



PUBLIC NOTICE

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OVER \$32 MILLION OF CONNECT AMERICA FUNDING AUTHORIZED TO CONNECT UNSERVED HOMES AND BUSINESSES IN ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO

WC Docket No. 10-90

By this public notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) authorizes funding for the second round of Connect America Phase I, in response to elections from three price cap carriers: Alaska Communications Systems (ACS), Hawaiian Telecom, and Puerto Rico Telephone Company (PRTC). Each of these three carriers elected to accept a second round of Phase I funding.¹ Because no parties challenged the elections of ACS, Hawaiian Telecom, or PRTC, funding is hereby authorized for these elections, and upon release of this Public Notice, the Universal Service Administrative Company is authorized and directed to distribute Connect America Phase I incremental support to those carriers in the amounts specified in Attachment 1.² These carriers will receive a total of \$32,764,769 to spur the deployment of broadband-capable networks in two states and one U.S. territory.

ACS had challenged the National Broadband Map's designation of 52 census blocks as being served by Internet access with speeds of at least 3 Mbps/768 kbps.³ These blocks are shown on the map as served by Yukon Tech d/b/a BBN, a fixed wireless Internet service provider. ACS alleges that BBN does not offer speeds of at least 3 Mbps/768 kbps.⁴ As evidence, ACS submits advertising materials from

¹ Letter from Ruth Willard, Senior Director Revenue Management, Alaska Communications Systems, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 20, 2013) (ACS Election Letter); Letter from Kevin T. Paul, Senior Vice President – Technology, Hawaiian Telecom, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 16, 2013); Letter from Mario R. Barrera, Chief Operating Officer, Puerto Rico Telephone Company, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 20, 2013); Letter from Thomas J. Navin, Counsel for Puerto Rico Telephone Company, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 23, 2013).

² Each carrier is obligated to deploy broadband-capable infrastructure to a sufficient number of locations to satisfy its buildout obligations. Deployments must conform with the rules for the second round of Phase I, including, but not limited to, the requirement that deployments take place in areas shown on the National Broadband Map as unserved by fixed Internet access with speeds of 3 Mbps downstream and 768 kbps upstream (3 Mbps/768 kbps) or in areas where the National Broadband Map's speed designation was successfully challenged. This authorization of funding does not constitute a ruling by the Bureau that any given census block indicated in a carrier's election contains eligible locations. Carriers will be required to certify in their two- and three-year milestone reports that the deployment locations met all the required criteria.

³ ACS Election Letter at 1. Neither PRTC nor Hawaiian Telecom indicated that they were challenging the National Broadband Map's designation of any census blocks as served by Internet access with speeds of at least 3 Mbps/768 kbps.

⁴ *Id.* at 1-2.

BBN's website showing a maximum upload speed of 512 kbps, below the required threshold of 768 kbps.⁵ BBN did not respond to ACS's allegations. Given the evidence presented by ACS, combined with the lack of any evidence to the contrary from BBN, the Bureau concludes that it is more likely than not that the census blocks challenged by ACS are not currently served by fixed Internet access with speeds of at least 3 Mbps/768 kbps. A list of these blocks is included as Attachment 2 to this Public Notice.⁶

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

For further information, please contact Ryan Yates, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at 202-418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484, or at Ryan.Yates@fcc.gov.

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⁵ *Id.* at 1-2 & Attach.

⁶ Locations in these blocks will be treated as if they were shown on the National Broadband Map as served by Internet access with speeds of 768 kbps/200 kbps, but lacking 3 Mbps/768 kbps Internet access.

ATTACHMENT 1

Connect America Phase I Round Two Authorized Amounts

<u>Company</u>	<u>Authorized Amount</u>
ACS of the Northland, LLC	\$173,800
Hawaiian Telecom, Inc.	\$1,020,621
Puerto Rico Telephone Company, Inc.	\$31,570,348

ATTACHMENT 2

ACS Census Blocks – Challenge Granted

022900002002324	022900002002291
022900002002325	022900002002307
022900002002240	022900002002263
022900002002317	022900002002304
022900002002247	022900002002264
022900002002329	022900002002292
022900002002322	022900002002301
022900002002319	022900002002302
022900002002320	022900002002242
022900002002286	022900002002300
022900002002287	022900002002285
022900002002288	022900002002305
022900002002278	022900002002293
022900002002245	022900002002283
022900002002276	022900002002294
022900002002275	022900002002295
022900002002279	022900002002284
022900002002313	022900002002261
022900002002309	022900002002260
022900002002312	022900002002258
022900002002311	022900002002256
022900002002290	022900002002257
022900002002280	022900002002267
022900002002306	022900002002282
022900002002249	022900002002259
022900002002281	022900002002265