Frontier RDOF Kicker CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Application – Palo Cedro Item #6 - Project Summary

Applicant: Citizens Telecommunications Company of California Inc. d/b/a Frontier

Communications of California (U-1024-C)

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Project Title: Palo Cedro

Project Location: Shasta County

Funding Request: CASF Funding: \$2,445,373

Level 2 Kicker Funding: \$118,000

PROJECT SUMMARY

Citizens Telecommunications Company of California Inc. d/b/a Frontier Communications of California (U-1024-C) (Frontier) is applying for a Level 2 Grant from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Kicker Program to deploy last mile fiber to the home (FTTH) facilities that will provide High Speed Internet (HSI) to 560 unserved households in the region of Palo Cedro within Shasta County. Frontier refers to this proposal as the Palo Cedro Project (Project). The Project would allow service to last-mile customers with minimum symmetrical speeds of 50 Mbps and maximum symmetrical speeds of up to 1 Gbps using fiber optic technology. Service will also be made available through Frontier's low-income broadband programs described in more detail below. Frontier is requesting that the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) grant \$2,445,373 from the CASF fund and Level 2 kicker funding in the amount of \$118,000 for this project.

DESCRIPTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE BEING DEPLOYED (Miles of planned fiber, Central Offices used, remote terminals / fiber huts / wireless towers to be built, and if an IRU is used):

This project will place 241,652 buried feet and 33,092 aerial feet of 144 fiber optic cable for FTTH in the Palo Cedro Wire Center. This fiber build is 100% last mile. Four FDH and 1 CO OLT will be placed at the Central Office.

ESTIMATED BREAKDOWN OF AERIAL AND UNDERGROUND INSTALLATION:

It is estimated that this project will be approximately 12% aerial and 88% underground installation.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED BROADBAND PROJECT PLAN FOR WHICH CASF FUNDING IS BEING REQUESTED, INCLULDING THE TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY TO BE PROVIDED IN THE PROPOSED SERVICE AREAS - the project description will provide enough construction detail to enable a preliminary indication of the need for a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review and if proposed project areas contains any environmentally sensitive areas (i.e. when trenching is required, the applicant will state and describe the manner in which the site is to be restored, post-trenching). Frontier will leverage all existing infrastructure within the Right of Way, including existing poles, underground system, and where Frontier currently has direct buried copper cables. There may be sections where boring and trenching is necessary when Frontier cannot leverage third party existing

infrastructure. Frontier will restore, trench and bore locations back to its original state after construction is completed. Frontier does not anticipate that CEQA review will be needed for the FTTH build.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE LEVERAGING OF EXISTING AVAILABLE FACILITIES (i.e. interconnection in lieu of overbuilding existing facilities of another provider):

Frontier will connect existing middle-mile facilities where applicable, such as main router, Packet Optical, and router locations. This application is FTTH, and therefore, Frontier cannot leverage existing copper networks as they are two different technologies.

INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECTS TO SERVE NEARBY CASF-ONLY ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS:

The nearby CASF-Only Eligible Households will be upgraded to enable internet speeds up to 1G/1G. These households are in and adjoining unserved areas. CASF funding based on the rural community's critical broadband needs, including their educational and economic digital divide. This project also provides safety benefits to the community including, but not limited to, robust bandwidth in the event of wildfire, winter storms and earthquakes as well as improved access to e-health services.

FUNDING

To receive a Level 2 award, a project must qualify to receive Level 1 support and satisfy additional Level 2 criteria. Projects receiving Level 2 awards will be provided up to an additional 10% of the RDOF reserve price in kicker funding for eligible census blocks, yielding a total of up to 20% kicker funding for the Level 1 and Level 2 awards combined. Frontier maintains that this project qualifies under Level 2 eligibility requirements:

- o <u>Level 2 eligibility requirements:</u>
 - ✓ Qualification for Level 1 support
- o <u>Level 2 Provider Participation Requirements:</u>
 - ✓ Level 1 Participation Requirements
 - ✓ Provision of low-income or affordable broadband plans for low-income consumers served by RDOF-funded infrastructure, for the 10-year duration of RDOF funding*
 - ✓ One or both of the following:
 - Offering Indefeasible Rights of Use at no cost for fibers for California
 Tribes located within 40-miles of RDOF funded last-mile or middle-mile
 routes
 - Designation as a Carrier of Last Resort (COLR) in the service provider's RDOF-funded areas

Number of Locations by Census Block

Census Block	Adjacent	Kicker	RDOF ONLY	Grand Total
060890119001018	4			4
060890119002004			33	33
060890119002019		3		3
060890119002020		4		4
060890119003004			22	22
060890119003005			43	43
060890119003006			13	13
060890119003007	14			14
060890119003011			51	51
060890119003018			66	66
060890119003025	16			16
060890119003027	2			2
060890119003037	24			24
060890119004016	27			27
060890126013215	1			1
060890126013225	11			11
060890126013241	12			12
060890126013267	21			21
060890126013268	14			14
060890126013335	4			4
060890126042021	2			2
060890126042028	3			3
060890126042034	1			1
060890126042040	2			2
060890126042042	2			2
060890126042049			12	12
060890126042052	2			2
060890126042061			22	22
060890126042066		5		5
060890126042067		15		15
060890126042070		3		3
060890126042072			5	5
060890126042074		3		3
060890126042075		6		6
060890126042077			13	13
060890126042082			9	9
060890126042083	1			1
060890126042128	3			3
060890126042132		1		1
060890126042133		7		7

Census Block	Adjacent	Kicker	RDOF ONLY	Grand Total
060890126042148	3			3
060890126042149	7			7
060890126042151	4			4
060890126042153	4			4
060890126042160	1			1
060890126042179		4		4
060890126042180		16		16
060890126042181	1			1
060890126042198	1			1
060890126042232			6	6
060890126042233		3		3
060890126042236	8			8
Grand Total	195	70	295	560

Palo Cedro Area Map

