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| ***FCC - News from the Federal Communications Commission***  **Media Contact:**  Mark Wigfield, (202) 418-0253  mark.wigfield@fcc.gov  **For Immediate Release**  **FCC AUTHORIZES $524 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR RURAL BROADBAND FROM CONNECT AMERICA FUND AUCTION**  ***Third Round of Funding Starts This Month for Broadband Buildout***  ***in Rural Communities in 23 States***  ***--***  WASHINGTON, July 15, 2019—The FCC today authorized over $524 million in funding over the next decade to expand broadband to 205,520 unserved rural homes and businesses in 23 states, representing the third wave of support from last year’s successful Connect America Fund Phase II auction. Providers will begin receiving funding this month.  In total, the auction last fall allocated $1.488 billion in support to expand broadband to more than 700,000 unserved rural homes and small businesses over the next 10 years. The FCC has already authorized two waves of funding in May and June, and funds from those first two waves are expanding connectivity to nearly 100,000 homes and businesses that lack service. Today’s action brings total authorized funding to nearly $803 million, or over half of the $1.488 billion allocated through the auction, expanding connectivity to 305,518 homes and businesses.  In the coming months, the FCC will be authorizing additional funding as it approves remaining applications of the winning bidders from the auction.  “High-speed Internet provides access to opportunity in the 21st century, and the FCC’s top priority is closing the digital divide so that all Americans can fully participate in our connected society,” said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai. “Today’s authorization of funding is the largest yet from the auction, nearly double the amount authorized in the first two rounds nationwide, and serving over twice as many rural homes and businesses. I am pleased that the Commission is moving quickly to authorize these funds to close the digital divide in rural America.”  The Connect America Fund Phase II auction is part of a broader effort by the FCC to close the digital divide in rural America. In addition to the funding that is being made available through this auction, Chairman Pai recently proposed that the FCC launch a new Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, which would provide at least $20.4 billion over 10 years to expand broadband to additional rural areas  If approved, this Fund would represent the FCC’s single biggest step yet to close the digital divide. The FCC is scheduled to vote on launching a rulemaking to establish the Fund on August 1.  The funding applications approved by the Commission today include the following:   * AMG Technology Investment Group is receiving $281.3 million to deploy service to nearly 100,700 homes and businesses in rural Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas, two-thirds of which will get service delivering speeds of 100 Megabit per second downstream/20 Mbps upstream, and the remainder, at 25 Mbps/3 Mbps * Crystal Automation Systems, Inc. is receiving $27.2 million to deploy service to 17,610 homes and businesses in rural Michigan, most of which will get service delivering speeds of at least 100 Mbps downstream/20 Mbps upstream * RiverStreet Communications of Virginia, Inc., is receiving $32.1 million to deploy service to 13,518 homes and businesses in rural Virginia at Gigabit download speeds * California Internet LP is receiving $87.8 million to deploy service to 11,845 rural California and Nevada homes and businesses at speeds of at least 100 Mbps downstream/20 Mbps upstream   Below is a complete list by state of the companies receiving support, the number of homes and businesses served (locations), the amount of support over 10 years, and the minimum download/upload speeds to be provided:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **State** | **Company** | **Minimum Speed** | **Support/10 Years** | **# of Locations** | | Alabama | Tombigbee Communications | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $1,691,879 | 279 | | Arkansas | Aristotle Unified Communications | 25/3 Mbps | $7,069,003 | 3,191 | | California | California Internet | 100/20 Mbps | $82,629,018 | 10,922 | | Colorado | PC Telcorp | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $387,303 | 33 | | Delaware | Bloosurf | 25/3 Mbps | $1,188,311 | 1,321 | | Illinois | AMG Technology Investment Group | 100/20 Mbps | $35,329,966 | 10,226 | | Illinois | AMG Technology Investment Group | 25/3 Mbps | \* | 4,796 | | Indiana | Mercury Wireless Indiana | 25/3 Mbps | $1,400,845 | 7,371 | | Indiana | Orange County REMC | 100/20 Mbps | $10,200,496 | 2,797 | | Indiana | Orange County REMC | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | \* | 1,249 | | Indiana | Perry-Spencer Rural Telephone Cooperative | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $1,182,426 | 359 | | Iowa | AMG Technology Investment Group | 100/20 Mbps | $50,614,528 | 7,693 | | Iowa | AMG Technology Investment Group | 25/3 Mbps | \* | 7,404 | | Iowa | Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $179,957 | 101 | | Kansas | AMG Technology Investment Group | 100/20 Mbps | $37,349,711 | 5,393 | | Kansas | AMG Technology Investment Group | 25/3 Mbps | \* | 4,695 | | Kansas | Mercury Wireless Kansas | 25/3 Mbps | $1,331,173 | 776 | | Kentucky | Gibson Connect | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $412,624 | 119 | | Maryland | Bloosurf | 25/3 Mbps | $4,280,186 | 3,770 | | Michigan | Crystal Automation Systems | 100/20 Mbps | $27,299,087 | 17,555 | | Michigan | Crystal Automation Systems | 25/3 Mbps | \* | 53 | | Michigan | Crystal Automation Systems | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | \* | 2 | | Michigan | Mercury Wireless Indiana | 25/3 Mbps | $235,637 | 971 | | Michigan | Midwest Energy Cooperative | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $5,171,125 | 2,386 | | Michigan | Tri-County Electric Cooperative | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $117,784 | 106 | | Minnesota | Federated Telephone Cooperative | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $1,431,039 | 808 | | Minnesota | Roseau Electric Cooperative | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $2,081,770 | 326 | | Mississippi | Aristotle Unified Communications | 25/3 Mbps | $277,905 | 80 | | Missouri | Aristotle Unified Communications | 25/3 Mbps | $3,001,545 | 788 | | Missouri | Chariton Valley Communications Corporation | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $4,179,666 | 847 | | Missouri | Mercury Wireless Kansas | 25/3 Mbps | $1,641,845 | 1,954 | | Missouri | Mid-States Services | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $1,868,060 | 358 | | Nebraska | AMG Technology Investment Group | 100/20 Mbps | $40,848,390 | 8,768 | | Nevada | California Internet | 100/20 Mbps | $5,203,386 | 923 | | Nevada | Valley Communications Association | 25/3 Mbps | $404,754 | 153 | | North Carolina | RiverStreet Communications of North Carolina | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $679,130 | 368 | | North Dakota | BEK Communications Cooperative | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $1,182,155 | 534 | | Ohio | Mercury Wireless Indiana | 25/3 Mbps | $831 | 20 | | Oklahoma | AMG Technology Investment Group | 100/20 Mbps | $41,285,224 | 12,750 | | Oklahoma | AMG Technology Investment Group | 25/3 Mbps | \* | 5,133 | | Oklahoma | Aristotle Unified Communications | 25/3 Mbps | $1,803,161 | 3,549 | | Oklahoma | AtLink Services | 25/3 Mbps | $4,762,674 | 12,491 | | Oklahoma | Lake Region Technology & Communications | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $4,024,501 | 2,247 | | Oklahoma | OzarksGo | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $12,129,065 | 5,427 | | Oklahoma | Pine Cellular Phones | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $4,360,549 | 1,058 | | Oklahoma | Southern Plains Cable | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $857,095 | 664 | | Texas | AMG Technology Investment Group | 100/20 Mbps | $75,855,975 | 18,675 | | Texas | AMG Technology Investment Group | 25/3 Mbps | \* | 15,128 | | Texas | Texhoma Fiber | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $831,018 | 98 | | Virginia | PGEC Enterprises | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $15,402,703 | 5,287 | | Virginia | RiverStreet Communications of Virginia | 1 Gbps/500 Mbps | $32,140,887 | 13,518 | | **Total** |  |  | **$524,324,384** | **205,520** | |  | \* Dollar amount included in total for company |  |  |  |   Providers must build out to 40% of the assigned homes and businesses in the areas won in a state within three years. Buildout must increase by 20% in each subsequent year, until complete buildout is reached at the end of the sixth year.  More information is available on the auction is available at <https://www.fcc.gov/auction/903>. A map of winning bids is available at <https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/maps/caf2-auction903-results/>. |
| **###**  **Office of Media Relations: (202) 418-0500**  **ASL Videophone: (844) 432-2275**  **TTY: (888) 835-5322**  **Twitter: @FCC**  **www.fcc.gov/media-relations**  *This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).* |