

Exhibit A: Project Description and Scope of Work

CNMI Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program Subgrant Agreement

Field	Detail
Agreement Effective Date	[Date]
BPD Subgrant Award Identifier	[BPD Assigned ID]
Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN)	[FAIN for CNMI BEAD Award - See Attachment 1]

1. Project Overview

Field	Detail
Project Name/Identifier	[Unique Name or Identifier for this Specific Project]
Subgrantee	[Full Legal Name of Subgrantee]
Project Funding Area (PFA) Identifier(s)	[Insert Unique Identifier(s) for the PFA(s) covered by this subgrant]

Brief Project Summary: This deployment project was provisionally selected through the CNMI BPD's competitive Subgrantee Selection Process (SGS), specifically the **Benefit of the Bargain (BOTB) Round**. The project aligns with the goals of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the BEAD NOFO, and the objectives outlined in the NTIA-approved **CNMI BEAD Final Proposal**. The objective is to achieve **universal, high-speed fixed broadband service** across the designated Project Funding Area(s).

The Subgrantee was provisionally selected by demonstrating the **Minimal BEAD Program Outlay** among all qualifying Priority Broadband Projects (PBPs) for the PFA. The funding for this Subgrant is delivered via a **Fixed Amount Subaward** contingent upon the satisfactory completion of verifiable milestones. The total estimated deployment cost for this project includes a **required minimum 25% Non-Federal Match commitment** from the Subgrantee.

2. Project Funding Area (PFA) Definition

The boundaries of PFA [Identifier(s)] are defined according to the CNMI BPD's established methodology using Tract grouping from the NTIA Subgrant Selection Tool.

- **Total Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) Served:** [Total Number].
- **Unserved Locations (Subscribed Speeds < 25/3 Mbps):** [Number].
- **Underserved Locations (Speeds < 100/20 Mbps):** [Number].
- **Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) Served:** [Number].

(Note: For the CNMI BEAD Program, all unserved and underserved BSLs, including CAIs, are being served via the primary deployment awards in alignment with the BEAD prioritization framework.)

3. Service Obligation and Deployment Requirements

The Subgrantee must deploy, operate, and maintain the network within the PFA according to the following performance and statutory requirements:

Requirement	Standard/Obligation	Source/Reference
Minimum Required Speed (BSLs)	Not less than 100 Mbps Download and 20 Mbps Upload , with latency $\leq 100 \text{ ms}$.	IIJA / Performance Measures Policy Notice
CAI Service Requirement	Service must be delivered at 1 Gigabit per second symmetrical (upload/download).	IIJA
Deployment Deadline	The Subgrantee must deploy the planned network and begin providing services to all customers that desire service within the project area not later than four (4) years after the date the subgrant is received.	IIJA / 47 U.S.C. § 1702(h)(4)(C)
Low-Cost Service Option (LCSO)	The Subgrantee is required to offer the LCSO proposed by the Subgrantee for the duration of the 10-year Federal Interest Period .	IIJA / RPN
Installation Fees	The Subgrantee is prohibited from charging fees for the extension of the network (drop costs) or requiring property modifications in connection with installation.	IIJA

4. Scope of Work and Technical Standards

The Subgrantee commits to undertaking the specific project activities detailed in the approved final application and network design. This work must adhere to the following technical and compliance mandates:

A. Network Design & Certification:

- The deployment must strictly adhere to the final Network Design, Diagram, Project Costs, Build-Out Timeline, and Capital Investment Schedule submitted by the Subgrantee. The **Network Design, Diagram, Project Costs, Build-Out Timeline, and Milestones** must be certified by a Professional Engineer (PE), stating that the proposed network can deliver the requisite performance and meet technical capability requirements. The **PE is expressly waived from the requirement to certify the Capital Investment Schedule itself.**
- The design must demonstrate the network's capability to deliver the requisite performance and meet technical capability requirements.
- For any project involving laying fiber optic cables or conduit underground or along a roadway, the design must include **interspersed conduit access points at regular and short intervals.**

B. Resilience and PBP Standards:

- The project is certified as a **Priority Broadband Project (PBP)** and must adhere to the CNMI's PBP Checklist requirements, incorporating best practices for ensuring **reliability and resilience** of the broadband infrastructure.
- The Subgrantee must provide **Detailed documentation** demonstrating that the design and construction incorporate **climate-resilient practices** (e.g., **underground construction methods**) suitable for the CNMI environment (typhoons, flooding, extreme winds).
- The Subgrantee must establish **risk management plans** that account for reliability and resilience from **natural disasters.**

C. Permitting, EHP, and Construction Practices:

- The Subgrantee must proactively utilize the CNMI's **One-Start Permitting Process** and cooperate with BPD's EHP Permitting Liaison and/or **EHP Permitting Firm.**
- The Subgrantee is prohibited from commencing construction (site preparation, demolition, ground disturbance, fixed installation, or any other implementation activities) until BPD issues the **Notice to Proceed with Construction (NTPC)**, signifying completion of all EHP requirements.

D. Risk Management and Federal Compliance:

- The Subgrantee must comply with the approved **Cybersecurity Risk Management Plan** (aligned with **NIST Framework v1.1** and **E.O. 14028**) and **Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) Plan** (aligned with **NISTIR 8276** and **NIST SP 800-161**), which must be operational and periodically reevaluated.
- The Subgrantee must ensure all materials comply with the **Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act.**

- The Subgrantee must **certify compliance with existing federal labor and employment laws** and permit workers to form **worker-led health and safety committees**.
- The Subgrantee must disclose **all broadband deployment projects undertaken using public funds** for itself and its affiliates.

5. Incorporated Documents

The following documents are incorporated into this Agreement by reference and define the full scope of the Project:

- The Subgrantee's Final Application Proposal, including the certified network designs, diagrams, and business plans (pro forma statements) substantiating **project sustainability**.
- Exhibit B: Source of Funds Schedule (documenting the commitment to the minimum 25% non-Federal Match).
- Exhibit C: Evidentiary Materials List (including all pre-NTPC documentation).
- Exhibit S: Subgrant Milestones and Disbursement Schedule (defining fixed-amount subaward payments).
- Exhibit K: Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management Attestation.