

BUDGET INFORMATION - Construction Programs

NOTE: Certain Federal assistance programs require additional computations to arrive at the Federal share of project costs eligible for participation. If such is the case, you will be notified.

COST CLASSIFICATION	a. Total Cost	b. Costs Not Allowable for Participation	c. Total Allowable Costs (Columns a-b)
1. Administrative and legal expenses	\$ 811,910.00	\$	\$ 811,910.00
2. Land, structures, rights-of-way, appraisals, etc.	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$	\$ 1,000,000.00
3. Relocation expenses and payments	\$ 0.00	\$	\$ 0.00
4. Architectural and engineering fees	\$ 550,000.00	\$	\$ 550,000.00
5. Other architectural and engineering fees	\$ 0.00	\$	\$ 0.00
6. Project inspection fees	\$ 0.00	\$	\$ 0.00
7. Site work	\$ 0.00	\$	\$ 0.00
8. Demolition and removal	\$ 0.00	\$	\$ 0.00
9. Construction	\$ 12,616,318.00	\$	\$ 12,616,318.00
10. Equipment	\$ 14,957,572.00	\$	\$ 14,957,572.00
11. Miscellaneous	\$ 50,000.00	\$	\$ 50,000.00
12. SUBTOTAL (sum of lines 1-11)	\$ 29,985,800.00	\$	\$ 29,985,800.00
13. Contingencies	\$	\$	\$
14. SUBTOTAL	\$ 29,985,800.00	\$	\$ 29,985,800.00
15. Project (program) income	\$	\$	\$
16. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (subtract #15 from #14)	\$ 29,985,800.00	\$	\$ 29,985,800.00
FEDERAL FUNDING			
17. Federal assistance requested, calculate as follows: (Consult Federal agency for Federal percentage share.) Enter eligible costs from line 16c Multiply X 100 % Enter the resulting Federal share.			\$ 29,985,800.00

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL [REDACTED]	TITLE [REDACTED]
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION [REDACTED]	DATE SUBMITTED [REDACTED]

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NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program 2021

Executive Summary

NCGTP in partnership with NfinityLink Communications, Inc. (dba InfinityLink Communications) is applying to NTIA for federal assistance for expanding broadband access to the remainder of the unserved/underserved areas of Lenoir County, North Carolina. As the recent years have shown us, broadband is more important now than ever, and having access to reliable, fiber internet is becoming a must-have in everyday life. This opportunity with NTIA would not only expand Lenoir County's access to fiber internet, but would complete the coverage to all areas of the county that currently do not have access, placing Lenoir County, its businesses, citizens, and especially students with the access that larger towns and cities have enjoyed for years. The grant will be administered in house through the NC State Accounting System by the NCGTP Finance Director and Assistant Finance Director who have over 49 years of grant management experience. The NCGTP certifies that it currently has no outstanding Federal Judgements.

Operating with a small but aggressive management team, NCGTP seeks to fully achieve its regional economic potential through a detailed plan of action that builds on its enviable strengths, identifies and addresses current needs, creates a network of strategic partners and harnesses the momentum that has accompanied recent advancements in Eastern North Carolina. The NCGTP is an employment growth center for the broader region. By providing higher wage job opportunities, NCGTP can attract workforce within a 60-minute drive time radius. This area of attraction comprises all or a portion of 14 counties: Beaufort, Craven, Duplin, Edgecombe, Greene, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Nash, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt, Wayne and Wilson. Notwithstanding this designation, NCGTP on-site employment data indicates that a share of today's workforce is Rural Small and Expanding Business with an additional new 74 jobs over the next three years. NCGTP's approach build upon the Quad-East concept, which seeks to propel economic growth in Eastern North Carolina by improving interconnectivity to allow the region to take better advantage of shared military, academic, medical, agribusiness and manufacturing resources.

The North Carolina Global TransPark Authority (NCGTP) was established by the General Assembly in 1991 as an independent government agency located with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), charged with the development of an industrial facility built around a multimodal transportation network that included an airport capable of handling international cargo flights. This plan is specific to NCGTP. North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 63-A defines the powers granted by the State Legislature to NCGTP to execute its mission.

Since incorporating in 2014, InfinityLink Communications has been aggressively expanding its fiber to the home network throughout Greene, Lenoir and Pitt Counties. To date, all incorporated areas of Snow Hill have access to the service, as well as several areas outside of the town. InfinityLink has been the recipient of three NC GREAT Grants for Greene County to

assist in expanding broadband into the rural areas. Though these GREAT grants have helped expand access, there is still a remaining need for all citizens to have the same level of access to fiber broadband.

The partnership of NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications is proposing to build an 898-mile fiber to the home network capable of supporting hybrid GPON/XGSPON technologies out of the gate. This project is a sizeable endeavor and will require NCGTP for financial oversight, InfinityLink Communications for Design, Engineering and Implementation of the network, as well as several contractors for the physical installation of the infrastructure. As part of the proposal, InfinityLink is estimating that around 60% of the network can be installed aerially on existing electrical poles and the remaining 40% underground.

