

APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Aiken Electric Cooperative**
Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **None - Selecting Partner with FRN**
Primary Contact Name **Gary Stooksbury** Title **CEO**
Mailing Address **PO Box 417** Phone Number **(803) 641-0197**
City, State, Zip **Aiken, SC 29802** Email

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Aiken** Rural or Urban **Rural**
Nearest City/Town **Wagener** Project Area Map Code **Aiken 8**
Number of Households in Project Area *(Target code)*
Number of Businesses in Project Area
Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area
Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area
2 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **1Gbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/1/2020	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/2020
Project Construction Activity Begins	10/01/2020	Project Completion Date	12/30/2020
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/31/2020		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$3,067,155	Average Cost per Housing Unit	N/A
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$3,067,155		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$139,655	Average Cost per Business	N/A
Average Cost per Location Served <i>(all locations or structures)</i>	\$69,827		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested	\$139,655
Applicant-Provided Funding	\$3,067,155
Third-Party Funding	Amount \$0
	Source(s)

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

Aiken Electric Cooperative (AEC) has contracted with McCall-Thomas Engineering to provide design and construction services for the fiber network to connect all AEC substation and offices together and provide high speed communications from AEC's main office to each of these outlying locations. McCall-Thomas had provided design and construction services for fiber networks over the past several years to Home Telecom and Farmers Telephone Cooperative. More recently, McCall-Thomas has designed a Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) network for Newberry Electric Cooperative (NEC). Over the past approximately 18 months, McCall-Thomas has constructed approximately 600 miles of the fiber network for NEC covering approximately 1/3 of the NEC service

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

AEC's proposal is to install a fiber cable from its fiber network to the Busbee Elementary and Corbett Middle School and create a

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Most if not all schools system in SC are allowing parents to select either "in school" or "distance learning" for their children. Having the ability for the teacher to provide "distance learning" while at the same time providing "in school learning" allows all students a similar learning experience.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

None at this time.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

AEC's primary funding for all of its construction projects comes from the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) which is a federal agency under the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Every four years AEC updates its Construction Work Plan (CWP) to RUS and if AEC needs additional construction funds, they submit a Loan Application to RUS. AEC had recently submitted its Loan Application to RUS for approval and it is in the final stage of approval. RUS has funded all Loan Applications in the past and has indicated its approval of this Loan Application which includes the installation of 779 miles of fiber cable at an estimated cost of \$20,051,460. This is Code 616 on page 175 of the attached RUS Loan Application.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

None

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.

- Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature: 

Print Name of Signature: Gary Stooksbury

Title of Signatory: CEO, Aiken Electric Cooperative

Date: 8/14/2020

Renewal Terms. *Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.*

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

Untitled Map

Write a description for your map.

CORBETT MIDDLE BUSBEE MIDDLE

WAGENER HIGH

Perry

TRI-CITY (18)

Legend

- 24F
- Feature 1
- First Baptist Church
- Leisure Time Golf Carts
- Li'l Cricket
- NAPA Auto Parts - North Auto Supply
- North
- NORTH
- NORTH (4)
- North Fire Dept
- North Police Dept
- R & J Drugs
- School
- Town of North



2 mi

Google Earth

© 2020 Google

APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Aiken Electric Cooperative**
Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **None - Selecting Partner with FRN**
Primary Contact Name **Gary Stooksbury** Title **CEO**
Mailing Address **PO Box 417** Phone Number **(803) 641-0197**
City, State, Zip **Aiken, SC 29802** Email

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**
Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Aiken** Rural or Urban **Rural**
Nearest City/Town **Batesburg** Project Area Map Code **Aiken 7**
Number of Households in Project Area *(Target code)*
Number of Businesses in Project Area
Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area
Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area
1 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **1Gbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/1/2020	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/2020
Project Construction Activity Begins	10/01/2020	Project Completion Date	12/30/2020
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/31/2020		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$3,067,155	Average Cost per Housing Unit	N/A
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$3,067,155		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$113,167	Average Cost per Business	N/A
Average Cost per Location Served <i>(all locations or structures)</i>	\$113,167		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$113,167

Applicant-Provided Funding \$3,067,155

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0

Source(s)

