APPENDIX G

Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act Amended Programmatic Agreement

1	FIRST AMENDMENT TO
2	PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
3	BY AND AMONG THE
4	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL UTILITIES
5	SERVICE,
6	UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
7	AND
8	NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
9	AND
10	ALASKA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
11	REGARDING THE
12	AU-ALEUTIAN FIBER-OPTIC PROJECT, ALASKA
13 14 15 16 17 18	WHEREAS, the original Agreement was executed on July 13, 2021 to establish the process by which the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), acting as lead federal agency on behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District (the Corps) pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(a)(2) would the take into account the effects of its grant to Unicom Incorporated (Unicom) under the ReConnect Program for Unicom's AU-Aleutians Fiber-Optic Project "Unicom Project" on historic properties; and
19	WHEREAS, Unicom joined the Agreement as an Invited Signatory; and
20 21 22 23 24 25	WHEREAS, in 2023, the Native Village of Port Lions (NVPL), obtained funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP) to bring broadband to six communities (Port Lions, Ouzinkie, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Cold Bay, and False Pass) by connecting to AU-Aleutian project infrastructure (AU-A II Project), with GCI Communication Corp. (GCICC), as the subrecipient; and
26 27 28	WHEREAS, Unicom, Inc. plans to also bring broadband to Perryville by connecting to AU-Aleutian project infrastructure (Perryville Project), for which a the Corps permit will be required; and
29 30	WHEREAS, Unicom, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of GCICC (together with Unicom, Inc., "Unicom"); and

- 31 WHEREAS, on October 24, 2023, consistent with the Agreement's Section X Amendment
- 32 provisions, NTIA sent a request to RUS to be added as a signatory to this PA due to the
- 33 interdependent relationship of Unicom's NTIA funded service to the "Unicom Project" funded by
- 34 RUS; and
- WHEREAS, on October 25, 2023, RUS approved the request from NTIA to become a signatory
 to the PA; and
- WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to amend the Agreement to add NTIA as a signatory and to apply the Stipulations of the Agreement to the expanded Unicom Project limits; and
- 39 **WHEREAS,** a cultural resource report completed for the AU-A II Project and the Perryville 40 project identified that further identification and/or monitoring as set forth in the PA would be 41 appropriate; and
- 42 **WHEREAS**, the Agreement established the proposed project's area of potential effects (APE) for 43 marine, intertidal, and terrestrial construction activities based on specific offsets of proposed 44 project alignments, and these offsets have been applied to the expanded Unicom Project limits
- 45 (Attachment B); and
- 46 WHEREAS, as of January 2024, the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) database¹
- lists 95 cultural properties located within or which intersect the APE; of these properties, 11 have
 been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), two are
- 49 National Historic Landmarks (NHL), three are contributing properties to the NHL, four have been
- determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP, and the remaining 75 properties have not been
- 51 evaluated for their eligibility for listing in the NRHP; and
- 52 WHEREAS, for the purposes of Section 106 compliance, NTIA and RUS agree to treat any of
- 53 the AHRS sites in the APE listed in the preceding recital which have not been formally evaluated
- 54 for their NRHP eligibility as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP; and
- 55 WHEREAS, in addition to all of the initial consulting parties to the original PA, the following
- ⁵⁶ additional Indian Tribes and Consulting Parties have been included in the consultation regarding
- 57 this proposed amendment: Native Village of Chignik Lagoon, Native Village of Chignik Lake, Native
- 58 Village of False Pass, Native Village of Ouzinkie, Native Village of Port Lions, Chignik Lagoon Native
- 59 Corp, Inc., Ouzinkie Native Corporation, City of Cold Bay, City of False Pass, City of Ouzinkie, and the
- 60 City of Port Lions; and
- 61 WHEREAS, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.14(b)(1)(ii), NTIA and RUS agree that amending
- 62 the agreement is appropriate for this undertaking because effects on historic properties cannot be
- 63 fully determined prior to the obligation of funding for the Project; and

¹ The AHRS database is maintained by the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology, and includes buildings, objects, structures, archaeological and historic sites, districts, shipwrecks, travel ways, traditional cultural properties, landscapes, and other places of cultural importance.

- 64 **WHEREAS**, NTIA and RUS agree that the proposed project may have an adverse effect on 65 historic properties² within the APE; and
- 66 **WHEREAS,** RUS will send a copy of this executed amendment to the Advisory Council on 67 Historic Preservation (ACHP); and
- NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with Stipulation X, RUS, NTIA, the Corps, SHPO, and
 Unicom (collectively "the Signatories"), agree to amend the Agreement as follows:
- 70 1. Amend Stipulation II.D so it reads as follows:
- RUS, NTIA, the Corps, and SHPO shall enforce the terms of this PA within each agency's scope and shall incorporate this PA and its terms into any decision document, permit, or authorization they issue. Each agency shall notify the others within 20 days if any of them becomes aware of an instance of possible non-compliance with the terms and conditions of this PA, or permit conditions as they relate to this PA. In such cases, RUS, as the lead federal agency, shall ensure that compliance is consistent with its legal authorities and will consult with the other PA Signatories, as needed.
- 78 2. Amend Stipulation II.K so it reads as follows:
- 80 In the event that another federal agency, not initially a party to this PA, receives an application for funding/license/permit for the Project as described in this PA, that agency 81 may fulfill its Section 106 responsibilities by stating in writing that it concurs with the 82 terms of this PA and notifying the Signatories that it intends to do so. Such agreement shall 83 be evidenced by execution of a Signature Page and filing with the ACHP, and 84 implementation of the terms of this PA. In the event another federal agency becomes a 85 signatory, RUS may delegate distribution responsibilities of reports, notices, or other 86 activities outlined in this PA to that agency. 87
- 88 89