Though this funding opportunity is for a 1-year deployment timeframe, NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications would like to formally request a 2-year extension, turning this into a 3-year project. With the material and labor shortages in the market right now and the massive nature of this project, a 1-year deployment timeframe would be unrealistic for this size of project.

Covered Partnership Description

For this project, NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications have partnered to bring reliable, high-speed fiber broadband internet to all rural areas of Lenoir County. For the financial management of the project, NCGTP has elected James Owens, Finance Director, and Trina Warren, Assistant Finance Director, to oversee the fiscal and reporting areas of the grant. Collectively James and Trina have over 49 years of financial and grant management experience. For the project management, design and deployment, Jeremy Rich (resume attached) with InfinityLink Communications will oversee this part of the grant process. With over 18 years of experience in the Information Technology and Service Provider industries, Jeremy has experienced building networks that can scale to meet the needs of any user. Having spent over 5 years as a contractor managing special projects for Wal-Mart, Jeremy has no issue making sure large projects are completed on time and within budget. Other participants in this project will be subcontract installers including AER Cable Construction, Inc. who has over 7 years of underground cable installation experience, BVJ Company, Inc. which has over 26 years of aerial cable installation experience. Aside from subcontractors, the National Cable Television Cooperative, which InfinityLink Communications is a member of, will play a major role in this opportunity. The NCTC has negotiated pricing with vendors and worked out special inventory allocations just for members to help us get materials faster and at a price comparable to what the largest operators in the world pay. This helps us keep the cost down and be able to complete the project inside of the designated timeframe.

Table of Funded Project Participants

Company Name	Company Address	Company Type	Project Role	Proposed Funded Amt
AER Cable Construction, Inc.	11502 US 70 Business Hwy W. Clayton, NC 27520-2265	Underground Subcontractor	Contractor	\$7,105,199
BVJ Company, Inc.	1100 Lisbon Street Clinton, NC 28328-4608	Aerial Subcontractor	Contractor	\$4,263,119
InfinityLink Communications	1106A Kingold Blvd Snow Hill, NC 28580-1619	Internet Service Provider	Subrecipient	\$1,848,000
National Cable Television Cooperative	11200 Corporate Avenue Lenexa, KS 66219-1392	Supplier	Contractor	\$14,957,572
NCGTP	2780 Jetport Rd Kinston, NC 28504-7345	State Agency	Applicant	\$811,910

Broadband Project Description

This project plans to make available internet speeds of up to 10Gbps symmetrical to subscribers within the Lenoir County area. The list below is the initial speed offerings and pricing:

Download Speed	Upload Speed	Monthly Price
50Mbps	50Mbps	\$40.00/mo
250Mbps	250Mbps	\$60.00/mo
500Mbps	500Mbps	\$70.00/mo
1Gbps	1Gbps	\$80.00/mo
10Gbps	10Gbps	\$400.00/mo

InfinityLink Communications is a participating provider in the federal Emergency Broadband Benefit program, allowing qualifying customers to get internet at no cost to them.

NCGTP and InfinityLink Communication are requesting federal financial assistance for the implementation of this network due to the high cost and rurality of the homes to be served by this project. As mentioned in the summary, the technology to be deployed is a hybrid GPON/XGSPON network allowing customers access to speeds up to 10Gbps. The speeds to be offered are already higher than any surrounding areas, plus with the delivery technology being fiber to the home, the potential to expand in the future is unlimited with 25G already being supported on the platform we are proposing to deploy.

In order to be able to provide this level of reliability and speed, NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications are requesting \$29,985,800. This amount is what will be required to completely solve the broadband access issues in Lenoir County and provide the ability for every citizen who is currently underserved to be able to obtain reliably, fiber high-speed internet. Of the estimated costs, below is a breakdown as to how these will be spent.

Cost Classification	Total Cost
Administrative and Legal Expenses	\$811,909
Land, Structures, Rights-of-Way, appraisals, etc.	\$1,000,000
Architectural and engineering fees	\$550,000
Construction	\$12,616,320

Equipment	\$14,957,571
Miscellaneous (Pre-Application Expenses)	\$50,000
Total	\$29,985,800

This project plans to make service available to 19,007 addresses that currently do not have access to speeds of 25Mbps/3Mbps and make sure they are not just able to receive a border-line service, but instead a service capable of 10Gbps today, and expandable in the future. From our projections and historical experiences, we expect at least a 60% subscription rate in these rural areas, with an average subscription being our 500Mbps package. This places the monthly gross income for the project area at \$798,294. Given the ongoing costs to maintain the system including the additional labor, vehicles, tools, locate expenses, etc. we estimate around an additional \$500,000/mo expense to InfinityLink for providing and maintaining the network, therefore making the project a long lasting and viable venture, sustainable well beyond the expenditure of the grant funds.

