



Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$401 Million for High-Speed Internet Access in Rural Areas

Funding Will Provide High-Speed Internet Access to 31,000 People and Businesses in 11 States with More on the Way from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the Department [is investing \\$401 million to provide access to high-speed internet](#) for 31,000 rural residents and businesses in 11 states, part of the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to investing in rural infrastructure and affordable high-speed internet for all. This announcement includes a group of investments from the [ReConnect Program](#), and an award funded through USDA's [Telecommunications Infrastructure Loan and Loan Guarantee](#) program.

The Department will make additional investments for rural high-speed internet later this summer, including ReConnect Program 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.

"Connectivity is critical to economic success in rural America," Vilsack said. "The internet is vital to our growth and continues to act as a catalyst for our prosperity. From the farm to the school, from households to international markets, connectivity drives positive change in our communities. The investments I am announcing today will help 31,000 people and businesses in large and diverse regions across the country access new and critical opportunities. Under the leadership of President Biden and Vice President Harris, USDA knows rural America is America's backbone, and prosperity here means prosperity for all."

USDA is supporting high-speed internet investments in Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota and Texas through today's announcement. Several awards will help rural people and businesses on Tribal lands and those in socially vulnerable communities.

As part of today's announcement:

- Uprise LLC is receiving a \$27.1 million grant to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network in Pershing County, Nevada. It will connect 4,884 people, 130 businesses, 22 farms, and seven public schools to high-speed internet. 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 (FCC) 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.

- The Midvale Telephone Company is receiving a \$10.6 million loan to deploy a fiber-to-the-home network. It will connect 455 people, 39 businesses and 69 farms to high-speed internet in Elmore, Blaine, Custer and Boise counties in Idaho, and in Gila, Graham, Pinal, Cochise and Pima counties in Arizona. This loan will serve people in socially vulnerable communities in Pinal County in Arizona and Elmore County in Idaho.
- The Arkansas Telephone Company Inc. is receiving a \$12 million grant 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 offer low-cost starter packages with voice and voice/data. Discounts will be available to participants of the FCC's Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs.

Background: ReConnect Program

To be eligible for ReConnect Program funding, an applicant must serve an area where high-speed internet service speeds are lower than 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 at 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 make full use of 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.

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**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**USDA Rural Development
ReConnect Round 3 Awards and
Telecommunications Loans
July 28, 2022**

State	Senators	Representative	Recipient	Loan	Grant	Project Description
ReConnect Program Loans and Grants						
AK	Lisa Murkowski Dan Sullivan	Vacant	Bristol Bay Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$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.
AK	Lisa Murkowski Dan Sullivan	Vacant	AP&T Wireless Inc.		\$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.
AK	Lisa Murkowski Dan Sullivan	Vacant	Unicom Inc.		\$31,039,614	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.
AK	Lisa Murkowski Dan Sullivan	Vacant	Cordova Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$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.



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AR	John Boozman, Tom Cotton	Rick Crawford (01) French Hill (02)	Arkansas Telephone Company Inc.		\$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.
AZ	Mark Kelly Kyrsten Sinema	Tom O'Halleran (01)	Table Top Telephone Company Inc.		\$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.
AZ ID	Mark Kelly (AZ) Kyrsten Sinema (AZ) Mike Crapo (ID) James Risch (ID)	Paul Gosar (AZ 04) Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ 02) Russ Fulcher (ID 01) Mike Simpson (ID 02)	Midvale Telephone Company	\$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 high-speed internet in Elmore, Blaine, Custer and Boise counties in Idaho, and Gila, Graham, Pinal, Cochise and Pima counties in Arizona. This project will serve the socially vulnerable communities of Pinal county in Arizona and Elmore in Idaho.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Alex Padilla	Tom McClintock (04)	The Volcano Telephone Company	\$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.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Alex Padilla	Tom McClintock (04)	The Ponderosa Telephone Company	\$6,466,204	\$6,466,204	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 high-speed 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.
CO	Michael Bennet, John Hickenlooper	Lauren Boebert (03)	San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative		\$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.