- 3. Amend Stipulation III.B so it reads as follows:
- RUS, NTIA, the Corps, and SHPO shall consult annually to ensure that each agency
 independently satisfies its respective regulatory requirements under 36 CFR 800. If any PA
 Signatory does not comply with the PA stipulations, RUS shall implement the procedures
 outlined in Stipulation VI: Dispute Resolution.
- 94 4. Amend Stipulation V.A so it reads as follows:
- Unicom will retain the services of a marine archaeologist meeting the criteria listed in
 Stipulation I. *Standards* who will conduct an evaluation of subsea mapping and
 geophysical remote-sensing survey for potential historic submerged cultural resources.
 Unicom will submit to RUS a report detailing the findings of this evaluation and any

² The term "historic properties" is consistent with 36 CFR 800.16(l)(1) and is defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties, and includes properties of traditional religious or cultural importance to Tribes or other entities, and that meet the NRHP criteria.

- 99 necessary documentation demonstrating how Unicom has modified the proposed marine FOC alignment to avoid identified cultural resources no later than 60 days prior to the 100 commencement of marine construction activities. 101
- 103 5. Amend Stipulation V.B so it reads as follows:

- Unicom will retain qualified consultants to conduct archaeological monitoring during all 104 intertidal and terrestrial construction activities associated with the Project in Larsen Bay, 105 Chignik, Sand Point, King Cove, Akutan, Unalaska, Ouzinkie, Port Lions, , Chignik 106 107 Lagoon, Chignik Lake, , Perryville, , Cold Bay, and False Pass,, unless otherwise agreed 108 to in advance under Stipulation V.C below.
- 109 6. Amend Stipulation V.C to add NTIA as an equal participant in all review and approval activities established by the Agreement by replacing "RUS and SHPO" with "RUS, NTIA, 110 111 and SHPO" throughout the Stipulation.
- 113 7. Amend Stipulation XII.A so it reads as follows:
- Unless otherwise amended or terminated in accordance with Stipulation X or XI, this PA 114 115 will expire 7 years from the date of Execution (as amended).
- 8. Appendices attached to this amendment shall supersede any version of conflicting 116 appendices attached to the original PA. 117
- **EXECUTION** of this PA by RUS, NTIA, the Corps, SHPO, and implementation of its terms, 118
- 119 evidences that RUS has taken into account the effects of this Undertaking on historic properties
- and afforded the ACHP an opportunity to comment. 120

113	SIGNATURE PAGES – SIGNATORIES
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115	FIRST AMENDMENT TO
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117	BY AND AMONG THE
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119	U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
120	NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION AND
121	ALASKA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
122	REGARDING THE
123	AU-ALEUTIAN FIBER-OPTIC PROJECT, ALASKA
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129	By: JOSEPH RANSON Digitally signed by JOSEPH RANSON Date: 2024.06.03 07:23:47 -05'00'
130	Joseph Ranson Director, Director, Environmental and Historic Preservation Division
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	First Amendment to the AU-Aleutian Section 106 Programmatic Agreement NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION Version 4.2 – May 2024
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160	By: Judifie Suther
161	Judith Bittner, State Historic Preservation Officer, Alaska State Historic Preservation Office
162 163	DATE: 6/18/2024
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	Doug Kinkoph, Associate Administrator, Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth
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215	Unicom, Incorporated
216	GCI Communications Corp. DocuSigned by:
217	CIHAR
218	By:EB2865BF2D1B43E
219	Chris Haddox, Vice-President, Engineering & Operations
220	6/6/2024
221	DATE:
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224	SIGNATURE PAGES – CONCURRING PARTIES
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237	CONCURRING PARTY
238	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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241	M. Sarah Creachbaum, Regional Director, Region 11
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259	CONCURRING PARTY
260	ALUTIIQ MUSEUM AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPOSITORY
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262	By: An On anally
263	April Counceller, Executive Director
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265	DATE: June 3, 2024
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APPENDIX B:

PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

by and Among the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, United States Army Corps of Engineers, and Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the AU-Aleutian Fiber-Optic Project, Alaska. edited by U.S. Department of Agriculture. Anchorage, Alaska.

1	PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
2	BY AND AMONG THE
3	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL UTILITIES
4	SERVICE,
5	UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, AND
6	ALASKA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
7	REGARDING THE
8	AU-ALEUTIAN FIBER-OPTIC PROJECT, ALASKA
9 10 11 12	WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) administers grant programs that provide much-needed infrastructure or infrastructure improvements to rural communities, in the areas of water and wastewater, electric power, and telecommunication services, which play a critical role in helping to expand economic opportunities and improve the quality of life for rural residents; and
13 14 15	WHEREAS, on October 13, 2020, RUS announced the agency had awarded a grant to Unicom, Incorporated (Unicom) under the ReConnect Program for Unicom's AU-Aleutians Fiber-Optic Project (Unicom Project); and
16 17 18 19	WHEREAS, the proposed Unicom Project consists of the installation of approximately 848 miles of submarine fiber-optic cable originating from an existing Unicom network connection in Kodiak and approximately 49 miles of associated terrestrial installations to homes and businesses in the communities of Larsen Bay, Chignik, Sand Point, King Cove, Akutan, and Unalaska (Attachment A); and
20 21 22	WHEREAS, RUS has determined that the obligation of federal financial assistance would make this project an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800); and
23 24 25 26 27	WHEREAS, the Section 106 consultation process is run concurrently with RUS reviews conducted under 7 CFR 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures. Rural Development's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implement procedures; use of the provisions under this agreement must be documented as part of the NEPA process and, if necessary, included as part of the findings of significance, and included as mitigation measures and project conditions in final decision-making under NEPA; and
28 29 30 31	WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District (the Corps), is responsible for authorizing work which requires review under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (either through individual permits or through the Corps Nationwide Permit Program); and
32 33 34	WHEREAS, Unicom anticipates that the Unicom Project will require the submittal of a permit application to the Corps under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act; and