Proposed Area Description

The project being proposed by NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications is for rural Lenoir County. In Lenoir County, there is a grand total of 2,279 census blocks, and this project will be contained within 896 of those. This project also proposed to provide 100% of the addresses inside those 896-census block with fiber internet service, which will complete the fiber to the home deployment in Greene County and make service available to 100% of the citizens. In this project, Greene County School District and InfinityLink Communications are proposing to service a total of 19,007 address points that break down as follows:

- Agriculture – 2,191
- Commercial – 1,214
- Community Anchor Points – 160
- Government/Other – 186
- Residential – 15,256

Proposed service point total has since been modified to 17,495 address points that break down as follows:
 1,807 Agriculture
 930 Commercial
 120 Community Anchor Points
 152 Government/Other
 14,486 Residential

Below is a list of the census blocks that will be contained in this project.

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371070110012051	371070112003062	371070113003028	371070111003060
371070101002016	371070112003061	371070113003031	371070111003059

371070101002034	371070112003057	371070113003032	371070111004034
371070101002033	371070112003058	371070113001034	371070110012061
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371070110021043	371070112001000	371070113003018	371070114001010
371070114002004	371070112002006	371070113003043	371070114001011
371070113002026	371070112002004	371070113003010	371070114001009
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371070113002030	371070112003051	371070101001041	371070110022027
371070110021055	371070112003047	371070114001014	371070109001002

Statutory Funding Priorities

This proposed project addresses all of the statutory funding priorities. These are outlined as follows:

- 1) Greatest number of households in an eligible service area. This project aims to make fiber to the home service available to 100% of the address points inside the proposed project area, with a total of 19,007 addresses being served.
- 2) This proposed project is fully within Lenoir County, North Carolina. Per the latest census information, Lenoir County has an estimated population of 56,756 placing it just outside the 50,000-inhabitant funding priority. However, there is no city or town within the confines of the county that has a population of 50,000 or more inhabitants.
- 3) This proposed project plans to make fiber to the home service available in the underserved areas of Lenoir County, making it a completely served county. The cost per household to complete this task is approximately \$1,578 which is less than that of other projects that have been funded in the past.

- 4) This proposed project more than covers the service funding priority of 100Mbps/20Mbps by offering out of the gate 10Gbps/10Gbps and having the ability to expand in the future.
- 5) This proposed project fully meets all of the requirements of the NOFO.

Evaluation Criteria Description

1) Project Purpose and Benefits

a. Level of Impact

This project proposes to provide service to all 19,007 addresses, consisting of 15,256 residential, 160 community anchor points, 2,191 agricultural, 1,214 commercial and 186 government points that currently do not have access to fiber optic internet. Overall, most areas of the county can receive 1.5-10Mbps DSL, which is not considered qualifying broadband service.

b. Affordability of Services Offered

With a base package starting at \$40/month, NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications feels that these services are very affordable. Also, with the recent extension of the Federal Emergency Broadband Benefit Program and InfinityLink's participation in this program, qualifying residents can receive service free of charge under this program.

2) Project Viability

a. Technical Approach

For this proposed project, NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications are proposing a hybrid GPON/XGSPON deployment allowing initial speeds of up to 10Gbps, but future upgradeable as faster technology becomes available. Also, this technology consistently keeps network latency well under 2ms, making the 80-millisecond round-trip requirement more than feasible to handle all of the time. InfinityLink currently peers with Cogent and Conterra Networks for diverse paths offering both best cost and redundant paths for the network. Though this project is what would be considered "shovel ready", we are requesting additional time to complete because of material shortages in the industry as well as the massive size of the project.

b. Organizational Capability

With over 49 years of financial experience, NCGTP has the expertise to manage the project without any issues. Having been awarded 3 North Carolina GREAT Grants, 1 in 2019 and 2 in 2020, InfinityLink has proven its ability to deploy fiber to the home technology sustainably and on time. With the use of contractors to expedite the deployment, we feel that a 3-year deployment will be the most feasible approach to this opportunity.

3) Project Budget and Sustainability

a. **Reasonableness of the Budget**

The budget that has been provided for this project is the most cost-effective way we have been able to engineer to build a fully sustainable fiber to the home network capable of serving all of the underserved citizens of Lenoir County. By being a member of the NCTC, we have been able to substantially reduce the material costs as opposed to ordering without those negotiated discounts, thus helping the project be more viable.

b. **Sustainability of the Project**

InfinityLink Communications is already an Internet Service Provider offering services in the Lenoir County, NC Marketplace. This project is an extension of existing infrastructure in place today. By already being established and having a good reputation in the local industry, citizens are already wanting us to expand to their areas. Also, by deploying fiber technology, this project has the ability to scale in the future, by offering service to 5G wireless operators, or by increasing speed of the fiber product itself. As previously outlined, the income from the proposed project area will be more than sufficient to sustain the maintenance operations required to continually support the area.

Leverage of Non-Federal Resources

Unfortunately, there have been no contributions from non-federal sources on this proposed project. There have however been 3 state GREAT Grant awards totaling over \$3.3 Million that have helped get better coverage.