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MT	Steve Daines Jon Tester	Matt Rosendale (At Large)	Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$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.
MT	Steve Daines Jon Tester	Matt Rosendale (At Large)	Nemont Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$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.
ND MT	John Hoeven (ND) Kevin Cramer (ND) Steve Daines (MT) Jon Tester (MT)	Kelly Armstrong (ND At Large) Matt Rosendale (MT At Large)	Reservation Telephone Cooperative		\$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.
NM	Ben Ray Lujan Martin Heinrich	Teresa Leger Fernandez (03) Yvette Herrell (02)	Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.		\$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.
NM	Martin Heinrich Ben Ray Lujan	Melanie Ann Stansbury (01) Teresa Leger Fernandez (03) Yvette Herrell (02)	E.N.M.R. Telephone Cooperative		\$14,749,747	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.



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NM	Martin Heinrich Ben Ray Lujan	Yvette Herrell (02)	Penasco Valley Telephone Cooperative	\$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.
NM	Martin Heinrich Ben Ray Lujan	Yvette Herrell (02)	Tularosa Basin Telephone Company Inc.	\$5,825,102	\$5,825,102	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 high-speed 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.
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto Jacky Rosen	Mark Amodei (02)	Uprise LLC		\$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.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	August Pluger (11) Roger Williams (25)	Central Texas Telephone Cooperative Inc.	\$9,806,930	\$9,806,930	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 high-speed internet in Lampasas and San Saba counties. Central Texas will make high-speed 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.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	Jodey Arrington (19)	Five Area Telephone Cooperative Inc.		\$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.
Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Guarantees						



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AZ NM	Mark Kelly (AZ) Kyrsten Sinema (AZ) Ben Ray Lujan (NM) Martin Heinrich (NM)	Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ 02) Yvette Herrell (NM 02)	Valley Telephone Cooperative	\$44,924,000		This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade the system's 13 exchanges in southeast Arizona and southwest New Mexico by replacing copper wire-based equipment with fiber-to-the-premises equipment. A total of 1,317 miles of buried fiber-optic cable will be laid and 2,755 optical network terminals will be installed along with optical line terminals, fiber panels, fiber distribution mainframes, and other upgraded equipment. This will result in improved broadband service that is capable of providing both upload and download data rates of up to one gigabit per second for every subscriber simultaneously, in addition to enhanced voice services.
			SUBTOTAL:	\$134,784,403	\$266,143,292	
			TOTAL:	\$400,927,495		



USDA Invests \$5.2 Billion to Build and Improve Critical Rural Infrastructure in 46 States and Puerto Rico

Funding Will Expand Access to High-Speed Internet, Clean Water and Dependable Electric Power in People's Homes and Businesses in Rural America

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16, 2021 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that [USDA is investing \\$5.2 billion to build and improve critical rural infrastructure in 46 states and Puerto Rico](#) (PDF, 279 KB). The investments reflect the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to Building a Better America by investing in rural communities and will help expand access to high-speed internet, clean water and reliable electricity in people's homes and businesses across rural America.

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Infrastructure News Release
December 16, 2021

State	Representatives	Recipient	Loans	Grants
Telecomm Loans				
CA	Tom McClintock (04)	The Ponderosa Telephone Co.	\$17,225,000	
CA	Tom McClintock (04)	Sierra Telephone Company Inc.	\$40,228,000	
NM	Yvette Herrell (02)	Mescalero Apache Telecom Inc.	\$9,020,000	
IN	Jim Baird (04)	Geetingsville Tele Co Inc.	\$4,631,000	
		Loan Total:	\$71,104,000	

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Trump Administration Invests \$86 Million in Rural Broadband Service in Eight States

Projects will Expand Business, Economic Development and Educational Opportunities

WASHINGTON, June 24, 2020 – The Trump Administration today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture ([USDA](#)) is investing \$86 million in rural broadband service (PDF, 110 KB) for 17,000 people and businesses in eight states.

