red River counties. Blossom Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Lifeline Program.



**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Loan/Grant Program**

State	Senators	Representative	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	Tony Gonzales (23)	Big Bend Telephone Company Inc.		\$24,018,756	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 98 people, one business and five farms to high-speed internet in Presidio and Terrell counties in Texas. Big Bend Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Presidio County.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	August Pfluger (11) Jodey Arrington (19)	Taylor Telephone Cooperative Inc.	\$16,337,880	\$16,337,880	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 1,060 people, 20 businesses and 450 farms to high-speed internet in Coleman, Nolan, Runnels, Taylor counties. Taylor Telephone Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	August Pfluger (11)	Totalcom Communications LLC		\$3,872,775	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 299 people, nine businesses, 85 farms, and one educational facility to high-speed internet in Comanche County, Texas. Totalcom Communications Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program by providing low-income consumers who qualify up to \$30 in monthly service credit.
WY	Cynthia Lummis John Barrasso	Liz Cheney (At Large)	Tri County Telephone Association Inc.		\$9,592,794	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 204 people, 15 businesses, and 19 farms to high-speed internet in Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Sheridan, Washakie counties in Wyoming. Tri County Telephone Association Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by implementing the FCC's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline programs.
				\$141,449,940	\$360,402,053	TOTAL \$501,851,993

ReConnect Program FY 2022 Funding Opportunity Announcement Awardee

The Broadband ReConnect Program is a pilot program offering unique federal financing options in the form of grants, loans, and combinations thereof to create or improve rural e-Connectivity for rural customers across America.



20

Entities with Active Awards



\$356,003,695

Amount Awarded



11

Total States and Territories

View Awardees for Each Funding Category

100% Grant for Tribal Governments and Socially Vulnerable Communities

Applicant: Bristol Bay Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Location: Alaska

Total square miles: 26.7

Funded Service Area Households: 269

Award amount: \$34,885,420

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 844 people, 22 businesses and seven public schools to high-speed internet in Bristol Bay Borough, Dillingham Census Area, Lake Borough, and Peninsula Borough in Alaska. Bristol Bay Telephone Cooperative Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program and Lifeline Program. Eligible households receive discounts for broadband services in tribal entities and one-time discounts toward the purchase of a computer or tablet. This project will serve New Stuyahok, Levelock, King Salmon, New Koliganek, Naknek, South Naknek, and Ekwok Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas and the socially vulnerable communities of Dillingham, Lake and Peninsula.

Applicant: Unicom, Inc.

Location: Alaska

Total square miles: 2.5

Funded Service Area Households: 520

Award amount: \$31,039,615

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 2,165 people, 14 businesses and three public schools to high-speed internet in the Bethel Census Area in Alaska. Unicom Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline Program, the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program and the FCC's new Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve the Atmautluak, Nunapitchuk, Kasigluk, Tuntutuliak, Kwethluk and Kwinhagak Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas and the socially vulnerable community of Bethel County.

Applicant: Table Top Telephone Company, Inc.

Location: Arizona

Total square miles: 5.6

Funded Service Area Households: 58

Award amount: \$3,775,276

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 201 people, seven businesses and two farms to high-speed internet in Apache County. Table Top Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by offering 100 megabits per second symmetrical service free for residents that participate in the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline Affordable Connectivity Programs. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Apache County and will serve the Navajo Nation Reservation.

Applicant: San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative

Location: Colorado

Total square miles: 52.1

Funded Service Area Households: 63

Award amount: \$1,998,448

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 129 people, eight businesses, a public school and 20 farms to high-speed internet in Conejos and Alamosa counties. The cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program. It proposes not to charge for routers or modems. This project will serve the socially vulnerable communities in Conejos and Alamosa Counties.