Project Scalability

This proposed project is for the deployment of a hybrid GPON/XGSPON fiber to the home network. The equipment vendors already have the ability to go from 10Gbps to 25Gbps with only changing the office and home equipment, not the physical fiber infrastructure. This gives the network the ability to continue to evolve and grow as additional bandwidth requirements become a necessity. Also, as 5G continues to be deployed, this network could provide a source of backhaul for 5G providers without the need for them to re-invest in the infrastructure.

Project Plan

As previously mentioned, NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications anticipate a 3-year buildout requirement for this opportunity. Currently, many of the materials required to complete the project have almost a 1-year lead time. The general timeframe for this project would be as follows:

Immediately after award – Order all materials for project to get in line for delivery

Immediately after award – Finalize engineering plans and begin permitting processes.

2-4 Months after award – Receive permits and begin construction.

As Material Arrive – Continue construction of project.

Physical Project Area Description

The project being proposed by NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications is to be wholly contained in Lenoir County, North Carolina. The project proposed to mimic the installation methods of the existing power infrastructure, when feasible, to minimize and environmental impacts. In most areas throughout Lenoir County, electric utilities are aerial which make deployment of the system much less intrusive to the environment as no digging is required. Also, with the previous existence of the aerial lines, there are no issues related to the historic preservation of the area. NCGTP and InfinityLink Communications are committed to ensuring no environmental impacts will arise from this project. In areas that digging will be required, the underground cables will be installed alongside a road that is already existing in the county.

Support of the Project

For this direct opportunity, there has been no state or local grant to assist with the funding. However, InfinityLink Communications has been successful in receiving 3 previous NC GREAT Grants which have helped get more citizens in the area connected to high-speed fiber optic internet.

Strong Labor Standards

As part of implementing the infrastructure of this project, InfinityLink will make all reasonable efforts to hire local employees and contractors. Also, InfinityLink currently pays employees above the prevailing rate for the area, along with offering a full benefits package, making InfinityLink a great option for those looking a career in the telecommunications industry.

Budget Narrative

A. Equipment -

Total: \$14,957,571

Feeder Fiber is the lower count fiber optic cable used for connecting split GPON/XGSPON light sources to end customers. The current cost per foot of feeder fiber is \$0.40.

Trunk Fiber is the higher-count backbone carrying high-power unsplit GPON/XGSPON sources to the areas to be served. The current cost per foot of trunk fiber is \$1.00.

¼' Strand will be used to suspend the aerial cables from pole to pole. Fiber will then be lashed onto the strand. The current cost for this is \$0.35/ft.

Fiber Taps are used to transition from the feeder fiber to the customer drop line. These currently cost \$250/ea.

Fiber Splice Cases are used to protect the splices of fiber optic cables, whether in a butt-splice or a branch-off splice. The current rate for this product is \$450/ea.

Customer Premise Equipment is broken down into 3 categories, ONT which is the addressable unit that connects the customer to the PON network, which current cost \$70/ea. Next is the WiFi solution for the customer premise, which costs \$65/ea and has an average of 2 wifi units per customer premise. Lastly is the Miscellaneous category, which includes the customer's drop wire, house terminal, connectors and consumables required to connect a subscriber to the PON network. These items collectively cost \$125/customer.

B. Construction -

Total: \$12,616,320

Construction for this project is broken up into 2 main categories, underground and aerial. Labor is charged at a per foot rate as follows:

Underground Plow (1st Cable) - \$1.50/ft

Underground Plow (2nd Cable) - \$0.75/ft

Underground Bore (hard surfaces) - \$6.00/ft

Aerial Strand Installation - \$0.50/ft

Aerial Per-Cable Installation - \$0.50/ft

C. Administrative -

Total: \$811,909

Administrative costs for this project include grant fund management, reporting, and auditing requirements. This covers the salaries for the Global TransPark Finance Director, Assistant Finance Director, as well as 3rd party consultants required to fulfil the financial management and reporting requirements of this project.

D. Land, Structures, rights-of-way -

Total: \$1,000,000

Permitting is required for access to NCDOT right-of-way, as well as power utility poles. This cost category covers the expenses for permitting from City of Kinston, Duke Energy, Pitt & Greene EMC, Tri-County EMC and Town of La Grange Power.

E. Architectural and Engineering -

Total: \$550,000

To include full design and engineering of permits.

F. Miscellaneous -

Total: \$50,000

Miscellaneous expenses are to cover pre-application expense, such as legal review.

Total: \$29,985,800

AER Cable Construction Budget Narrative

A. Labor-

AER Cable Construction does not charge us for the salary of employee's i.e., a Project Manager or any personnel that they may use during the construction process. Their employee's wages come directly from the per foot rate on which they install cable.

B. Construction-

Total: \$7,105,200

AER cable construction rates for cable underground construction are listed below:

Underground Plow (1st Cable) - \$1.50/ft

Underground Plow (2nd Cable) - \$0.75/ft

Underground Bore (hard surfaces) - \$6.00/ft

Plow, we estimate there to be 1,136,832 feet for a total cost of \$1,705,248

Plow second cable, we estimate there to be 1,136,832 feet of feeder fibers laid in the same trench as the trunk fiber. There will be a cost of \$852,624 to install the second cable.

