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SC Broadband Office Receives 188 Project Applications During Most Recent Grant Cycle

COLUMBIA, S.C. — During the most recent cycle of funding available through the American Rescue Plan Act's State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, the South Carolina Broadband Office received 188 project applications from Internet Service Providers (ISPs) for a total funding request of \$560,478,455.61. This amount does not include funding matches, which are required from the ISPs.

After all applications are reviewed by the South Carolina Broadband Office through a rigorous evaluation process, awards will be given to selected projects, and Notices to Proceed will be issued in late December 2022. Approximately \$180,000,000 is available to allocate to selected projects.

"We are extremely pleased with the response we received over a 60-day period," said Jim Stritzinger, Director of the state's Broadband Office. "We now have to look through all of the information submitted by the ISPs in order to determine areas of greatest need, ensuring money and resources are allocated in the most responsible manner."

All grant applications received have been posted on the Office of Regulatory Staff's website, www.ors.sc.gov. The site also features an interactive map of submitted projects by provider.

The South Carolina Broadband Office, which is housed within the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff, serves as the central broadband planning body to coordinate with federal, state, regional, local, and private entities to engage in the continued deployment of broadband in South Carolina.