Applicant: Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Location: Montana

Total square miles: 1418.4

Funded Service Area Households: 383

Award amount: \$24,972,692

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,058 people, 25 businesses and 282 farms to high-speed internet in Roosevelt and Valley counties. Nemont will make high-speed internet affordable by offering a suite of broadband services designed to be simple. It will target residents and businesses on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. All services offered will be symmetrical and capable of supporting multiple simultaneous users for many applications, including teleworking and remote learning. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Roosevelt County and on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

Applicant: Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 115

Funded Service Area Households: 249

Award amount: \$3,681,000

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premise network. This network will connect 606 people, eight businesses, 34 farms and two public schools to high-speed internet in Cibola and McKinley counties. Continental will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Emergency Broadband Benefit and Affordable Connectivity Plans. This project will serve the Laguna Pueblo, the Acoma Pueblo, and the Acoma Off-Reservation Trust Land tribal entities as well as socially vulnerable communities in Cibola and McKinley counties.

Applicant: E.N.M.R. Telephone Cooperative

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 73

Funded Service Area Households: 32

Award amount: \$14,797,747

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) network to connect people, businesses and farms to high-speed internet in Chaves, Colfax, De Baca, Guadalupe, Harding, Lincoln, San Miguel, Socorro, Torrance and Union counties. E.N.M.R. will make high-speed internet affordable by offering price plans that match the pricing offered to all other FTTP Cooperative members. All three

plans will include free Wi-Fi service. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Colfax, De Baca, Guadalupe, San Miguel and Socorro counties.

Applicant: Five Area Telephone Cooperative Inc.

Location: Texas

Total square miles: 1408

Funded Service Area Households: 538

Award amount: \$16,606,750

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,402 people, 50 businesses, 712 farms and four public schools to high-speed internet in Bailey, Cochran, Hockley, Lamb and Parmer counties. The Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity and Lifeline Programs, giving residents discounts on their services. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Parmer, Bailey, Cochran and Lamb counties.

100% Grant Awardees

Applicant: AP&T Wireless, Inc.

Location: Alaska

Total square miles: 10.2

Funded Service Area Households: 447

Award amount: \$29,344,717

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,236 people, 45 businesses and a public school to high-speed internet in the Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area in Alaska. AP&T Wireless Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by its planned participation in the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline Program and the Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve the Klawock and Craig Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas and the socially vulnerable community of Prince of Wales-Hyder.

Applicant: Cordova Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Location: Alaska

Total square miles: 5.1

Funded Service Area Households: 489

Award amount: \$21,404,940

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,190 people and 51 businesses to high-speed internet in the Valdez-Cordova Census Area. Cordova Telephone Cooperative Inc. will

make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communication Commission's Lifeline Program and the Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve the Eyak Alaska Native Village Statistical Area.

Applicant: Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc.

Location: Arkansas

Total square miles: 167.8

Funded Service Area Households: 421

Award amount: \$11,915,475

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to connect 986 people, 10 businesses and 145 farms to high-speed internet in Searcy and Van Buren counties. The company will make high-speed internet affordable by offering low-cost starter packages with voice and voice/data. Discounts will be offered to those who participate in the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs.

Applicant: Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Location: Montana

Total square miles: 70.5

Funded Service Area Households: 50

Award amount: \$4,014,840

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network that will connect 89 people, five businesses and 47 farms to high-speed internet in Ravalli County. Blackfoot will make high-speed internet affordable by offering low-cost options at speeds sufficient for multiple users to simultaneously telework and engage in remote learning. Blackfoot will participate in the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs, providing discounts on broadband services.

Applicant: Reservation Telephone Cooperative

Location: North Dakota, Montana

Total square miles: 513.4

Funded Service Area Households: 521

Award amount: \$18,501,541

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 1,151 people, 67 businesses, four public schools and 91 farms in Richland and Wibaux counties in Montana, and in Dunn, McKenzie and

McLean counties in North Dakota. Reservation Telephone Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program. This will give eligible residents a discount of up to \$30 per month. This project will serve the Fort Berthold Reservation Tribal Entity.