- WHEREAS, on March 31, 2021, RUS notified the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) that RUS
 will act as the lead federal agency pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(a)(2); and
- WHEREAS, RUS, in consultation with the SHPO established the proposed project's area of potential effects (APE) for marine, intertidal, and terrestrial construction activities (Attachment B); and
- WHEREAS, as of April 2021, the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) database¹ lists 79 cultural properties located within or which intersect the APE; of these properties, seven have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), two are National Historic Landmarks (NHL), three are contributing properties to the NHL, two have been determined not eligible for listing in the NBLD and the remaining (5 properties have not be to be of the time in the birth of the time in the birth of the time in the birth of the time is the birth of the birth
- the NRHP, and the remaining 65 properties have not been evaluated for their eligibility for listing in theNRHP; and
- 45 **WHEREAS,** for the purposes of Section 106 compliance, RUS is treating any of the AHRS sites in the 46 APE listed in the preceding recital which have not been formally evaluated for their NRHP eligibility as
- 47 eligible for inclusion in the NRHP; and
- 48 **WHEREAS**, the remote and rural location of the communities has resulted in very little information
- 49 regarding the nature, location, distribution, and horizontal and vertical extents of cultural resource sites 50 within the APE of the Project; and
- 51 WHEREAS, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.14(b)(1)(ii), RUS has determined that execution of a
- 52 Programmatic Agreement (PA) is appropriate for this undertaking because effects on historic properties 53 cannot be fully determined prior to the obligation of funding for the project; and
- 54 **WHEREAS**, RUS has determined that the proposed project may have an adverse effect to historic 55 properties² within the APE; and
- WHEREAS, the SHPO has participated in the development of this PA pursuant to 36 CFR 800.14(b) and
 is a Signatory to this PA; and
- 58 WHEREAS, RUS notified the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) on March 26, 2021 59 regarding the development of this PA, and the ACHP has declined to participate in the development of this
- 60 PA; and
- 61 WHEREAS, the National Park Service (NPS) has participated in consultation and in the development of
- 62 this PA regarding potential Project effects to historic properties within the Dutch Harbor Naval Operating
- 63 Base and Fort Mears, U.S. Army NHL, and has been invited to sign as a Concurring Party; and
- 64 **WHEREAS**, RUS has consulted with Unicom during the development of this PA pursuant to 36 CFR 65 800.2(c)(4), and Unicom has agreed to carry out Stipulations in this PA and is an Invited Signatory; and

¹ The AHRS database is maintained by the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology, and includes buildings, objects, structures, archaeological and historic sites, districts, shipwrecks, travel ways, traditional cultural properties, landscapes, and other places of cultural importance.

² The term "historic properties" is consistent with 36 CFR 800.16(1)(1) and is defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties, and includes properties of traditional religious or cultural importance to Tribes or other entities, and that meet the NRHP criteria.

- 66 WHEREAS, RUS recognizes that the Federal Government has a unique legal relationship with Tribes³ set
- 67 forth in the U.S. Constitution, and that the implementing regulations of Section 106 require RUS to consult
- 68 with Tribes so that they may identify concerns about historic properties, advise on the identification and
- 69 evaluation of historic properties of traditional religious, spiritual, or cultural importance, articulate their
- views on the proposed Project's effects on such properties, and to participate in the resolution of adverse
- 71 effects, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2)(ii); and
- WHEREAS, RUS and the Corps have made a good faith effort to consult with Tribes to participate in the
 development of this PA (see Attachment C); and
- WHEREAS, RUS and the Corps have made a good faith effort to consult with local governments and other
 interested parties to participate in the development of this PA pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(c)(3) and 36 CFR
 800.2(c)(5) (see Attachment C); and
- WHEREAS, the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository has participated in development of this
 agreement and may sign as an Concurring Party; and
- 79 WHEREAS, RUS' inventory efforts and consultation have determined that a majority of the APE consists 80 of conditions which are impractical to investigate using standard archaeological methods due to the current
- infrastructure conditions within the community (e.g., disturbed areas, archaeological deposits beneath
- 82 existing roadways) and the nature of the proposed Project (e.g., linear trenching); and
- 83 WHEREAS, RUS' inventory efforts and consultation have determined that the lack of detailed information
- regarding the horizontal and vertical extents of known archaeological deposits present challenges in establishing definitive avoidance measures that would eliminate the potential for adverse effects and/or indvartant discovariant and
- 86 inadvertent discoveries; and
- WHEREAS, RUS' inventory efforts and consultation have determined that a majority of the APE is
 considered high potential for containing unknown or undocumented archaeological properties which may
 be affected by the proposed project; and
- 90 WHEREAS, RUS has considered and accounted for potential adverse effects to known and unknown 91 properties which may be eligible for the NRHP as a result of the undertaking and has assembled measures
- 92 to minimize or mitigate these potential effects and assembled these strategies in the attached Cultural
- 93 Resources Monitoring Plan (CRMP) (Attachment E).
- 94 NOW THEREFORE, RUS, the Corps, SHPO, and Unicom (collectively "the Signatories"), agree that the
- 95 proposed Project shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into 96 account the effect of the Project on historic properties.

