Broadband For All and CASF Realignment

Communications Division

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California Public Utilities Commission

Why Realignment?

- CASF program isn't designed to effectively close the digital divide
- AB 1665 prohibition of combining grant money with federal money
 - Prior to AB 1665, CPUC leveraged \$40M of CASF to get \$155M in ARRA
 - Addressed with AB 82 (Chapter 14 of Statutes of 2020)
- California historically misses out on major federal funding opportunities due to lack of state coordination, advocacy

Realignment – 3 Stages

Stage 1

Promote RDOF & reconcile CASF projects

Stage 2

Award non-RDOF CASF, create RDOF leverage

Stage 3

Award kicker funds to RDOF winners, award remaining CASF projects





May 2020 - Dec 2020





Stage 2

California Public Utilities Commission

Stage 3



Apr 2020 - Oct 2020

What

- Ensure California maximizes eligible federal money.
- Maximize number of RDOF bid
 participants in California

How

- Removed statutory prohibition for federal matching
- Created "kicker" proposal to make up difference between RDOF reserve price and final bids
- Promoted RDOF and provided technical RDOF assistance to applicants.



Stage 2: Award non-RDOF CASF, create RDOF leverage, design new program structure

May 2020 - Dec 2020

What

- Expand CASF to provide tribal technical assistance to tribes.
- Prioritize projects not dependent on RDOF.

How

- Created Tribal Technical Assistance Grant <u>Program</u> (up to \$5M) for tribes to develop broadband plans (D.20-08-005)
 - First 9 awards made in Nov. 2020
- Bifurcated 2020 CASF applications into non-RDOF and RDOF overlap



Stage 3: Award kicker funds to RDOF winners, award remaining CASF projects

Jan 2021 – Oct 2021

What

- Implement RDOF kicker proposal
- Close out 2020 CASF application cycle
- Continue leveraging RDOF

How

- Award kicker funds to RDOF applicants
- Award CASF projects with RDOF
 overlap minus RDOF awards
- Prepare for RDOF Phase II

RDOF Phase 1 - Preliminary Results



Reverse auction closed 11/24; winners announced 12/7



15 bid winners, 365K locations \$700M over 10 years