Applicant: Uprise LLC

Location: Nevada

Total square miles: 847.7

Funded Service Area Households: 1264

Award amount: \$27,154,596

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 4,884 people, 130 businesses, 22 farms and seven public schools to high-speed internet in Pershing County. Uprise LLC will offer subscribers symmetrical service tiers of 200 megabits per second (Mbps) or one gigabit per second. It plans to apply to participate in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program to enable subscribers to obtain the 200 Mbps symmetrical service for free. This project will serve people in the Lovelock Indian Colony and several socially vulnerable communities in Pershing County.

50/50 Loan/Grant Combo Awardees

Applicant: Central Texas Telephone Cooperative

Location: Texas

Total square miles: 203.5

Funded Service Area Households: 275

Award amount: \$16,606,750

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 647 people, 19 businesses and 151 farms to highspeed internet in Lampasas and San Saba counties. Central Texas will make highspeed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline Program (\$9.25 discount) and the Affordable Connectivity Program (\$30 discount). This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in San Saba County.

Applicant: The Ponderosa Telephone Company

Location: California

Total square miles: 31.4

Funded Service Area Households: 38

Award amount: \$12,932,408

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 115 people, a business and 26 farms to highspeed internet in Fresno County. The company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs, giving the residents a \$30 discount, making the lowest package available for \$0.70. This project will serve Cold Springs Rancheria.

Applicant: Tularosa Basin Telephone Company, Inc.

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 195.4

Funded Service Area Households: 223

Award amount: \$11,650,204

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network. This network will connect 466 people, 28 businesses and 16 farms to highspeed internet in Lincoln and Otero counties. Tularosa will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communication Commission's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs. The discounts provided by these programs will enable qualifying households to receive service as low as \$4.20 per month. This project will serve the Mescalero Reservation and the socially vulnerable community of Otero County.

100% Loan Awardees

Applicant: Midvale Telephone Company

Location: Arizona, Idaho

Total square miles: 724.2

Funded Service Area Households: 228

Award amount: \$10,583,267

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-home network. This network will connect 455 people, 39 businesses and 69 farms to highspeed internet in Elmore, Blaine, Custer and Boise counties in Idaho, and Gila, Graham, Pinal, Cochise and Pima counties in Arizona. This projecct will serve the socially vulnerable communities of Pinal county in Arizona and Elmore in Idaho.

Applicant: The Volcano Telephone Company

Location: California

Total square miles: 18.6

Funded Service Area Households: 2311

Award amount: \$28,251,330

This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Volcano Telephone Company deploy a fiber-to-the premises network. This network will connect 2,311 households, 119 businesses, seven educational facilities and 15 farms in Alpine, Amador, Calaveras and El Dorado counties in California.

Applicant: Penasco Valley Telephone Cooperative

Location: New Mexico

Total square miles: 146

Funded Service Area Households: 1172

Award amount: \$28,927,570

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premise network. This network will connect 2,976 people, 50 businesses, 13 farms and eight public schools to high-speed internet in Chaves, Eddy, Lincoln and Otero counties. This loan will serve socially vulnerable communities in Otero and Eddy counties.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

USDA Invests \$167 Million in High-Speed Broadband in 12 States

ReConnect Funding to Give 100,000 People Access to High-Speed Internet e-Connectivity

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11, 2021 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is investing [\\$167 million in 12 states to deploy broadband infrastructure](#) (PDF, 360 KB) in rural areas without sufficient access to high-speed internet.

“Generations ago, the federal government recognized that without affordable access to electricity, Americans couldn’t fully participate in modern society and the modern economy. Broadband internet is the new electricity. It is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, to participate equally in school learning and health care, and to stay connected,” Secretary Vilsack said. “This is why President Biden’s [American Jobs Plan](#) prioritizes building ‘future-proof’ broadband infrastructure – like the investments we’re announcing today – in areas without sufficient access to broadband, so that we finally reach 100 percent high-speed broadband coverage.”

These investments will benefit rural people in Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Missouri, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Virginia.