97 **STIPULATIONS**

98 RUS shall ensure that the following stipulations are carried out:

³ Throughout this document, the term "Tribe" or "Tribes" is consistent with the definition found at 36 CFR 800.16(m) and refers to a tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including a native village, regional corporation or village corporation, formed pursuant to Section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 USC 1602).

99 I. STANDARDS

- 100A.RUS shall ensure that all work carried out pursuant to this agreement meets the Secretary of101the Interior's (SOI) Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (48102Federal Register [FR] 44716, September 29, 1983).
- 103**B.**RUS shall ensure that all work carried out pursuant to this agreement shall be done by or104under the direct supervision of professionals who meet the SOI Professional Qualifications105Standards for Historic Preservation (62 FR 33708, June 20, 1997). RUS and Unicom shall106ensure that consultants retained for services pursuant to the agreement meet these standards.

107 II. ADMINISTRATIVE STIPULATIONS

- 108A.The terms of this PA shall apply to the Project and all of its Phases including any future design109and APE changes not specified in the current permits, permit applications, or other project110documents.
- 111i.Unicom will be responsible for submitting any subsequent modifications for review see112Stipulation V: Cultural Resource Inventory Efforts.
- RUS, in consultation with the other Signatories, may reevaluate the APE annually,
 should additional or new information on the Project became available based on
 engineering design changes, revised information regarding environmental impacts, or
 other reasons deemed appropriate.
- 117B.The terms of this PA may be applied to any branch lines extended from the main subsea fiber118optic cable to additional communities not originally part of the project provided that the PA119has not expired.
- C. All references to "days" in this PA shall refer to calendar days, unless specifically identified
 as "business days."
- 122D.RUS, the Corps, and SHPO shall enforce the terms of this PA within each agency's scope123and shall incorporate this PA and its terms into any decision document, permit, or124authorization they issue. Each agency shall notify the others within 20 days if any of them125becomes aware of an instance of possible non-compliance with the terms and conditions of126this PA, or permit conditions as they relate to this PA. In such cases, RUS, as the lead federal127agency, shall ensure that compliance is consistent with its legal authorities and will consult128with the other PA Signatories, as needed.
- 129E.The PA Signatories recognize that certain information about historic properties or130archaeological resources is protected from public disclosure under NHPA (54 USC 307103),131the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA; 43 CFR 7.18), and Alaska state law (as132required by Public Law 96-95, AS 40.25.120(a)(4), and Policy and Procedure No. 50200.133RUS and SHPO shall ensure that all actions and documentation prescribed by this PA are134consistent with the non-disclosure requirements of these laws.
- 135F.Any of the PA Signatories may seek qualified independent expert consultation, through a136third-party contractor, in order to fulfill the responsibilities under this PA, provided the137contractor meets requirements listed above in Stipulation I: Standards.
- 138G.Signatories and concurring parties to the agreement shall provide contact information for this139PA to RUS. It is the responsibility of each Signatory and concurring party to immediately140notify RUS of any change in name, mailing address, e-mail address, or phone number for any

- 141 concurring party. Once received, RUS will forward this information to all Signatories and concurring parties by e-mail or mail within five (5) business days, and will update the PA 142 143 record of current contact names, organizations, and email addresses for Signatories and concurring parties for the PA. 144
- 145 H. Email shall be an acceptable form of communication between the Consulting Parties⁴ and is 146 an appropriate method of "notification" or "in writing" where it is called for in this PA, unless 147 otherwise described. If a Consulting Party does not have access to email or consistently 148 available internet service, then RUS will ensure that other forms of communication are 149 pursued.
- 150 I. At any time prior to the end of any review period or submittal date associated with this PA, 151 Signatories to this PA may request additional time for reviews of documentation, preparation 152 of guidance documents or submittals, or any other time-sensitive materials outlined in this 153 PA by submitting their request in writing to RUS.
- 154 J. At any time throughout the life of the PA, any outside entity not initially part of this PA, 155 including Tribes, may contact RUS and request to become a Consulting Party. RUS will consider any such request and notify the Signatories and other Consulting Parties of the 156 request and RUS' decision. Consulting parties added under this stipulation will be included 157 158 in any and all distributions of reports, notices, or other activities outlined in this PA.
- 159 К. In the event that another federal agency, not initially a party to this PA, receives an application 160 for funding/license/permit for the Project as described in this PA, that agency may fulfill its 161 Section 106 responsibilities by stating in writing that it concurs with the terms of this PA and 162 notifying the Signatories that it intends to do so. Such agreement shall be evidenced by 163 execution of a Signature Page and filing with the ACHP, and implementation of the terms of 164 this PA.
- 165 L. The Signatories may execute this PA in counterparts, with a separate page for each signatory. 166 RUS will distribute copies of all pages to all Consulting Parties once the PA is signed.