“Access to high-speed broadband internet, or e-Connectivity, is a cornerstone of prosperity anywhere, but especially in America’s rural communities,” said USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Bette Brand. “Under the leadership of President Trump and Agriculture Secretary Perdue, USDA is committed to using all available tools and resources to increase e-Connectivity across rural America because we know when rural America thrives, all of America thrives.”

USDA is providing loans to six telecommunications providers to build, expand and improve broadband services in Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin. Below are examples of projects that USDA is funding through the [Telecommunications Infrastructure Loan and Loan Guarantee Program](#):

- The Ardmore Telephone Company Inc. is receiving a \$20 million loan to install 435 miles of Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) in Ardmore, New Market and Elkmont, Ala.; and in Minor Hill and McBurg in Tennessee.
- The Pulaski-White Rural Telephone Cooperative is receiving a \$19 million loan to install 355 miles of Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) technology in the Buffalo and Star City exchanges in Indiana.
- In Wisconsin, the Chibardun Telephone Cooperative Inc. is receiving a \$10 million loan to install 328.5 miles of Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) to serve the rural areas of the Prairie Farm and Sand Creek exchanges.

Since October 2019, USDA has invested \$744 million to bring high-speed broadband e-Connectivity to 172,000 households, 19,000 rural small businesses and farms, and more than 500 health care centers, educational facilities and critical community facilities in 34 states.

The [Telecommunications Infrastructure Loan and Loan Guarantee Program](#) is one of several [USDA rural broadband programs](#). On April 20, 2020, USDA announced the department has received 172 applications for \$1.57 billion in round two of the [ReConnect Pilot Program](#). The second round will enable USDA to implement innovative new solutions to rural connectivity by leveraging financial options with our partners and continuing the success of the first round of funding. The application window for round two closed on April 15.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs 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 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](#).



Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans

June 24, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Loans	Project Description
AR and TX	John Boozman, Tom Cotton (AR), John Cornyn, Ted Cruz (TX)	Bruce Westerman (AR-04) John Ratcliffe (TX-04)	Southwest Arkansas Telephone Cooperative	\$10,412,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade portions of the network to 100 percent Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH). The improvements will provide subscribers in Fouke, Ark., and Garland, Ark., access to higher-speed (up to 1 gigabit symmetrical) broadband service as well as improved voice and video services. Southwest Arkansas expects to serve 4,612 subscribers.
IA	Joni Ernst, Charles Grassley	David Loebsack (02)	Sharon Telephone Company	\$5,864,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to improve a two-exchange telecommunications system that services southeastern Iowa. Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) facilities will be deployed to serve constituents in Frytown, Hills and the surrounding area. Active ethernet optical line terminals will be installed at each central office to provide direct connections to the new FTTP subscribers. Additional optical multiplexers and transport electronics will be added to provide redundancy for the interoffice routes and to connect to the statewide Aureon network. A total of 189 miles of fiber-optic plant will be constructed. The system will serve approximately 1,000 subscribers.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	John Shimkus (15)	Montrose Mutual Telephone Company	\$20,860,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to convert a legacy copper system to a Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) network. Montrose Mutual Telephone Company expects to serve 1,497 customers composed of 246 voice, 590 FTTP internet, and 661 voice/FTTP internet subscribers over a platform that will be capable of delivering downstream/upstream speeds of 1Gb/1Gb.
IN	Mike Braun, Todd Young	Jackie Walorski (02)	Pulaski-White Rural Telephone Cooperative	\$19,001,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to retire all copper-based facilities within the Buffalo and Star City exchanges and replace the copper with Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) technology. Pulaski plans to construct 355 miles of fiber. The improvements will sustain customer demand.
AL and TN	Richard Shelby Doug Jones (AL), Lamar Alexander Marsha Blackburn (TN)	Mo Brooks (AL-05), Scott DesJarlais (TN-04), Mark Green (TN-07)	Ardmore Telephone Company Inc.	\$20,337,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to install 435 miles of Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) in Ardmore, New Market and Elkmont, Ala.; and in Minor Hill and McBurg in Tennessee.
WI	Tammy Baldwin, Ron Johnson	Ron Kind (03), Tom Tiffany (07)	Chibardun Telephone Cooperative Inc.	\$10,217,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to improve and expand the plant. This loan will extend Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) to the rural areas of the Prairie Farm and Sand Creek exchanges, making them 100 percent FTTP. Chibardun Telephone Cooperative proposes to construct 328.5 miles of FTTP and install all associated electronics. The improvements will sustain customer demand in broadband connectivity.
			TOTAL	\$86,691,000	

