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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 31, 2024

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More than \$1.4 million awarded for broadband planning
Local, tribal governments share in grant funding

ALBUQUERQUE—The state Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAE) today announced it has awarded \$1.4 million in grants to 15 entities for planning, engineering and grant writing to expand broadband access in their communities.

“This is a big step forward to helping unserved regions of our state attain high-speed internet,” said **Drew Lovelace, acting director of OBAE.**

The grants awarded under the Grant Writing, Engineering and Planning Program (GWEP) will be used by the awardees for such things as grant writing, engineering and planning for broadband expansion projects. The grants can also be used to attain other funds, like those available under the federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) program.

GWEP awards must be used in the development of infrastructure projects. Internet Service Providers are not eligible.

The grants were awarded in two rounds this month.

Here are the grant awardees:

Round 1		Round 2	
Village of Pecos	\$100,000	Santa Fe County	\$100,000
Valencia County	\$100,000	Colfax County	\$72,635

Pueblo of Isleta	\$100,000	City of Raton	\$100,000
San Ildefonso Services, LLC	\$100,000	Pueblo of Picuris	\$100,000
Pueblo of Laguna	\$100,000	Redi-Net	\$100,000
Pueblo of Jemez	\$100,000	Penasco Valley Telephone Co-op	\$72,500
Otero County	\$100,000	Jemez Mountains Electric Co-op	\$100,000
Luna County	\$99,000		

Money is still available in the program, and OBAE is urging tribal governments, local governments, rural telephone cooperatives and rural electric cooperatives to submit applications for the assistance grants.

For more information about the program, click here: <https://connect.nm.gov/obae-funding.html>

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The Office of Broadband Access and Expansion is dedicated to serving New Mexico with a commitment to make high-speed broadband accessible to all New Mexicans. OBAE's mission is to expand and improve high-speed internet service with passionate leadership that drives bold, equitable, affordable and inclusive broadband solutions. OBAE seeks results that honor the state's rich heritage and elevate quality of life for all.