- III. AGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 168 Α. RUS shall attach this PA or its stipulations to any agency-specific financing or authorizations, 169 so long as the underlying PA remains in effect for the area covered by the relevant financing or authorizations. Those agencies shall ensure that requirements of this PA have been met for 170
- 171 that part of the Project under their respective jurisdictions. Failure on the part of Unicom to 172 comply with the PA stipulations could result in suspension, modification, or revocation of the 173 applicable agency's financing or authorizations.
- 174 **B**. RUS, the Corps, and SHPO shall consult annually to ensure that each agency independently 175 satisfies its respective regulatory requirements under 36 CFR 800. If any PA Signatory does not comply with the PA stipulations, RUS shall implement the procedures outlined in 176 177 Stipulation VI: Dispute Resolution.
- 178 **C**. RUS will protect information about historic properties to the extent allowed by Section 304 179 of the NHPA (54 USC 470), 36 CFR 800.11(c), and other applicable laws and regulations. 180 Section 304 requires consultation with the ACHP and Keeper of the NRHP. Under the 181 provisions of ARPA (54 USC 470hh) and NHPA, site location information is restricted in

⁴ "Consulting Parties" includes all Signatories and parties invited to consult on the development to this agreement.

- 182distribution; disclosure of such information may be exempt from requests under federal and183state freedom of information laws. RUS is responsible for returning information to Tribes and184for determining acceptable methods of information distribution.
- 185D.The SHPO will receive all technical reports and will retain location information about all
cultural resources and historic properties, including properties of religious, spiritual, or
cultural significance to Tribes identified during the Project. This approach is keeping with its
mission to identify and maintain inventories of cultural resources and historic properties
[Section 101 of NHPA (54 USC 302301) and AS 41.35.070(a)].

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IV. UNICOM RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. If the Project is permitted, this PA and all of its requirements will be binding on Unicom, and its successors, heirs, and assigns. Unicom shall include a provision requiring compliance with the PA in any contract of sale or transfer of ownership or management of the Project.
- B. Unicom shall be responsible for funding and implementing, either directly or through qualified consultants or contractors, the work necessary to ensure compliance with the terms of this PA. This work will be completed on behalf and at the direction of RUS.
- 197 C. Unicom shall ensure that any persons conducting or supervising cultural resources work on
 198 their behalf hold all appropriate federal or state permits and/or authorizations for that work,
 199 and meet Stipulation I: *Standards*, for the applicable discipline.
- 200D.Unicom, and any contractors hired on their behalf, will not retain sensitive information that201Tribes or Consulting Parties authorize them to collect, beyond the time needed to complete202compliance with the terms of the PA. Sensitive information may include, but is not limited203to, information about archaeological resources, sacred objects, features, artifacts, items of204cultural patrimony, landscapes, or other types of information that have been determined by205Tribes or Consulting Parties to be confidential and not for public disclosure.

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V. CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY EFFORTS

- A. Unicom will retain the services of a marine archaeologist meeting the criteria listed in Stipulation I. *Standards* who will conduct an evaluation of subsea mapping and geophysical remote-sensing survey for potential historic submerged cultural resources. Unicom will submit to RUS a report detailing the findings of this evaluation and any necessary documentation demonstrating how Unicom has modified the proposed marine FOC alignment to avoid identified cultural resources no later than 120 days prior to the commencement of marine construction activities.
- 214i.RUS will distribute the report and associated documentation to Consulting Parties, who215shall have 30 days to review and provide comments on the report and documentation to216RUS. Upon receipt of timely comments, RUS may direct Unicom to make any appropriate217changes or modifications to the proposed marine construction activities.
 - ii. Upon completion of any required changes, Unicom shall submit the final report and documentation to RUS and SHPO for a final 15-day review and approval period.
 - iii. Upon approval of the report and documentation by RUS and SHPO, RUS will notify the Permittee that Section 106 obligations for the project phase are complete in accordance with Stipulation VI: *Initiation of Construction*
- **B.** Unicom will retain qualified consultants to conduct archaeological monitoring during all intertidal and terrestrial construction activities associated with the Project in Larsen Bay,

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- Chignik, Sand Point, King Cove, Akutan, and Unalaska, unless otherwise agreed to in
 advance under Stipulation V.C below. Monitoring activities will be guided by the protocols
 and procedures outlined in the attached Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP)
 (Attachment 5).
 - i. Archaeological monitors must meet the criteria established above in Stipulation I: *Standards.*
- RUS shall ensure that Unicom's consultants obtain any necessary permits, authorizations,
 curation agreements, or any other necessary documentation required by the land manager
 or owner to conduct the monitoring of the construction activities.
- iii. A comprehensive report of monitoring activities within each village location and will be
 submitted to RUS and SHPO for review and concurrence no later than 180 days following
 the conclusion of the monitoring activity. The report will include recommendations
 regarding NRHP eligibility of cultural resources encountered during the monitoring
 activity, as required. SHPO will have 30 days to provide comment regarding the report and
 eligibility recommendations provided, and RUS shall direct Unicom to make any necessary
 changes or revisions to the report before finalizing.
- **C**. If, after execution of this PA, Unicom refines and finalizes the intertidal and terrestrial 243 alignments of the fiber-optic cable within one or more of the communities, Unicom may retain 244 245 a qualified consultant to develop detailed plans for the phased identification of historic properties and specific avoidance or minimization measures for those individual community 246 247 locations which may reduce or minimize the need for on-site archaeological monitoring. Any such plans must be submitted to and approved by RUS and SHPO prior to implementation by 248 Unicom's consultant, and Unicom will be required to submit a report from their consultant 249 250 describing the findings of the cultural resources identification activities and how Unicom will implement construction activities based on the results of fieldwork to RUS and SHPO for 251 review and concurrence prior to RUS authorization for Unicom to commence terrestrial 252 construction activities. 253
- i. Any such cultural resources fieldwork plans developed by Unicom's consultant shall
 include the following information (as appropriate):
 - a. detailed descriptions of the proposed project alignments within the community, including descriptions of the installation methods and landownership information;
 - b. detailed descriptions of known cultural properties within the community;
 - c. summaries of previous cultural resources survey efforts and results within the community;
 - d. proposed identification methods for specific project components (e.g., beach man holes [BMHs], vaults, HDD entry and exit points);
 - e. a schedule of proposed activities associated with the proposed plan, including fieldwork and plan reporting.
 - ii. RUS and SHPO review and approval of any such plans prepared by Unicom's consultant shall occur according to the following schedule:
 - a. Unicom shall submit a proposed plan to RUS and SHPO containing the items listed in Stipulation V.C.i
 - b. RUS and SHPO shall have 30 days to review and comment on the proposed plan;
 - c. Unicom's consultant shall address any necessary comments or questions, and resubmit the revised plan to RUS and SHPO within 15 days of receiving their comments;
 - d. RUS and SHPO shall review the revised plan within 30 days and either:

