National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
Middle Mile Grant Program
Bi-Annual Performance Report

Note: Form instructions and definitions will be created to support the report. Instructional guidance and training will be developed. Numbering to be updated based on final approved form.

RECIPIENT NAME:

Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

OMB Control No.	0660-0052
Expiration Date:	4/30/2026

Middle Mile Grant Program Bi-Annual Performance Report

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL	**1a. Recipient Organization:**	**Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**	**1h. Award Identification Number:**	**30-40-MM480**
	1b. Recipient Street Address:	**1221 North Russell Street**	**1i. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY):**	10/16/2023
	1c. City, Sate, and Zip Code:	**Missoula, Montana 59808**	**1j. Final Report:**	**Yes** ☐ **No** ☒
	1d. Unique Entity Identification (UEI) Number:	**KU6LTS39K9N4**	**1k. Report Period Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY):**	**7/1/2023**
	1e. Award Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	**7/1/2023**	**1l. Report Period End Date (MM/DD/YYYY):**	**9/30/2023**
	1f. Award End Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	**1/31/2027**		
	1g. Name of Person Completing Report:	**Michelle Owens**		

B. PROJECT NARRATIVE

PROJECT NARRATIVE	Please use the section below to provide a project narrative of the project(s). This section aims to help reviewers better understand what project is being proposed and steps taken to achieve this goal.	
	2a. A brief description of the recipient's organization and scope of work/project priorities:	**Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc ("Recipient) andSouthern Montana Telephone ("Subrecipient"), collectively referred to as "Recipients", are both Montana-based rural telephone companies that provide voice and broadband services to rural Western Montana. The Sapphire Ring Project introduces new fiber middle mile facilties to complete a regional fiber ring.**
	2b. An overview of the significant outputs and outcomes to be accomplished in the project:	**This project will add 137 miles of new middle mile fiber in remote western Montana. Spread across six counties, covering more than 13,000 square miles, and impacting 42 communities, the Project will enable affordable broadband to thousands of unserved and underserved locations and new connection options to 67 anchor institutions. In addition, the Project will create a fiber-ring totaling roughly 365 miles, delivering network reliability, resiliency, and positively impacting the broadband experience of thousands of Montanans, including other ISPs.**
	2c. How would the project meet the recipient's business and/or administrative need(s)?	**Project will meet recipients network resiliancy/redunancy needs and provide the ability to serve unserved locations, as well as, provide network access to wholesale providers in the area.**
	2d. Provide an overview of key accomplishments achieved for this reporting period on the MM infrastructure project.	**During the reporting period recipients began working on environmental work, engineering and design.**
	2e. Provide any roadblock experienced during this reporting period impacting the expansion of the MM infrastructure project (i.e., supply chain, availability of labor).	**Environmental review is the first hurdle that the project is working through. One small segment of the route requires a full review.**
	2f. Provide any barriers to improving job quality experienced during this reporting period.	**No barriers experienced.**

C. INFRASTRUCTURE MILESTONE CATEGORIES AND PROJECT TIMELINE

INFRASTRUCTURE MILESTONE CATEGORIES AND PROJECT TIMELINE

Please use the chart below to provide the start date and end date of your project.

OVERALL PROJECT	PROJECT DURATION	3a. PROJECT START DATE	3b. PROJECT END DATE
	1310	July 1, 2023	January 31, 2027

Please provide the duration for each milestone category of your project. The duration should be based on the start and end dates of each category. For example, if you expect to complete a particular milestone within two weeks, fill in the total days (14) in the duration field.

Please use the table provided to indicate your EXPECTED percentage of completion on a bi-annual basis for each year of your project. Year 1 begins with your award start date.

The percentage of completion should be based primarily on the expenditure of your project budget and should be reported cumulatively from award inception through the end of each semi-annual reporting period. For example, if you expect to complete a particular milestone within the first three periods of your project, the third period and all subsequent periods should state 100%.

Please write "0" in the duration field if your project does not include an activity. If necessary, please insert additional milestones at the end.