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

Aiken Electric Cooperative (AEC) has contracted with McCall-Thomas Engineering to provide design and construction services for the fiber network to connect all AEC substation and offices together and provide high speed communications from AEC's main office to each of these outlying locations. McCall-Thomas had provided design and construction services for fiber networks over the past several years to Home Telecom and Farmers Telephone Cooperative. More recently, McCall-Thomas has designed a Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) network for Newberry Electric Cooperative (NEC). Over the past approximately 18 months, McCall-Thomas has constructed approximately 600 miles of the fiber network for NEC covering approximately 1/3 of the NEC service

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

AEC's proposal is to install a fiber cable from its fiber network to the New Holland Mennonite School and create a Wi-Fi network at

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Most if not all schools system in SC are allowing parents to select either "in school" or "distance learning" for their children. Having the ability for the teacher to provide "distance learning" while at the same time providing "in school learning" allows all students a similar learning experience.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

None at this time.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

AEC's primary funding for all of its construction projects comes from the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) which is a federal agency under the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Every four years AEC updates its Construction Work Plan (CWP) to RUS and if AEC needs additional construction funds, they submit a Loan Application to RUS. AEC had recently submitted its Loan Application to RUS for approval and it is in the final stage of approval. RUS has funded all Loan Applications in the past and has indicated its approval of this Loan Application which includes the installation of 779 miles of fiber cable at an estimated cost of \$20,051,460. This is Code 616 on page 175 of the attached RUS Loan Application.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

None

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.

- Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature: 

Print Name of Signature: Gary Stooksbury

Title of Signatory: CEO, Aiken Electric Cooperative

Date: 8/14/2020

Renewal Terms. Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

Untitled Map

Write a description for your map.

Legend

- 24F
- Feature 1
- First Baptist Church
- Leisure Time Golf Carts
- Li'l Cricket
- NAPA Auto Parts - North Auto Supply
- North
- NORTH
- NORTH (4)
- North Fire Dept
- North Police Dept
- R & J Drugs
- School
- Town of North



APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Aiken Electric Cooperative**

Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **None - Selecting Partner with FRN**

Primary Contact Name **Gary Stooksbury** Title **CEO**

Mailing Address **PO Box 417** Phone Number **(803) 641-0197**

City, State, Zip **Aiken, SC 29802** Email

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Orangeburg** Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **North** Project Area Map Code **Orangeburg 2**

Number of Households in Project Area (Target code)

Number of Businesses in Project Area

Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

2 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **1Gbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/1/2020	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/2020
Project Construction Activity Begins	10/01/2020	Project Completion Date	12/30/2020
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/31/2020		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$3,067,155	Average Cost per Housing Unit	N/A
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$3,067,155		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$151,955	Average Cost per Business	N/A
Average Cost per Location Served <i>(all locations or structures)</i>	\$75,977		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$151,955

Applicant-Provided Funding \$3,067,155

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0

Source(s)

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

Aiken Electric Cooperative (AEC) has contracted with McCall-Thomas Engineering to provide design and construction services for the fiber network to connect all AEC substation and offices together and provide high speed communications from AEC's main office to each of these outlying locations. McCall-Thomas had provided design and construction services for fiber networks over the past several years to Home Telecom and Farmers Telephone Cooperative. More recently, McCall-Thomas has designed a Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) network for Newberry Electric Cooperative (NEC). Over the past approximately 18 months, McCall-Thomas has constructed approximately 600 miles of the fiber network for NEC covering approximately 1/3 of the NEC service

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

AEC's proposal is to install a fiber cable from its fiber network to the North Middle/High and North Elementary School and create a

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Most if not all schools system in SC are allowing parents to select either "in school" or "distance learning" for their children. Having the ability for the teacher to provide "distance learning" while at the same time providing "in school learning" allows all students a similar learning experience.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

None at this time.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

AEC's primary funding for all of its construction projects comes from the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) which is a federal agency under the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Every four years AEC updates its Construction Work Plan (CWP) to RUS and if AEC needs additional construction funds, they submit a Loan Application to RUS. AEC had recently submitted its Loan Application to RUS for approval and it is in the final stage of approval. RUS has funded all Loan Applications in the past and has indicated its approval of this Loan Application which includes the installation of 779 miles of fiber cable at an estimated cost of \$20,051,460. This is Code 616 on page 175 of the attached RUS Loan Application.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

None

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature:



Print Name of Signature: Gary Stooksbury

Title of Signatory: CEO, Aiken Electric Cooperative

Date: 8/14/2020

Renewal Terms. *Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.*

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Aiken Electric Cooperative**
Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **None - Selecting Partner with FRN**
Primary Contact Name **Gary Stooksbury** Title **CEO**
Mailing Address **PO Box 417** Phone Number **(803) 641-0197**
City, State, Zip **Aiken, SC 29802** Email