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274	1. provide their written approval that Unicom's consultant may implement the
275	plan; or
276	2. provide detailed comments that identify deficiencies in the plan that prevent
277	its approval and which Unicom must resolve prior to approval.
278	e. Upon approval of the plan by RUS and SHPO, Unicom's consultant may
279	implement the plan, conduct the proposed fieldwork, and prepare and subsequent
280	reporting efforts to RUS and SHPO.
281	iii. After completion of fieldwork in accordance with the approved plan, Unicom's consultant
282	shall prepare a report describing the implementation of the inventory plan, and submit this
282	report to RUS and SHPO from review and approval according to the following schedule:
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284	a. Unicom's consultant shall submit a report describing the methods and results or
	findings of the implementation of the approved plan to RUS and SHPO within
286	180 days of the fieldwork activities. The report shall contain:
287	1. A summary of the fieldwork activities, duration, and findings
288	2. A list of cultural resource sites identified and/or investigated
289	3. Proposed avoidance strategies for known cultural resource sites for which
290	avoidance is being proposed
291	4. Descriptions of alignment revision recommendations or modifications to
292	construction techniques to avoid or minimize adverse effects
293	b. RUS and SHPO shall have 30 days to review and comment on the report.
294	c. Unicom shall address any necessary comments or questions and resubmit the
295	revised report to RUS and SHPO within 15 days of receiving their comments.
296	d. RUS and SHPO shall review the revised report within 14 days and either:
297	1. provide their written approval that the report and proposed construction
298	implementation adequately addresses potential adverse effects to historic
299	properties and Unicom may commence construction activities as outlined
300	within the report; or
301	2. provide detailed comments that identify deficiencies in the report and
302	proposed implementation that prevent its approval and which Unicom must
303	resolve prior to approval.
304	e. Upon approval of the report and implementation plan by RUS and SHPO, RUS
305	will notify Unicom in writing that they may implement the proposed construction
306	and any subsequent reporting efforts to RUS and SHPO, consistent with
307	Stipulation VI.B.i.
308	VI. RESOLUTION OF ADVERSE EFFECTS
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309	A. In the event that RUS, in consultation with the SHPO, determines that an adverse effect has
310	or will occur and cannot be adequately minimized or avoided through other measures,
312	Unicom's consultant will develop a mitigation measure consisting of a written treatment plan within seven days.
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314	but are not limited to:
315	a. Oral history interviews, place names studies, GIS mapping, development of
317	media, archival searches, and report preparation and publication (generally
	associated with properties eligible under Criterion A or B);
318	b. Historic American Building Survey (HABS)/Historic American Engineering
319	Record (HAER)/Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) documentation or
320	rehabilitation and reporting (generally associated with properties eligible under
321	Criterion C); and/or

- 322 Data recovery and analysis, reporting, and curation of resulting collections and c. 323 records (generally associated with properties eligible under Criterion D). 324 ii. To the extent practicable, the mitigation measure proposed should relate to the community 325 in which the adverse effect will occur. 326 **B**. Unicom's consultant shall submit the Treatment plan to RUS and SHPO for a seven-day 327 review and approval period. After seven days, RUS and SHPO shall provide comments to Unicom's consultant, and 328 i. 329 indicate if the proposed Treatment Plan adequately resolves the adverse effect, or if additional information of modifications of the proposed Treatment Plan are required. 330 331 **C**. Upon approval of the Treatment Plan by RUS and SHPO, RUS will provide Unicom with written notice that the plan may be implemented consistent with PA Stipulation VII. 332 **INITIATION OF CONSTRUCTION AND STOP WORK ORDERS** VII. 333 334 Α. Unicom shall not initiate work within the marine APE of the Project until RUS provides 335 Unicom with written notice that pre-construction provisions of the PA and CRMP have been met for the marine phase. 336 337 **B**. Upon execution of this PA and its attachments, Unicom may commence construction under the supervision of an archaeological monitor(s) within the terrestrial and/or intertidal phases 338 339 of the Project, provided that Unicom, or contractors hired on their behalf have obtained any and all necessary permits, authorizations, or agreements, consistent with Stipulation IV.C 340 341 above. 342 i. As described in Stipulation V.C above, Unicom may elect to develop detailed phased 343 identification plans for one or more communities after the execution of this PA in lieu of immediately commencing construction activities. Consistent with Stipulation V.C above, 344 345 these plans and the results of their implementation must both be approved by RUS and 346 SHPO prior to Unicom commencing terrestrial construction activity. 347 С. Archaeological monitors working at locations of ground-disturbing activity associated with 348 the Project have the authority to issue stop-work orders to Unicom or contractors hired on 349 their behalf to allow for inspection of suspected cultural resources and/or human remains, and 350 to allow for any necessary notification or consultation as required by the terms of this PA and 351 attached CRMP. 352 D. In the event that an adverse effect determination has been made and a proposed Treatment 353 Plan developed in accordance with Stipulation VII, upon approval of the final Treatment Plan 354 by RUS and SHPO, RUS will notify Unicom in writing that the Treatment Plan may be 355 executed. VIII. ANNUAL MEETING 356 No later than March 31 of each year, RUS shall invite and host a meeting of the Signatories 357 Α. 358 and Consulting Parties to discuss the previous year's activities, and activities scheduled for the upcoming year. The meeting shall be held virtually, or in Anchorage at the Alaska Office 359 360 of History and Archaeology, or at another location by consensus of the Signatories. The parties may participate by virtual means if they so desire, and minutes of the meetings will 361 be distributed by the RUS within 30 days. The RUS shall amend the minutes as a result of 362 comments received within 15 days and distribute finalized minutes within 15 days. 363
- 364 IX. DISPUTE RESOLUTION
- A. Should any PA Signatory object at any time to the manner in which the terms of this PA are
 implemented, RUS shall consult with such party to resolve the objection. If RUS determines
 that such objection cannot be resolved, RUS will:

