

NTIA Tribal Consultation

February 12, 2021

Good afternoon, my name is Carroll Onsaе, I am the President and General Manger for Hopi Telecommunications, Inc. (HTI). HTI is wholly owned by the Hopi Tribe and is determined a Tribal Organization, I am speaking on behalf of Hopi Tribal Chairman Nuvangyaoma.

1. Hopi is open to multiple applications from Hopi, as need for the tribal government and, e.g., HTI to provide proper and appropriate services may be separate, so far as the applications are not duplicative.
2. Distribution of the fund should be on a formula based on Need for Planning, Construction and Operations and Maintenance activities and non-competitive. Funds should be less prohibitive, each tribe is at different levels of broadband build-out and there are needs specific, for example, a build-out project may have been planned for prior to COVID-19, but due to lack of funds are not fully completed, these type projects should not be ruled out.

Projects must be given time for full build-out, not on some arbitrary short time frame.

3. All cultural and environmental practices of the Hopi Tribe must be preserved through this process. The program must respect appropriate federal and tribal environmental regulations governing tribal lands.
4. 25/3 speed is now a standard; the fund must target those individuals who are not connected due to lack of infrastructure and affordability. It is now more critical that broadband build-out is not only to react and battle against COVID-19, but for raising the technology standard for building strong communities and local economy, and perhaps to be better prepared for the next challenge.
5. Reporting must be streamlined and not cumbersome for consistency and timely submission. Through this process a record will be established that truly reflect tribal data and needs.

Thank you for the time to make comments and look forward to benefits offered through this opportunity.

Submitted by:



Carroll Onsaе,
The Hopi Tribe