ANTICIPATED PROJECT MILESTONES				Year 1 Baseline		Year 2 Baseline		Year 3 Baseline		Year 4 Baseline		Year 5 Baseline	
3c. MILESTONE CATEGORIES	3d. DURATION (Days)	3e. START DATE	3f. END DATE	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
Overall Project	1310	July 1, 2023	January 31, 2027										
Environmental Assessment	365	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2024	25%	50% - 75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Network Design	107	June 15, 2023	September 30, 2023	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Rights Of Way	655	June 15, 2023	March 31, 2025	5%	50% -75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Construction Permits And Other Approvals	655	June 15, 2023	March 31, 2025	5%	50% -75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Site Preparation	487	August 31, 2024	December 31, 2025	0%	0%	25%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Equipment Procurement	548	July 1, 2024	December 31, 2025	0%	0%	0%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Network Build (all components - owned, leased, Indefeasible Rights of Use, etc.)	548	July 1, 2024	December 31, 2025	0%	0%	25%	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Equipment Deployment	486	September 1, 2024	December 31, 2025	0%	0%	0%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Network Testing	667	September 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Status of Procurement	746	June 15, 2023	June 30, 2025	5%	10%	25%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Other (please specify):	0												

% OF PROJECT COMPLETION

Please use the table provided to indicate your ACTUAL percentage of completion on a bi-annual basis for each year of your project. Year 1 begins with your award start date.

The percentage of completion should be based primarily on the expenditure of your project budget and should be reported cumulatively from award inception through the end of each semi-annual reporting period. For example, if you expect to complete a particular milestone within the first three periods of your project, the third period and all subsequent periods should state 100%.

Please provide a brief description of the primary activities involved in meeting each milestone (a single description should be provided for each milestone, covering all periods in years one through N). Please write "N/A" if your project does not include an activity. If necessary, please insert additional milestones at the bottom of the chart. Please add additional milestones as applicable.

ACTUAL PROJECT MILESTONES		Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
		Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
4a. MILESTONE	4b. DESCRIPTION	Actual Milestone Completion (Cumulative)									
Overall Project											
Environmental Assessment	**Environmental review and work with agencies.**	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Network Design	**Engineered and designed.**	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Rights Of Way	**Started obtaining easements.**	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Construction Permits And Other Approvals	**Started obtaining permits and approvals.**	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Site Preparation	**Depends on environmental.**	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Equipment Procurement	**Depends on environmental.**	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Network Build (all components - owned, leased, Indefeasible Rights of Use, etc.)	**Depends on environmental.**	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Equipment Deployment	**Depends on environmental.**	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Network Testing	**Depends on environmental.**	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Status of Procurement	**Started procuring fiber and hand holes.**	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Other (please specify):											

Subrecipient and Subawards

List of Subrecipient(s) that received a subaward or subcontract from the eligible entity and a description of the specific project for which grant funds were provided.

Associate projects names to any subrecipient or subaward associated with grant, approved grant funds, and expenditures to date.

5a. Project Name	5b. Project Description	5c. Subrecipient	5d. Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)	5e. Women's Business Enterprise (WBE)	5f. Labor Surplus Area Firm	5g. Awarded Funds	5h. Expenditures to Date	5i. Remaining Grant Balance	5j. % of work complete
Sapphire Ring - SMT	**Southern Montana Telephone will construct 22 miles of new fiber optical cable for this project. They will contribute 99 miles of fiber the completed ring which is comprised of existing fiber and planned construction.**	**Southern Montana Telephone**	**Yes** ☐	**Yes** ☐	**Yes** ☐	**1,594,519.50**	**12,844.86**	**1,581,674.64**	**1%**
			Yes ☐	**Yes** ☐	**Yes** ☐				
			Yes ☐	**Yes** ☐	**Yes** ☐				
			Yes ☐	**Yes** ☐	**Yes** ☐				

D. INFRASTRUCTURE BUDGET EXECUTION DETAILS

INFRASTRUCTURE BUDGET EXECUTION DETAILS

Please provide details below on your total budget and total fund expended to date for each budget element, including detailed disbursements of both matching funds approved and federal funds obligated from project inception through end of this reporting period. Figures should be reported cumulatively from award inception to the end of the applicable reporting period.