- i. Forward all documentation relevant to the dispute, including RUS' proposed resolution to the ACHP. The ACHP shall provide RUS with its advice on the resolution of the objection within 30 days of receiving adequate documentation. Prior to reaching a final decision on the dispute, RUS shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the ACHP, PA Signatories and Consulting Parties, and provide them with a copy of this written response. RUS will then proceed according to its final decision.
- ii. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the 30-day time
 period, RUS may make a final decision on the dispute and proceed accordingly. Prior to
 reaching such a final decision, RUS shall prepare a written response that takes into account
 any timely comments regarding the dispute from the PA Signatories and Consulting Parties
 to the PA and provide them and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.
- 380 B. RUS' responsibility to carry out all other actions subject to the terms of this PA that are not
 381 the subject of the dispute remain unchanged.

382 X. AMENDMENTS

- A. Project design changes which result in changes to the APE, or additional potential for effects to historic properties will require that an Amendment to this PA be executed. Unicom will notify RUS in the event of a project design change which expands or reconfigures the APE, and RUS will consult with PA Signatories and Consulting Parties to amend the PA following the timeline and steps below.
- 388B.The PA Signatories may request an amendment to the body of this PA by providing proposed
changes in writing to RUS. RUS will notify all parties to this agreement of the proposed
amendment and consult with them to reach agreement within 30 days. The amendment will
be effective on the date the amendment is signed by all PA Signatories and filed with the
ACHP. If the amendment is not signed within 30 days of receipt, RUS will reinitiate
consultation for another 15 days. If all PA Signatories do not agree to the amendment, RUS
will determine that the PA will stand as is.
- 395C.PA Attachments (e.g., Cultural Resources Management Plan) may be amended with a
streamlined process. Any of the PA Signatories may propose an amendment to a PA
attachment to RUS by submitting a request in writing. If RUS, in consultation with the
amendment proponent, concurs that the amendment improves or updates the attachment(s),
then RUS will share the proposed amendment with other PA Signatories for a 30-day review
period. If no comments are received at the end of the review period, RUS will move forward
with the proposed amendment and incorporate it into the PA.
- 402**D.**RUS will document all amendments to the PA, or PA Attachments, in Attachment D,403Amendment Log. RUS will provide an updated version of the PA to the Concurring Parties404following each instance of amendment.

405 XI. TERMINATION

406 A. If any of the PA Signatories determine that its terms will not or cannot be carried out, that
407 party shall immediately notify RUS, who will consult with the other PA Signatories to
408 attempt to develop an amendment per Stipulation X, above. If, within 30 days (or another
409 time period agreed to by all PA Signatories), an amendment cannot be reached, any PA
410 Signatory may terminate the PA upon written notification to the other PA Signatories.

- 412 **B.** If the PA is terminated, and prior to work continuing on the Project, RUS must either:
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- 416 **C.** RUS shall notify the PA Signatories and Consulting Parties as to the course of action it will pursue under Stipulation IX.B above.
- 418 XII. DURATION OF THIS PA
- 419 **A.** Unless otherwise amended or terminated in accordance with Stipulation X or XI, this PA will expire 7 years from the date of Execution.
- 421B.RUS and Unicom will review all sections of this PA every year to update outdated statutes,422best practices, and contact information, and to consider whether organizations who may have423originally declined participation may wish to participate as a Consulting Party. If RUS424determines the PA may need to be updated, RUS will notify the PA Signatories, Consulting425Parties, and other interested parties and invite them to consult on the proposed changes.426Amendments to the PA would be consistent with Stipulation X: Amendments.
- 427 **EXECUTION** of this PA by RUS, the Corps, SHPO, and implementation of its terms, evidences that RUS

428 has taken into account the effects of this Undertaking on historic properties and afforded the ACHP an

429 opportunity to comment.