Bore, we estimate there to be 757,888 feet for a total cost of \$4,547,328.

C. Equipment-

Any equipment required by AER Cable Construction is included in their per foot rate.

D. Material-

AER Cable Construction will not be responsible for any material purchase or material distribution.

E. Grant Administration-

AER Cable Construction will not play any part of administering the project.

F. Pre-Application Expenses-

AER Cable Construction will not be handling any of the pre-application expenses.

Total: \$7,105,200

BVJ Company Budget Narrative

A. Labor-

BVJ Company does not charge us for the salary of employee's i.e., a Project Manager or any personnel that they may use during the construction process. Their employee's wages come directly from the per foot rate on which they install cable.

B. Construction-

Total: \$4,263,119

BVJ Company construction rates for aerial cable construction are listed below:

Aerial Strand Installation - \$0.50/ft

Aerial Per-Cable Installation - \$0.50/ft

Strand installation, we expect there to be 2,842,080 feet of strand installation for a total cost of \$1,421,040.

Aerial trunk fiber installation, we expect there to be 2,842,080 of trunk fiber installation for A total cost of \$1,241,040.

Aerial feeder fiber installation, we expect there to be 2,842,080 of feeder fiber installation for a total cost of \$1,241,040

C. Equipment-

Any equipment required by BVJ Company is included in their per foot rate.

D. Material-

BVJ Company will not be responsible for any material purchase or material distribution.

E. Grant Administration-

BVJ Company will not play any part of administering the project.

F. Pre-Application Expenses-

BVJ Company will not be handling any of the pre-application expenses.

Total: \$4,263,119

InfinityLink Communications Budget Narrative

- A. Labor- Total: \$550,000
Lead Engineer: Salary of \$103,000/yr. Total salary for the course of the three-year project will be \$309,000

Staking Engineer: Salary of \$80,333.33/yr. total salary for the course of the three-year project will be \$241,000.
- B. Construction- Total: \$1,248,000
Will include splicing of fiber placed by contractors, our cost per splice is shown below:

Fusion Splice - \$50/ea

Fusion Splices, we expect that 24,690 splices will need to be done for a total of \$1,248,000.
- C. Equipment-
InfinityLink Communication will not be responsible for any equipment purchase.
- D. Material-
InfinityLink Communications will not be responsible for any material purchase.
- E. Grant Administration-
InfinityLink Communications will not play any part of administering the project.
- F. Pre-Application Expenses-
Legal review, our cost for a legal review of the grant was \$10,000.

Pre-Engineering, our cost to pre-engineer and design the project was \$40,000.

Total: \$1,848,000

NCGTP Budget Narrative

- A. Labor - Total: \$642,000
Administrative Overseer: Salary of \$90,000/yr. Total salary for the course of the three-year project will be \$270,000.

Administrative Personnel: Salary of \$62,000/yr. There will be two Administrative Personnel the total salary of the two combined over the course of the three-year project will be \$372,000.
- B. Construction-
The NCGTP will not play a role in the construction of this project.
- C. Equipment -
The NCGTP will not be responsible for any equipment purchase or deployments.
- D. Material-
The NCGTP will not be responsible for any material purchase or material distribution.
- E. Financial Audits- Total: \$169,909
Financial auditing, we intend to have an annual financial audit which we estimate to cost \$56,363.33/yr totaling \$169,909 over the course of the project.
- F. Pre-Application Expenses-
The NCGTP will not be handling any of the pre-application expenses.

Total: \$811,910

National Cable Television Cooperative (NCTC) Budget Narrative

A. Labor-

NCTC does not charge us for the salary of any of their employees, their employee wages come directly from purchases made on the provider's behalf.

B. Construction-

NCTC will not play any part of the construction process.

C. Equipment-

Total: \$3,731,325

Customer Premise Equipment is broken down into 3 categories, ONT which is the addressable unit that connects the customer to the PON network, which current cost \$70/ea. Next is the WiFi solution for the customer premise, which costs \$65/ea and has an average of 2 wifi units per customer premise. Lastly is the Miscellaneous category, which includes the customer's drop wire, house terminal, connectors and consumables required to connect a subscriber to the PON network. These items collectively cost \$125/customer.

Customer Premise – ONT, we will need 11,481 ONT's for this project for a total cost of \$803,670.

Customer Premise – WiFi, we will need 22,962 WiFi units for a total cost of \$1,492,530

Customer Premise – Miscellaneous, we will need 11,481 installation kits for a total cost of \$1,435,125

D. Material-

Total: \$11,226,246

The materials to be used and their respective price are shown below.

Feeder Fiber is the lower count fiber optic cable used for connecting split GPON/XGSPON light sources to end customers. The current cost per foot of feeder fiber is \$0.40.

Trunk Fiber is the higher-count backbone carrying high-power unsplit GPON/XGSPON sources to the areas to be served. The current cost per foot of trunk fiber is \$1.00.