6a. Projected Budget Element	6b. Federal Funds	6c. Non-Federal Funds	6d. Total Project Budget	6e. Total Federal Funds Expended to Date	6f. Total Non-Federal Funds Expended to Date	6g. Total Funds Expended	6h. Percent of Federal Funding Expended to Date (Cumulative)
Administrative and legal expenses	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Land, structures, rights-of way, appraisals, etc.	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Relocation expenses and payments	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Architectural and engineering fees	$ 1,724,950.50	$ 739,264.50	$ 2,464,215.00	$ 22,404.91	$ 9,602.10	$ 32,007.01	1%
Other architectural and engineering fees	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Project inspection fees	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Site work	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Demolition and removal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Construction	$ 9,507,949.50	$ 4,074,835.50	$ 13,582,785.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Equipment	$ 523,600.00	$ 224,400.00	$ 748,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Miscellaneous	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Subtotal	**$ 11,756,500.00**	**$ 5,038,500.00**	**$ 16,795,000.00**	**$ 22,404.91**	**$ 9,602.10**	**$ 32,007.01**	**0%**
Contingencies	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
Totals	**$ 11,756,500.00**	**$ 5,038,500.00**	**$ 16,795,000.00**	**$ 22,404.91**	**$ 9,602.10**	**$ 32,007.01**	**0%**

E. COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT

COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT

As stated in the MM Grant Program NOFO a Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) is an agreement signed by community benefit groups and a developer, identifying the community benefits a developer agrees to deliver, in return for community support of the project.

Please use the fields below to state the Community Benefit Group and Developer Name and describe the activities in how this partnership has supported with the Middle Mile Infrastructure project (i.e. wage agreements, targeting hiring of apprentices and disadvantaged groups in labor marker, education and training opportunities, sub-contracting to local small business for construction, services, and supply chain needs).

Description of Community Agreement

7a. Community Benefit Group Name: Please provide the name of the Community Benefit Group

n/a

7b. Developer Name: Please provide the name of the Developer

n/a

7c. Community Benefit Group and Developer Partnership: Please describe in the space below the nature of the partnership and how the MM grant funds being used are assisting to provide community support for the infrastructure project.

n/a

F. CLIMATE RESILIENCE

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Recipients must demonstrate that they have sufficiently accounted for current and future weather and climate related risks to new MM infrastructure projects. At present, weather and climate related risks to broadband networks include wildfires, extreme heat and cold, inland and coastal flooding, and the extreme winds produced by weather events such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and other weather events. Because retrofitted and new infrastructure for broadband might be expected to have a lifetime of 20 years or more, recipients must account not only for current risks but also for how the frequency, severity, and nature of these extreme events may plausibly evolve as our climate continues to change over the coming decades.

Climate Resiliency Risk Mitigation

This purpose of this section is for the recipient to demonstrate that they have sufficiently accounted for current and future weather and climate-related risks to new MM infrastructure projects. In particular, each recipient should demonstrate how they've addressed the known and identifiable risks of current and future projected weather and climate conditions through measures such as (but not limited to) choice of a technology platform suitable to the climate risk of the region, reliance on alternatives siting of facilities (i.e., underground construction where appropriate), retrofitting, or hardening of existing assets, and use of network redundancy to safeguard against threats to infrastructure.

8a. Were any geographic areas identified for **this reporting period** subject to an initial and/or updated hazard screening for future weather and climate related risk? If so, please provide **the date of the screening and provide related documentation as an attachment to this report.**

No

8b Climate Resilience Category	8c. Date of Most Recent Hazard Screening	8d. Name and Title of Representative Completing Most Recent Hazard Screening	8e. Date of Report Completion
Very Low Risk	3/24/2023	Rob Feenstra, Director of Network Engineering	

8f. Identified Risk: For your MM project, what are the potential weather and climate hazards that may be most important to be addressed that could impact the resiliency of the middle mile infrastructure deployed (i.e. wildfires, extreme heat and cold, inland and coastal flooding, extreme winds: tornadoes, hurricanes and other weather events)?