For example, as part of today’s announcement:

- Gila Local Exchange Carrier, Inc., which does business as Alluvion Communications, headquartered in Chandler, Ariz., will use a \$14.8 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Arizona. The funded service area includes 5,547 households, 22,645 people, 142 businesses, a school, a health care facility and six farms spread over 59 square miles.
- Central Virginia Services Inc., headquartered in Arrington, Va., will use a \$14.1 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Virginia. The funded service area includes 37 educational facilities, three health care facilities, 14 essential community facilities, 4,139 households, 13,886 people, 193 businesses and 65 farms spread over 65 square miles.
- Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation, headquartered in Lyons, Ga., will use a \$10.6 million loan and a \$10.6 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Georgia. The funded service area includes 6,665 households, 18,789 people, 25 educational facilities, 17 essential community facilities, 10 health care facilities, 573 businesses and 207 farms spread over 246 square miles.

The investments being announced today are part of the [\\$550 million Congress allocated to the second round of the ReConnect Program](#) (PDF, 3.8 MB) as well as other funds made available for the program since 2018. USDA expects to begin inviting applications for a third round of program funds in the coming weeks.

Background:

USDA's [ReConnect Program](#) provides loans and grants to construct, improve or acquire facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas. To learn more about ReConnect Program eligibility, technical assistance and recent announcements, visit www.usda.gov/reconnect.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, Tribal and high-poverty areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov. If you'd like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit our [GovDelivery subscriber page](#).

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

ReConnect Program August 11, 2021

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Loans	Grants	Project Description
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Nushagak Electric & Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$16,783,726	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Alaska. The funded service area includes 944 households, 2,604 people, nine educational facilities, eight essential community facilities, three health care facilities and 223 businesses spread over 49 square miles.
AZ	Kyrsten Sinema, Mark Kelly	Tom O'Halleran (01)	Gila Local Exchange & Carrier Inc.		\$14,888,466	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Arizona. The funded service area includes 5,547 households, 22,645 people, an educational facility, nine essential community facilities, a health care facility, six farms and 142 businesses spread over 59 square miles.
CO	Michael Bennet, John Hickenlooper	Lauren Boebert (03)	Delta-Montrose Electric Association		\$10,595,446	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Colorado. The funded service area includes 2,410 households, 6,877 people, three educational facilities, 89 businesses and 115 farms spread over 126 square miles.
GA	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	Jody Hice (10), Rick Allen (12)	Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation	\$10,592,082	\$10,592,082	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Georgia. The funded service area includes 6,665 households, 18,789 people, 25 educational facilities, 17 essential community facilities, 10 health care facilities, 573 businesses and 207 farms spread over 246 square miles.
ND	Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	Halstad Telephone Company	\$2,380,882	\$2,380,882	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural North Dakota. The funded service area includes 458 households, 1,225 people, 19 businesses and 98 farms spread over 201 square miles.
ND	Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation		\$3,944,111	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural North Dakota. The funded service area includes 209 households, 607 people, 14 businesses and seven farms spread over 11 square miles.
MO	Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley	Vicky Hartzler (04), Blaine Luetkemeyer (03)	Kingdom Telephone Company		\$4,222,260	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Missouri. The funded service area includes 906 households, 2,369 people, an essential community facility, 39 businesses and 107 farms spread over 81 square miles.
MO	Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley	Vicky Hartzler (04)	Gascosage Electric Cooperative		\$701,985	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Missouri. The funded service area includes 163 households, 416 people, and a farm spread over a square mile.