¼' Strand will be used to suspend the aerial cables from pole to pole. Fiber will then be lashed onto the strand. The current cost for this is \$0.35/ft.

Fiber Taps are used to transition from the feeder fiber to the customer drop line. These currently cost \$250/ea.

Fiber Splice Cases are used to protect the splices of fiber optic cables, whether in a butt-splice or a branch-off splice. The current rate for this product is \$450/ea.

Feeder Fiber, we expect to need 4,736,800 feet for a total cost of \$1,894,720.

Trunk Fiber, we expect to need 4,736,800 feet for a total cost of \$4,736,798.

¼" Strand, we expect to need 2,842,080 feet for a total cost of \$994,728.

Fiber Taps, we will need 9000 taps for a total cost of \$2,250,000.

Fiber Splice Case, we will need 3000 cases for a total cost of \$1,350,000.

- E. Grant Administration-
NCTC will not play any part of administering the project.
- F. Pre-Application Expenses-
NCTC will not be handling any part of the pre-application expenses.

Total: \$14,957,571

Roy Cooper
Governor

J. Eric Boyette
Secretary of Transportation



John W. Rouse, Jr.
President / CEO

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
Global TransPark Authority

August 16, 2021

Jennifer Duane
Senior Broadband Program Specialist
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re.: NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program

Dear Ms. Duane:

I am writing to express my support for the North Carolina Global TransPark / InfinityLink Communications grant application to expand fiber to the home broadband services throughout Lenoir County, North Carolina.

InfinityLink Communications is an Internet, TV and Telephone provider offering services in Greene, Lenoir, and Pitt counties, and is actively deploying additional fiber to the home.

North Carolina Global TransPark will provide the following services in conjunction with the proposal submitted by North Carolina Global TransPark / InfinityLink Communications to the NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program.

- **Grant Administration:** For this opportunity, North Carolina Global Transpark will provide support as the financial overseer for the project, as well as making sure all reporting requirements are met in a timely manner.

North Carolina Global TransPark is excited to partner with InfinityLink Communications and support the continued expansion of broadband throughout Lenoir County. We will work collectively with InfinityLink Communications to ensure our goals are aligned with the goals of the grant proposal, including efforts to track and report on outcomes. We believe this partnership will significantly improve the quality of life of the Lenoir County citizens and expand rural economic development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John W. Rouse, Jr.".

John W. Rouse, Jr., P.E.
President

Letter of Commitment – Broadband Infrastructure Program

August 17, 2021

Jennifer Duane
Senior Broadband Program Specialist
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program

Dear Ms. Duane:

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InfinityLink Communications is an Internet, TV and Telephone provider offering services in Greene, Lenoir and Pitt counties, and is actively deploying additional fiber to the home.

InfinityLink Communications will provide the following services in conjunction with the proposal submitted by North Carolina Global Transpark / InfinityLink Communications to the NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program.

- **Project Management:** For this opportunity, InfinityLink Communications will provide design, engineering and oversee the installation, testing and deployment of the proposed fiber to the home network.