430	SIGNATURE PAGES – SIGNATORIES
431	
432	PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
433	BY AND AMONG THE
434	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE
435	U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND
436	ALASKA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
437	REGARDING THE
438	AU-ALEUTIAN FIBER-OPTIC PROJECT, ALASKA
439	
440	
441	SIGNATORY
442	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE
443	BARBARA Digitally signed by BARBARA BRITTON
444	By: BRITTON Date: 2021.07.07 11:38 21 -05:00
445	Barbara Britton, Director, Engineering and Environmental, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities
446	Service
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448	DATE:
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451	SIGNATURE PAGES – SIGNATORIES
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453	PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
454	BY AND AMONG THE
455	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE
456	U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND
457	ALASKA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
458	REGARDING THE
459	AU-ALEUTIAN FIBER-OPTIC PROJECT, ALASKA
460	
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463	SIGNATORY
464	ALASKA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
465	
466	By: Judy Dettner
467	Judith Bittner, State Historic Preservation Officer, Alaska State Historic Preservation Office
468	Muslow
469	DATE: 7132021
470	
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472	SIGNATURE PAGES – SIGNATORIES
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474	PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
475	BY AND AMONG THE
476	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE
477	U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND
478	ALASKA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
479	REGARDING THE
480	AU-ALEUTIAN FIBER-OPTIC PROJECT, ALASKA
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483	SIGNATORY
48 4	U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ALASKA DISTRICT
485	$M \cap Q$
486	By:
487	Shannon Johnson, South Branch Chief
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489	DATE:
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492	SIGNATURE PAGES – INVITED SIGNATORIES
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494	INVITED SIGNATORY
495	Uy Docusigned by: ated
496	Chris Mace
497	By
498	Chris Mace – Vice-President, GCI Network Services & Chief Engineer
499	7/8/2021
500	DATE:
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502	SIGNATURE PAGES – CONCURRING PARTIES
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504	CONCURRING PARTY
505	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
506	JEFFREY MOW Digitally signed by JEFFREY MOW Date 2021 07 08 11 04 56 -06 00
507	By:
508	Jeff Mow, Acting Regional Director, National Park Service Interior Region 11
509	
510	DATE:
511	
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513	SIGNATURE PAGES – CONCURRING PARTIES
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515	CONCURRING PARTY
516	ALUTIIQ MUSEUM AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPOSITORY
517	
518	By: fortomelle
519	By: April Counceller, Executive Director
520	·
521	DATE: July 6th, 2021
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523 524	Version 3.3 – June 2021 DEFINITIONS
525 526 527 528 529	ACHP – The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) is an independent federal agency that promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of our nation's historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy. The NHPA gives the ACHP the legal responsibility to assist federal agencies in their efforts and to ensure they consider preservation during project planning.
530 531	Concurring Party – Entities that have participated in the development of the PA. The refusal of any party invited to concur in the programmatic agreement does not invalidate the programmatic agreement.
532 533	Consultation – The process of seeking, discussing, and considering the views of other participants, and, where feasible, seeking agreement with them regarding matters arising in the Section 106 process.
534 535 536	Consulting Party – Any group, entity, or person that has a demonstrated interest in the Project and has participated in the PA development. This includes Tribes, agencies, local governments, non-profit organizations, and the Permittee.
537 538 539	Cultural Resource – Archaeological, historic, or architectural resources, structures, or places that may exhibit human activity or occupation and/or may be places of religious, spiritual, or cultural significance to tribes, or meet the criteria of a Traditional Cultural Property.
540 541	Effect – Alteration to the characteristics of a historic property qualifying it for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register.
542 543	Execution – Refers to the date the PA goes into effect and is defined as the date that the last Signatory signs the document and it is filed with the ACHP. At that point, the PA is considered executed.
544 545 546 547 548	Historic Property – Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious, spiritual, or cultural importance to a Tribe and that meet the National Register criteria.
549	Intertidal – operations which occur in areas between high tide line and mean low water.
550	Marine – operations which occur in areas below MLW in marine waters.
551 552 553 554	NHPA – The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 54 USC §§ 300101 to 307108, is the primary federal law governing the preservation of historic resources in the U.S. The law established a national preservation program and a system of procedural protections which encourage the identification and protection of historic resources of national, state, tribal and local significance.
555 556	Phase/Project Phase - Unicom proposes to construct the Project in two Phases: Terrestrial/Intertidal and Marine.
557 558 559	Programmatic Agreement – A document that records the terms and conditions agreed upon to resolve the potential adverse effects of a Federal agency program, complex undertaking, or other situations in accordance with 36 CFR 800.14(b).
560 561	Project – All aspects, including those not currently defined or may be defined in the future of Unicom's proposed fiber-optic line.

562 Section 106 – Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of projects, 563 activities, or programs they carry out, assist, fund, permit, license, or approve throughout the country 564 (known as "Undertakings") on historic properties. The Section 106 process requires federal agencies to 565 identify historic properties, assess effects on those properties, and consider alternatives to resolve those 566 effects. Section 106 gives the ACHP, interested parties, and the public the chance to weigh in on these 567 matters before a final decision is made. The ACHP has issued regulations, 36 CFR 800, which guide how 568 agencies should fulfill this responsibility.

569 SHPO – Every State and U.S. Territory has a State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) who, with the 570 support of qualified staff, is charged with: conducting a comprehensive survey of historic properties; 571 maintaining an inventory of historic properties; identifying and nominating eligible properties to the NRHP; 572 advising and assisting Federal, State and local governments in matters of historic preservation; preparing 573 and implementing a statewide historic preservation plan; providing public information, education, training 574 and technical assistance; and providing consultation for Federal undertakings under the Section 106 575 provision of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Signatory – The Corps, SHPO, and Unicom are Signatories to this PA. The Signatories have sole authority
 to execute, amend or terminate the PA.

578 **Terrestrial** – operations which occur in areas above High Tide Line (HTL).

579 Undertaking – a project, activity, or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect

jurisdiction of a federal agency, including those carried out by or on behalf of a federal agency; those carried

out with federal financial assistance; and those requiring a federal permit, license, or approval.