**USDA Rural Development
Telecommunications Loans and Community Connect Grants
Aug. 1, 2018**

State	Rep.	Sen.	Recipient	Loans	Grants	Project Description
Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans						
AZ	Tom O'Halleran (01)	John McCain, Jeff Flake	Hopi Telecommunications Incorporated	\$5,820,000		This Rural Development investment will be used to construct fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) systems in the Keams Canyon, Kykotsmovi and Polacca exchanges and make additional system improvements. It is expected that approximately 650 customers will be placed on the FTTP system. Customers who remain on the copper system or wireless system will all be able to access speeds of at least 10 megabits per second (Mbps) upload and 1 Mbps download.
IA	Rod Blum (01)	Chuck Grassley, Joni Ernst	Andrew Telephone Company, Incorporated	\$2,748,000		This Rural Development investment will help construct a full fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) system. The company will replace all of its copper loops with fiber-optic lines. It will deploy 71 route miles of buried and underground fiber optic facilities, and install new, active FTTP electronics in the Andrew central office. Approximately 230 residential and business subscribers in and around the town of Andrew will benefit from enhanced services such as internet protocol television and higher-speed broadband internet. The applicant's contribution will go toward outside plant construction.
MN	Collin C. Peterson (07)	Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith	Garden Valley Telephone Company	\$20,360,000		This Rural Development investment will be used to make system improvements in Polk, Clearwater, Pennington, Marshall and Red Lake counties, and in the vacation resort areas of Maple Lake and Union Lake. The borrower proposes to construct 295.1 miles of fiber-optic facilities and construct fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) facilities. These improvements will enable Garden Valley to enhance services and provide voice, video and higher broadband speeds for subscribers.
MO	Sam Graves (06)	Roy Blunt, Claire McCaskill	Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company	\$13,659,000		This Rural Development investment will be used to convert six exchanges from copper plant to fiber-to-the-premises. Nearly 500 route miles of fiber plant will be constructed. Northeast Missouri expects to improve service to 1,063 subscribers.
NV	Mark Amodei (02)	Catherine Cortez-Masto, Dean Heller	Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc.	\$6,944,000		This Rural Development investment will be used to expand Lincoln County's fixed-wireless broadband system, establish a fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) network in a greenfield development, upgrade segments of a FTTP network, upgrade segments of a legacy copper network, convert portions of a legacy copper network to FTTP and make other system improvements to serve 2,038 access lines.
SD	Kristi Noem (At Large)	Mike Rounds, John Thune	RC Technologies	\$17,000,000		This Rural Development investment will provide voice, video and data services to more than 1,300 households, businesses and key community organizations. These services will create the potential for business growth, increased employment, better public services and public safety, and a higher quality of life for subscribers in Roberts and Marshall counties in South Dakota, and Richland County in North Dakota.