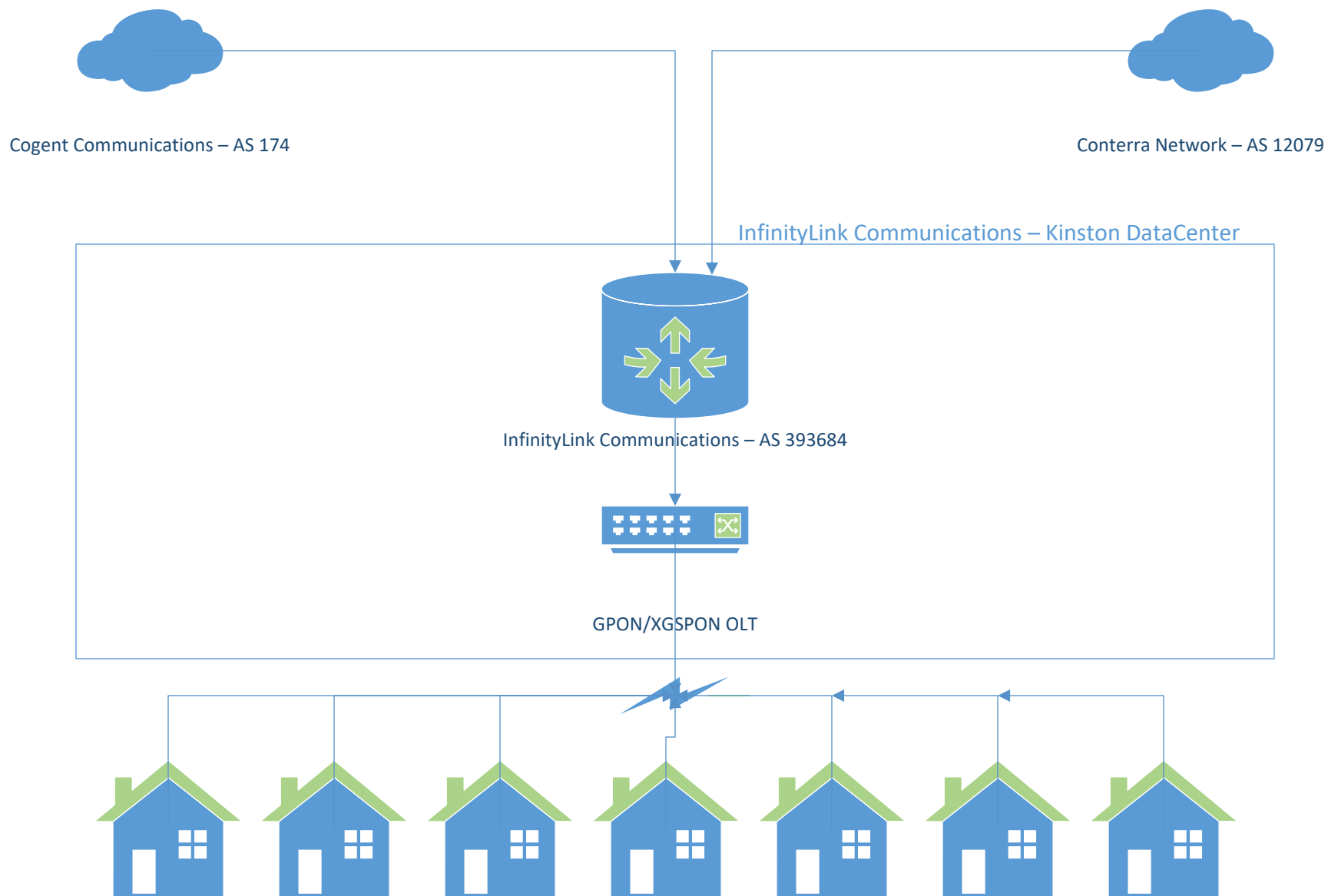
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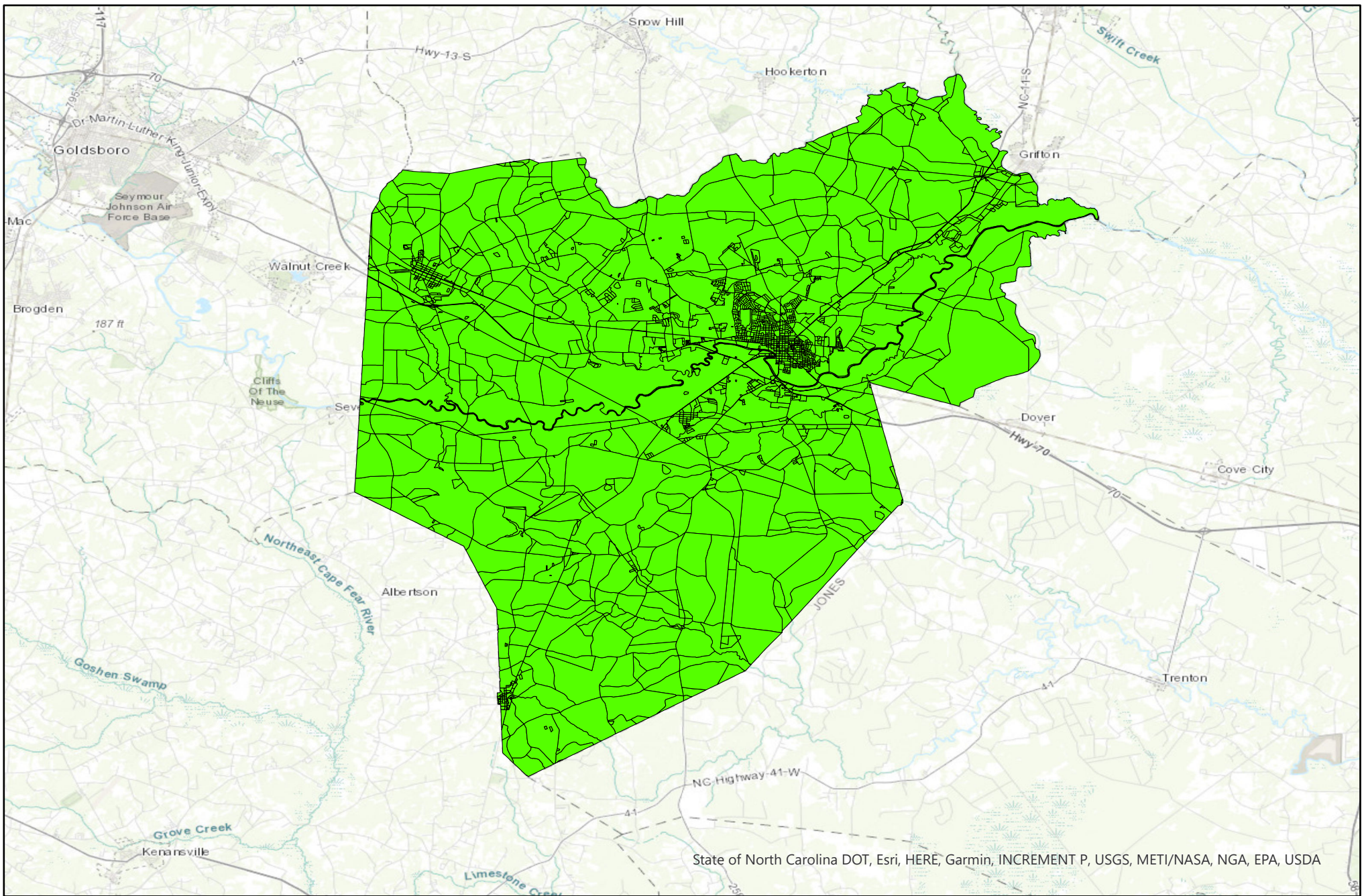
Sincerely,