Based on the FEMA National Risk Index weather and climate hazards that are most important to account for in the project area are extreme temperatures, wildfires, extreme snowfall, and earthquakes.

8g. Weather and Climate Hazards: Were any significant climate or weather hazards experienced during this reporting period (i.e., floods, tornados) impacting infrastructure buildout or service? Briefly describe how you monitored for weather and climate caused issues for the reliability of the system. If so, please provide the date of the disaster, location and backup documentation related (i.e., news articles).

No

8h. Risks to Deployment of New Infrastructure: Has the team identified any risks impacting the deployment of new or repaired infrastructure due to current and future weather and climate-related threats during this reporting period?

No

8i. Risk Mitigation: How will the project avoid and/or mitigate the risk identified? If not applicable, please explain why.

To avoid or mitigate the risks associated with weather and climate hazards the Applicant will deploy infrastructure that is rated to withstand extreme temperatures and earthquakes. Applicant will also deploy infrastructure in maintained easements along roadways minimizing the risk associated with wildfires and in conduit to mitigate the risk associated with potential flooding caused by unseasonal melting of extreme snowfall.

8j. Additional Information: Is there any additional information you would like to share during this reporting period that the grant team should be aware of regarding the management of sustainable climate resiliency for your MM project?

To monitor evolving climate related risks, recipients will conduct annual climate reiliancy reviews with the next review planned in March of 2024.

8k. Additional Resources
Has the team utilized the available resources to assist with mitigation and long-term planning efforts for this reporting period? If so, which resources?
2018 National Climate Assessment
NOAA's 2022 State Climate Summaries
NOAA Disaster and Risk Mapping Tool
NOAA's Storms Event Database
NOAA Climate Explorer and Digital Coast
FEMA National Risk Index
Consulted FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plans prepared by states in which they propose to build middle mile infrastructure to help identify key risk and hazards

https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map – This index provides risk levels attributable to different categories such as drought, earthquake, wildfire, etc.
https://www.seismicmaps.org/ - This tool provides insight into risk associated with earthquakes.
https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/wildfire - This provides risk index associated with wildfires.
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=2 – This is NOAA's long-range precipitation and temperature outlook.

G. Workforce

DAVIS-BACON ACT CERTIFICATION

For projects receiving over $5,000,000 (based on expected total cost), as determined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor by subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Davis-Bacon Act"), all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing.

Davis-Bacon Act Certification

9a. Does the recipient have access to the information requested (all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing?)	**Yes** ☑	**No** ☐	

LOCAL HIRE PRIORITIZATION AND IMPACT

Local Hire Prioritization and Impact

Local hiring is a goal or requirement to hire people who live close to the place of work. This aim is often more specifically structured as a requirement for contractors awarded certain types of publicly funded projects to recruit a certain proportion of the people working on the project from a particular area. Please **provide all direct hires and contractors supporting** the MM Infrastructure project.

Please use the table below to describe how the project prioritizes local hiring.

Hires by Race, Ethnicity and Gender	Number of Hires																					
	Race/Ethnicity																					
	9b. Hispanic or Latino			9c. Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino																		Totals
				9c-1. Men						9c-2. Women						9c-3. X						
	9b-1. Men	9b-2. Women	9b-3. X	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	
Number of Local Direct Hires	0	0	0	10	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Number of Non-Local Direct Hires	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Percentage of Local Direct Hires on Award	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Number of Local Subcontractors	0	0	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Number of Non-Local Subcontractors	0	0	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Percentage of Local Subcontractors on Award	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

DAVIS-BACON WAGES

Davis-Bacon Act Wages

Please confirm if wages are at least prevailing*

*As stated in the MM NOFO as determined by the U.S. Secretary Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Davis-Bacon Act"), for the corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on projects of a character similar to the contract work in the civil subdivision of the State (or the District of Columbia) in which the work is to be performed.