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**
Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Aiken** Rural or Urban **Rural**
Nearest City/Town **Aiken** Project Area Map Code **Aiken 20**
Number of Households in Project Area *(Target code)*
Number of Businesses in Project Area
Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area
Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area
1 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **1Gbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/1/2020	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/2020
Project Construction Activity Begins	10/01/2020	Project Completion Date	12/30/2020
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/31/2020		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$3,067,155	Average Cost per Housing Unit	N/A
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$3,067,155		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$92,091	Average Cost per Business	N/A
Average Cost per Location Served <i>(all locations or structures)</i>	\$92,091		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested	\$92,091
Applicant-Provided Funding	\$3,067,155
Third-Party Funding	Amount \$0
	Source(s)

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

Aiken Electric Cooperative (AEC) has contracted with McCall-Thomas Engineering to provide design and construction services for the fiber network to connect all AEC substation and offices together and provide high speed communications from AEC's main office to each of these outlying locations. McCall-Thomas had provided design and construction services for fiber networks over the past several years to Home Telecom and Farmers Telephone Cooperative. More recently, McCall-Thomas has designed a Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) network for Newberry Electric Cooperative (NEC). Over the past approximately 18 months, McCall-Thomas has constructed approximately 600 miles of the fiber network for NEC covering approximately 1/3 of the NEC service

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

AEC's proposal is to install a fiber cable from its fiber network to the Oakwood-Windsor Elementary and create a Wi-Fi network at

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Most if not all schools system in SC are allowing parents to select either "in school" or "distance learning" for their children. Having the ability for the teacher to provide "distance learning" while at the same time providing "in school learning" allows all students a similar learning experience.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

None at this time.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

AEC's primary funding for all of its construction projects comes from the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) which is a federal agency under the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Every four years AEC updates its Construction Work Plan (CWP) to RUS and if AEC needs additional construction funds, they submit a Loan Application to RUS. AEC had recently submitted its Loan Application to RUS for approval and it is in the final stage of approval. RUS has funded all Loan Applications in the past and has indicated its approval of this Loan Application which includes the installation of 779 miles of fiber cable at an estimated cost of \$20,051,460. This is Code 616 on page 175 of the attached RUS Loan Application.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

None

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature:



Print Name of Signature: Gary Stooksbury

Title of Signatory: CEO, Aiken Electric Cooperative

Date: 8/14/2020

Renewal Terms. *Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.*

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

Untitled Map

Write a description for your map.

Legend

- 24F
- Feature 1
- First Baptist Church
- Leisure Time Golf Carts
- Li'l Cricket
- NAPA Auto Parts - North Auto Supply
- North
- NORTH
- NORTH (4)
- North Fire Dept
- North Police Dept
- R & J Drugs
- School
- Town of North

OAKWOOD ELEM



800 ft

Google Earth

© 2020 Google

APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Aiken Electric Cooperative**

Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **None - Selecting Partner with FRN**

Primary Contact Name **Gary Stooksbury** Title **CEO**

Mailing Address **PO Box 417** Phone Number **(803) 641-0197**

City, State, Zip **Aiken, SC 29802** Email

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Aiken**

Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **Aiken**

Project Area Map Code **Aiken 6**

Number of Households in Project Area (Target code)

Number of Businesses in Project Area

Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

1 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **1Gbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/1/2020	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/2020
Project Construction Activity Begins	10/01/2020	Project Completion Date	12/30/2020
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/31/2020		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$3,067,155	Average Cost per Housing Unit	N/A
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$3,067,155		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$97,318	Average Cost per Business	N/A
Average Cost per Location Served (all locations or structures)	\$97,318		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested	\$97,318
Applicant-Provided Funding	\$3,067,155
Third-Party Funding	Amount \$0
	Source(s)

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

Aiken Electric Cooperative (AEC) has contracted with McCall-Thomas Engineering to provide design and construction services for the fiber network to connect all AEC substation and offices together and provide high speed communications from AEC's main office to each of these outlying locations. McCall-Thomas had provided design and construction services for fiber networks over the past several years to Home Telecom and Farmers Telephone Cooperative. More recently, McCall-Thomas has designed a Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) network for Newberry Electric Cooperative (NEC). Over the past approximately 18 months, McCall-Thomas has constructed approximately 600 miles of the fiber network for NEC covering approximately 1/3 of the NEC service