ReConnect Program August 11, 2021

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Loans	Grants	Project Description
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Tom Cole (04), Markwayne Mullin (02)	Texhoma Fiber LLC		\$2,648,931	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Oklahoma. The funded service area includes 353 households, 890 people, three educational facilities, two essential community facilities, two health care facilities, 60 businesses and a farm spread over one square mile.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Tom Cole (04)	Southern Plains Cable LLC	\$2,228,689	\$2,228,689	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises and hybrid-fiber-coax network in rural Oklahoma. The funded service area includes 123 households, 293 people, an essential community facility, seven farms, and five businesses spread over five square miles.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Stephanie Bice (05), Tom Cole (04)	Terral Telephone Company		\$1,854,675	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Oklahoma. The funded service area includes 105 households, 255 people, two educational facilities, three essential community facilities, a health care facility, 11 businesses and 74 farms spread over 132 square miles.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Oklahoma Western Telephone Company		\$23,344,336	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Oklahoma. The funded service area includes 947 households, 2,459 people, an educational facility, two essential community facilities, 17 businesses and 301 farms spread over 297 square miles.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Ralph Norman (05), Joe Wilson (02)	TruVista Communications Inc.		\$3,254,703	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises and hybrid-fiber-coax network in rural South Carolina. The funded service area includes 755 households, 1,881 people, four businesses and 15 farms spread over 23 square miles.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Horry Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$9,833,035	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural South Carolina. The funded service area includes 2,889 households, 7,636 people, 11 educational facilities, three essential community facilities, 41 farms and 80 businesses spread over 184 square miles.
TN	Marsha Blackburn, Bill Hagerty	Scott DesJarlais (04), Mark Green (07)	United Communications Inc.		\$1,768,646	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Tennessee. The funded service area includes 711 households, 1,890 people, 10 farms and four businesses spread over four square miles.

ReConnect Program August 11, 2021

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Loans	Grants	Project Description
TX, OK	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz (TX), James Inhofe, James Lankford (OK)	Louie Gohmert (TX 01), Tom Cole (OK 04)	Tatum Telephone Company		\$4,488,894	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Texas. The funded service area includes 986 households, 2,657 people, three educational facilities, two essential community facilities, a health care facility, 67 businesses and 60 farms spread over 41 square miles.
UT	Mike Lee, Mitt Romney	John Curtis (03), Blake Moore (01)	UBTA-UBET Communications Inc.		\$24,563,757	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Utah. The funded service area includes 3,472 households, 10,501 people, 32 businesses and 39 farms spread over 119 square miles.
VA	Tim Kaine, Mark Warner	Bob Good (05), Abigail Spanberger (07)	Central Virginia Services Inc.		\$14,123,917	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in rural Virginia. The funded service area includes 37 educational facilities, three health care facilities, 14 essential community facilities, 4,139 households, 13,886 people, 193 businesses and 65 farms spread over 65 square miles.
			TOTAL		\$15,201,653	\$152,218,541



ReConnect Program Awardees

100% Loan Awardees

Applicant: Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative

Location: Virginia

Total square miles: 158.30

Funded Service Area Households: 1,254

Award amount: \$3,793,234

This Rural Development investment will provide Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative with the opportunity to use \$3,793,234 received in ReConnect Program loan funding to deploy a fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) broadband network capable of simultaneous transmission rates of 100 megabits per second (Mbps) or greater. The funded service area includes 1,254 households, 4 educational facilities, and 2 critical community facilities spread over 158 square miles.

Applicant: Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Location: Alabama

Total square miles: 34

Funded Service Area Households: 1,676

Award amount: \$1,999,439

This Rural Development investment will provide Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. with the opportunity to use \$1,999,439 received in ReConnect Program loan funding to deploy a fiber-to-the-premise (FTTH) network in Jackson and DeKalb counties in Alabama. The funded service areas include 1,676 households and one educational facility spread over 34 square miles.

Applicant: Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation Inc.

Location: Virginia

Total square miles: 1,847

Funded Service Area Households: 22,604

Award amount: \$48,000,000

This Rural Development investment will provide Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation, Inc. with the opportunity to use \$48,000,000 received in ReConnect Program loan funding to deploy a fiber-to-the-premise (FTTP) buried network to provide up to one gigabit per second to every premise in rural areas of Virginia. The funded service areas include 22,604 households, 19 education facilities, one health care center, and eight critical community facilities spread over 1,847 square miles.