

Bringing Connectivity to Your Community



To: Broadband Service Providers and Stakeholders in New Mexico

From: Drew Lovelace, Acting Director, Office of Broadband Access
and Expansion

Date: May 3, 2024

Regarding: Connect New Mexico Fund: Mapping Review to Validate
Eligible Locations Extension of Deadline for Stakeholder
Feedback

The New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAE) continues to review applications for the Connect New Mexico Fund.

The review process comprises two distinct but complementary tracks: a) merit review that applies a scoring rubric to assess strengths and weaknesses of the applications; b) mapping review that closely examines the eligibility of the proposed project areas (PPAs). The mapping review is

designed to ensure that an applicant's PPAs are eligible per the Notice of Funding Opportunity guidelines.

Several stakeholders have inquired about the opportunity to provide additional information regarding potential overbuild concerns. The prior deadline of April 19th had been set to receive timely information rather than as an absolute cut-off limiting OBAE from considering data that would undermine project eligibility.

OBAE invites stakeholders to provide compelling evidence if they have not yet done so. Several applications will soon enter the due diligence phase. Therefore, stakeholders should provide additional information by May 13th. Information submitted thereafter may be considered; however, given the near-term milestone of completing project reviews, information submitted thereafter limits OBAE's ability to consider those details during the merit review process.

The Proposed Project Areas are depicted at this link: <https://arcg.is/1nOm1m0>

Please review the original memo for the substantive and procedural guidelines to submit a potential challenge. https://connect.nm.gov/uploads/1/4/1/9/141989814/obae_mapping_review_connect_nm_fund_4-5-24.pdf

Please submit feedback to broadband@connect.nm.gov.

Respectfully,

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If you have questions about any of these opportunities, please contact us via email at Broadband@doit.nm.gov.

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