10a. Are wage rates at least the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage for all laborers?	**Yes** ☑	**No** ☐	10c. Are wage rates at least the prevailing wage for all mechanics?	**Yes** ☑	**No** ☐	
10b. Please cite your source of how this information was gathered (for 10a).	Montana Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rate		10d. Please cite your source of how this information was gathered (for 10c).	**Montana Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rate**		

10e. If you answered "No" to either 10a. or 10c., please provide an attachment reporting the wages and benefits of workers on the project by job classification, and whether those wages are less than the prevailing wage.

WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

Workforce Demographic Data

Jobs by Race, Ethnicity and Gender	Number of Jobs																					
	Race/Ethnicity																					
	11-a. Hispanic or Latino			11b. Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino																		Totals
				11b-1. Men						11b-2. Women						11b-3. X						
	11a-1. Men	11a-2. Women	11a-3. X	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	
Jobs Created	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Jobs Retained	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6

UNIONIZED WORKFORCE

12-a. Does this project include some workforce elements that are unionized?	**Yes** ☑	**No** ☐	12-c. Does your MM project utilize a project labor agreement?	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☑
12-b. Are workers provided access to union educators/organizers on employer property or during the work day?	**Yes** ☑	**No** ☐	12-d. Did workers receive additional information or training about their workplace rights in addition to already required notice postings?	**Yes** ☑	**No** ☐

H. Workforce Continuity Plan
National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 158 (f)

WORKFORCE CONTUNITY PLAN NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT

As stated in the MM NOFO, if a recipient has not provided a certification that a project either will use a unionized project workforce or included a project labor agreement, meaning a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement consistent with section 8(f) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 158 (f)), then the recipient must provide a project workforce continuity plan.

Workforce Continuity Plan

13a. Please describe the steps taken to ensure the project has ready access to a sufficient supply of appropriately skilled and unskilled labor to ensure construction is completed skillfully throughout the project's life (as required in Section III.B of the MM NOFO). As stated in the MM NOFO, the middle mile grant recipient is capable of carrying out the proposed project in a competent manner, including a plan to attract or retain an appropriate skilled and credentialed workforce.

For your MM project, please provide a brief description of efforts made to attract, train or retain a skilled and credentialed workforce.

Has the team offered any of the following resources to assist with maintaining a sufficient supply of appropriately skilled labor force for this reporting period? If so, which resources (please provide a brief description of any of the following that apply):
Professional Certifications
In-House Training
Registered Apprenticeships
Labor-Management Partnerships
Partnerships with entities like unions, community colleges, or community-based groups

Recipient and subrecipient ensure the use of an appropriately skilled workforce through apprenticeships/internships and/or training programs that serve all workers and require contactors to provide evidence that their work force is appropriately skilled at the time of the bidding process. Recipient and subrecipient ensure that its directly employed workforce is appropriately skilled by making sure that all members working on a project have appropriate credentials, licenses, and occupational training prior to work. Recipient and subrecipient anticipates the workforce assigned to the NTIA Middle Mile Grant ("MMG") project may be made up of a combination of direct employed unionized, and contracted, workforce to complete the proposed MMG project. Tentatively, Applicant expects the contracted work force to come from the following companies Diversified Solutions, Inc., VECI, Rocky Mountain Contractors and JKL Associates, Inc.

13b. Please describe below, the steps taken to minimize risks of labor disputes and disruptions that would jeopardize the timeliness and cost-effectiveness of completing the MM project.

Recipient partners well with its labor union, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 768. Recipient's Vice President of Human Resources and the IBEW's Business Agent have a long history of an effective relationship and dialog. If issues arise, which are very rare, both the Recipient and the IBEW work hard to communicate effectively and solve problems. Both parties share many mutual interests including but not limited to the importance of employees, customers and the overall success of Recipient. In addition, Recipient and the IBEW were successful in reaching a 3 year Collective Bargaining Agreement last year that will cover 1/1/23 to 12/31/25. Finally, Recipient has had one grievance in the last 10 years. This is a testament to the respect Recipient shows to the Collective Bargaining Agreement and addressing concerns long before a grievance is necessary.