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

AEC's proposal is to install a fiber cable from its fiber network to the Tall Pines Academy and create a Wi-Fi network at each

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Most if not all schools system in SC are allowing parents to select either "in school" or "distance learning" for their children. Having the ability for the teacher to provide "distance learning" while at the same time providing "in school learning" allows all students a similar learning experience.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

None at this time.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

AEC's primary funding for all of its construction projects comes from the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) which is a federal agency under the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Every four years AEC updates its Construction Work Plan (CWP) to RUS and if AEC needs additional construction funds, they submit a Loan Application to RUS. AEC had recently submitted its Loan Application to RUS for approval and it is in the final stage of approval. RUS has funded all Loan Applications in the past and has indicated its approval of this Loan Application which includes the installation of 779 miles of fiber cable at an estimated cost of \$20,051,460. This is Code 616 on page 175 of the attached RUS Loan Application.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

None

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.

- Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature:



Print Name of Signature: Gary Stooksbury

Title of Signatory: CEO, Aiken Electric Cooperative

Date: 8/14/2020

Renewal Terms. Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Aiken Electric Cooperative**
Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **None - Selecting Partner with FRN**
Primary Contact Name **Gary Stooksbury** Title **CEO**
Mailing Address **PO Box 417** Phone Number **(803) 641-0197**
City, State, Zip **Aiken, SC 29802** Email

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**
Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **N/A**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Aiken** Rural or Urban **Rural**
Nearest City/Town **Wagner** Project Area Map Code **Aiken 16**
Number of Households in Project Area *(Target code)*
Number of Businesses in Project Area
Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area
Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area
1 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **1Gbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds *(symmetrical upload/download speeds)*
- Hybrid fiber-coax* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds *(non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)*
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds *(25/3 Mbps or faster)*

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/1/2020	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/2020
Project Construction Activity Begins	10/01/2020	Project Completion Date	12/30/2020
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/31/2020		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$3,067,155	Average Cost per Housing Unit	N/A
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$3,067,155		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$127,606	Average Cost per Business	N/A
Average Cost per Location Served <i>(all locations or structures)</i>	\$127,606		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$127,606

Applicant-Provided Funding \$3,067,155

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0

Source(s)

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

Aiken Electric Cooperative (AEC) has contracted with McCall-Thomas Engineering to provide design and construction services for the fiber network to connect all AEC substation and offices together and provide high speed communications from AEC's main office to each of these outlying locations. McCall-Thomas had provided design and construction services for fiber networks over the past several years to Home Telecom and Farmers Telephone Cooperative. More recently, McCall-Thomas has designed a Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) network for Newberry Electric Cooperative (NEC). Over the past approximately 18 months, McCall-Thomas has constructed approximately 600 miles of the fiber network for NEC covering approximately 1/3 of the NEC service

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

AEC's proposal is to install a fiber cable from its fiber network to the Wagener High School and create a Wi-Fi network at each

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Most if not all schools system in SC are allowing parents to select either "in school" or "distance learning" for their children. Having the ability for the teacher to provide "distance learning" while at the same time providing "in school learning" allows all students a similar learning experience.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

None at this time.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

AEC's primary funding for all of its construction projects comes from the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) which is a federal agency under the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Every four years AEC updates its Construction Work Plan (CWP) to RUS and if AEC needs additional construction funds, they submit a Loan Application to RUS. AEC had recently submitted its Loan Application to RUS for approval and it is in the final stage of approval. RUS has funded all Loan Applications in the past and has indicated its approval of this Loan Application which includes the installation of 779 miles of fiber cable at an estimated cost of \$20,051,460. This is Code 616 on page 175 of the attached RUS Loan Application.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

None

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature: 

Print Name of Signature: Gary Stooksbury

Title of Signatory: CEO, Aiken Electric Cooperative

Date: 8/14/2020

Renewal Terms. Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

Untitled Map

Write a description for your map.

CORBETT MIDDLE BUSBEE MIDDLE

WAGENER HIGH

Perry

TRI-CITY (18)

Legend

- 24F
- Feature 1
- First Baptist Church
- Leisure Time Golf Carts
- Lil' Cricket
- NAPA Auto Parts - North Auto Supply
- North
- NORTH
- NORTH (4)
- North Fire Dept
- North Police Dept
- R & J Drugs
- School
- Town of North



2 mi