USDA Rural Development
Telecommunications Loans and Community Connect Grants
Aug. 1, 2018

State	Rep.	Sen.	Recipient	Loans	Grants	Project Description
WI	Sean P. Duffy (07)	Ron Johnson, Tammy Baldwin	Chibardun Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	\$21,438,000		This Rural Development investment will be used to expand plants in four (Almena, Cameron, Dallas and Ridgeland) of Chibardun's six exchanges. The company will construct 675 miles of fiber-to-the-premises and install associated electronics. It plans to build a fiber-to-the-home network capable of sustaining customer demands in broadband connectivity for the foreseeable future. Chibardun serves Barron and Dunn counties. Approximately 2,700 subscribers will receive improved service as a result of this loan.
Community Connect Grants						
ID	Raul Labrador (01)	Michael Crapo, Jim Risch	Inland Cellular, LLC		\$389,589	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement a fixed wireless LTE network in the 3.65 GHz spectrum to provide service in Pierce, in Clearwater County. A 6 GHz licensed microwave link will be placed to connect to Inland Cellular's network. The system will cover 266 households and 34 businesses, providing service offerings of up to 15 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 3 Mbps upload. A community center with six computer access points and Wi-Fi will be established. Free service will be offered to the Pierce City Hall, Pierce Library and the Idaho Youth Challenge Academy. Through this investment, residents and businesses in this unserved rural area will gain access to the economic, educational, health care and public safety opportunities that high-quality broadband access provides.
MD and VA	John Delaney (MD 6); Gerald Connolly (VA 11)	Ben Cardin, Chris Van Hollen (MD); Mark Warner, Tim Kaine (VA)	Declaration Networks Group, Inc.		\$2,374,598	This Rural Development investment will be used to construct a fixed wireless network in Garrett County, Md. The equipment will operate in the 5 GHz and TV white space frequency bands, providing service offerings of up to 20 Megabits per second (Mbps) download and 10 Mbps upload to the 1,319 households and 96 businesses within the proposed service area. A community center will be co-located in a Garrett County Community Action Committee facility, where residents will be able to access computer terminals and Wi-Fi internet access free of charge for at least two years. Through this grant, this unserved area will receive access to high-quality broadband internet service. It will also help promote economic development and improve access to educational, health care and public safety services.
OK	Jim Bridenstine (01)	James Lankford, James Inhofe	Osage Innovative Solutions, LLC		\$2,724,000	The Rural Development investment will be used to construct a hybrid fiber-to-the-premises and fixed wireless system to an unserved portion of the Osage Nation in Osage County. The awardee will offer speeds at up to 100 megabits per second to 139 households and 22 businesses in an economically depressed portion of the Osage Nation. This project will provide customers with access to high-quality telecommunications services that will help provide improved economic, educational and health care opportunities. It also will provide a community center where residents can access the internet free of charge.

**USDA Rural Development
Telecommunications Loans and Community Connect Grants
Aug. 1, 2018**

State	Rep.	Sen.	Recipient	Loans	Grants	Project Description
OK	Markwayne Mullin (02)	James Lankford, James Inhofe	Cherokee Telephone Company		\$2,507,984	This Rural Development investment will be used to build a fiber route to an unserved area in Pushmataha County to construct a communications tower and to deploy a fixed wireless system operating in both the 900 MHz and 5 GHz unlicensed bands. This project will provide service of at least 10 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 1 Mbps upload for the 66 households within the service area. A community center will also be established where residents can access the internet free of charge for at least two years.
WY	Liz Cheney (At Large)	Michael Enzi, John Barrasso	Millennium Networks, LLC		\$1,309,394	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide broadband access to a 143 households and 44 businesses in Buffalo Valley in rural, western Wyoming. This area encompasses approximately 4,030 acres. The community will benefit from broadband speeds ranging from a minimum of 10 megabits per second (Mbps) up to 1 gigabyte per second. Creating a high-speed, reliable broadband network will provide unrestricted access to educational and medical services and economic opportunities. This will contribute to a higher quality of life and improve the health, safety, educational and economic opportunities of the entire community. A community center will be provided where residents can access the internet free of charge for at least two years.
TOTAL				\$87,969,000	\$9,305,565	