Where labor comes from sources other than Recipient's own workforce the Recipient has negotiated contracts. The contracts, in part, aim to minimize risks of labor disputes and disruptions. The contracts also address obligations that the contractor must meet which will include labor standard requirements the Recipient has agreed to. Further, Recipient has a good relationship with a number of contractors it has utilized for other broadband deployment projects. Recipient has never experienced a contractor related labor disruption. This is a testament to the quality of the contractors recipient works with.

13c. Please describe below the steps to ensure a safe and healthy workplace that avoids delays and costs associated with workplace illnesses, injuries, and fatalities.

Recipient has an established safety program to ensure its employees are properly trained in workplace safety techniques and to reinforce those safety rules at appropriate time intervals. Many fiber construction contractors also have internal safety programs to help ensure the health and wellbeing of their employees. In addition to its existing safety program, Recipient will ensure that it's current workplace labor/management safety committee remains active and authorized to raise health and safety concerns associated with the proposed project. This committee will continue to be accessible to employees of Recipient, Subrecipient, the Contractor(s), and Subcontractor(s), and it will continue to have the authority to make recommendations to Recipient's management team regarding corrective actions pertaining to any health and safety concerns associated with the proposed NTIA MMG project.

13d. For your MM project, please provide a brief description below of efforts made to ensure a safe and healthy workplace.

Has the team offered any of the following resources to assist with maintaining a safe and healthy workplace for this reporting period? If so, which resources (please provide a brief description of any of the following that apply):
Safety Training
Certifications and/or Licensure Requirements for all relevant works (e.g., OSHA 10, OSHA 30, confined space, traffic control, or other training required of workers employed by contractors)
Issues raised by workplace safety committees and their resolutions

During this period construction is not underway. Recipient has ensured that engineers, environmental, and cultural staff working on the project have the necessary certifications and/or Licensure requirements for all relevant works. There have been no issues raised by the workplace safety committee.

13e. Please provide the name(s) below of any subcontracted entities performing work on the project, and the total number of workers employed by each entity.

13e-1. Name of Subcontracted Entity Performing Work	13e-2. Total Number of Workers within this Subcontract	13e-3. Job Categories of Workers Supporting Project within this Subcontract
JSI	3	Professional Engineer
Ethnotech	1	Archaeologist
Heberly & Associates	2	Professional Engineer

13f. Please describe below the steps taken to ensure that workers on the project receive wages and benefits sufficient to secure an appropriately skilled workforce in the context of the local and regional labor market.

I. ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS

ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS

Please provide Anchor Institution (AI) data for the current period only (not cumulative). Please add rows as needed.

14a. Anchor Institution Name	14b. Street Address	14c. City	14d. State	14e. Type of Anchor Institution	14f. Interconnection within 1,000 Feet of AI Enabling Gig Symmetrical Service	14g. Narrative Description of how the Anchor Institution may benefit from the Grant Funded Infrastructure
Construction has not begun on this project so this section cannot be filed out.						

J. BROADBAND ACCESS KEY INDICATOR: SUBSCRIBERS AND SPEED

PROJECTED NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS AND SPEED

Please use the following table to provide anticipated key indicators with the projected totals for each beneficiary category, access type and speed category for your infrastructure service or project. Except as indicated, information should be reported cumulatively from award inception through the end of the semi-annual period for Semi-Annual Indicators. Please write "N/A" if your project does not include this indicator.

PROJECTED NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS AND SPEED		Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
SUBSCRIBER TYPE	ACCESS TYPE	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
15a. Anchor Institutions (AIs)	15a-1. Total number of AIs passed	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	67	67	67
	15a-2. Number of AIs within 1,000 feet of the middle mile infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	67	67	67
	15a-3. Total number of AIs served	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	33	45	45
	15a-4. AIs with new access	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15a-5. AIs with improved access	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	33	45	45
	15a-6. Total number of AIs served with speeds of at least 1/1Gbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	33	45	45
15b. Broadband Wholesalers or Last Mile Providers	15b-1.Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers served	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	5	5
	15b-2. Broadband wholesalers or last mile providers with new access	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15b-3. Broadband wholesalers or last mile providers with improved access	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	5	5
	15b-4. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 25/3 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	5	5
	15b-5. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 100/20 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	3
	15b-6. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 1/1 Gbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	3

K. BROADBAND ACCESS KEY INDICATOR: NETWORK BUILD PROGRESS

NETWORK BUILD PROGRESS

Please use the following table to provide anticipated key indicators and progress of your Infrastructure project. Except as indicated, information should be reported cumulatively from award inception through the end of the semi-annual period. Please write "N/A" if your project does not include this indicator.