Jeremy L Rich
President and Chief Executive Officer
InfinityLink Communications

InfinityLink Communications – Network & System Design

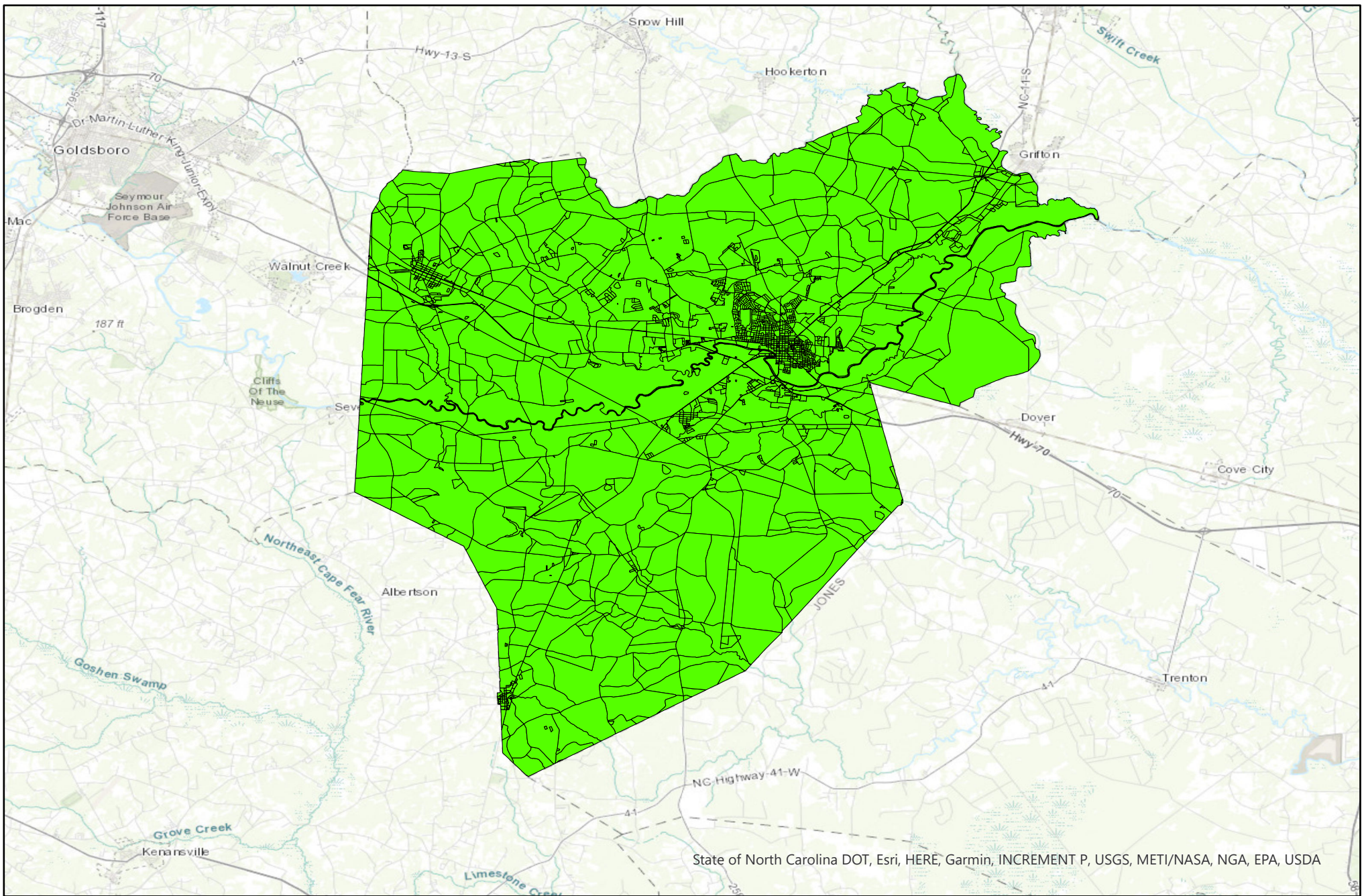




Lenoir County NC - Current "Served" Broadband

Served Status

- Unserved
- Served



Lenoir County NC - Current "Served" Broadband

Served Status

- Unserved
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