USDA Telecommunications Loans – October 22, 2014

Community Connect Grants			
State	Recipient	Amount	Purpose
KY	Crystal Broadband Networks, Inc.	\$702,220	To provide high-speed Internet service in Breathitt County.
KY and IN	Q-Wireless, LLC	\$715,080	To provide high-speed broadband service in the Rosine, Ky., area.
LA	Nexus Systems, Inc.	\$2,520,874	To provide high-speed broadband service in the Powhatan, La., area.
ND	BEK Communications Cooperative	\$2,136,045	To establish a fiber-to-the-premises network that will provide broadband service in northeast Morton County and southeast Oliver County.
ND	Daktel Communication, LLC	\$2,370,354	To establish a fiber-to-the-home network that will provide broadband service in an unserved rural area of Stutsman County.
OK	Valliant Telephone Company	\$470,000	To provide wireless Internet service in McCurtain County.
TN and KY	North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	\$1,771,035	To replace the copper equipment in its plant with fiber-to-the-premises fixtures.
VA	Scott Telephone Cooperative	\$3,000,000	To establish a broadband network in Caney Ridge and the surrounding area in Dickenson County, Va.
	TOTAL: 8 Projects	\$13,685,608	

Public Television Digital Transition Grants			
State	Recipient	Amount	Purpose
KY	Kentucky Authority for Educational Television	\$299,050	To replace 14 analog microwave radio transmitters with digital radio transmitters.
NM	Albuquerque Public Schools	\$65,000	To replace analog equipment with a low-power digital translator.
PR	Sistema Universitario Ana G. Mendez, Inc.	\$453,862	To replace analog microwave radio transmitters with digital radio transmitters.
SD	South Dakota Bureau of Information and Telecommunications dba South Dakota Public Broadcasting	\$84,676	To restore broadcast coverage in Custer County by replacing its 300-watt translator with a 1-kilowatt translator and its analog antenna with a cardioid one.
VI	Virgin Island Public Television System	\$750,000	To replace and consolidate analog mobile production and satellite equipment with a digital high-definition video unit.
WV	West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority	\$750,000	To convert the analog production equipment in the studio to high-definition digital equipment.
	TOTAL: 6 Projects	\$2,402,588	

USDA Telecommunications Loans – October 22, 2014

Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans			
State	Recipient	Amount	Purpose
AR	Arkwest Communications, Inc.	\$24,015,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-home network that will provide nearly 4,000 customers with voice, broadband and internet television services, and make other system improvements.
GA	Pineland Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	\$16,498,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-premises network to deliver broadband to customers and make other system improvements.
IA	South Slope Cooperative Telephone Company	\$14,690,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-premises network and make other system improvements.
KY	Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company, Inc.	\$9,595,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-premises network and retire its copper-based fixtures.
MO	Miller Telephone Company	\$8,425,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-premises network and make other system improvements.
OK	Atlas Telephone Company, Inc.	\$5,064,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-home network to deliver broadband to customers and make other system improvements.
SC	Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	\$23,898,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-premises network and make other system improvements.
TN	Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corporation	\$29,753,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-premises network and make other system improvements.
TX and OK	Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative	\$10,303,000	To complete the co-op's fiber-to-the-premises network in Texas and make other system improvements.
UT and ID	Direct Communications Cedar Valley, LLC	\$7,695,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-home network that will provide customers with voice, broadband and streaming video services, and make other system improvements.
WA	Mashell Telecom, Inc. (dba Rainier Connect)	\$24,483,000	To establish a fiber-to-the-premises network and make other system updates to improve broadband delivery for customers.
	TOTAL: 11 Projects	\$174,419,000	
	GRAND TOTAL: 25 Projects	\$190,507,196	