NETWORK BUILD PROGRESS	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
KEY INDICATOR	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
16a. Total of new fiber miles (aerial or buried)	0	0	0	0	60	137	137	137	137	137
16b. Total of fiber miles leased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16c. Total of existing fiber miles upgraded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16d. Total of new microwave links	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16e. Total of new towers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16f. Total of new interconnection points	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16g. Total of signed agreements with broadband wholesalers or last mile providers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16h. Total of potential agreements (i.e., agreements currently being negotiated) with broadband wholesalers or last mile providers (This Total should NOT be reported cumulatively)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

L. QUANTIABLE METRICS

FIBER OPTIC BASED

Quantifiable Metrics - Section designed to assist with **reporting** and **audit** purpose to quantify how much progress was made and track the location of where the progress was made.

17a. Fiber Optic Based	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
17a-1. Is the fiber a buried/aerial or undersea application?	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a	Buried with minimal aerial	Buried with minimal aerial				
17a-2. Number of strands deployed	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a	288 and 432 will be used	288 and 432 will be used				
17a-3. Number of miles of buried fiber deployed	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a	55.5	137				
17a-4. Number of miles of aerial fiber deployed	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.5	0.5				
17a-5. Estimated capacity of fiber (i.e. throughput)	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a	400 Gig	400 Gig	400 Gig	400 Gig	400 Gig	400 Gig
17a-6. Deployment cost per mile of buried fiber optics	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a						
17a-7. Deployment cost per mile of aerial fiber optics	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a						
17a-8. Total Spent on Buried Fiber Deployment this reporting period	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a						
17a-9. Total Spent on Aerial Fiber Deployment this reporting period	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a						
17a-10. Total spent on Fiber Deployment this reporting period	Construction has not begun	n/a	n/a	n/a						
17a-11. Please provide any additional information about the Fiber Optic deployment (200 words or less)	Deployment on this project has not started; project is in environmental and cultural review.									
17a-12. Please provide the digital mappings (e.g., CAD, Revit, KMZ, KML) for the microwave nodes created during this reporting period.										

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
Middle Mile Grant Program
Bi-Annual Performance Report

MICROWAVE BASED

17b. Microwave Based	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
17b-1. How many microwave nodes have been deployed?	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17b-2. How many microwave nodes are operating for reporting period?	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17b-3. Installation cost per microwavable node	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17b-4. Number of new towers built to support microwave structure	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17b-5. If applicable, what type of tower was constructed (a) Monopole (b) Self-Support, or (c) Guyed during this reporting period?	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17b-6. Average cost per tower installed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17b-7. Total spend on Tower deployment this reporting period	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17b-8. Total spend on microwave deployment this reporting period	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17b-9. If you answered "other" to question 5a.6 or if it is a combination of multiple types, please provide a detailed narrative description detailing what type of tower or what combination of towers is used for the project and the their associated costs. (200 words or less).	n/a									
17b-10. Please provide the digital mappings (e.g., CAD, Revit, KMZ, KML) for each new aerial fiber and buried fiber equipment installed during this reporting period.										

SATELLITE

17c. Satellite	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
17c-1. What satellite provider is being used?	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17c-2. What is the estimated capacity of the satellite link (i.e. throughput)?	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17c-3. What is the associated cost to use this satellite service?	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17c-4. Please provide any additional information about the Satellite deployment (200 words or less)	n/a									
17c-5. Please provide the digital mappings (e.g., CAD, Revit, KMZ, KML) for each new aerial fiber and buried fiber equipment installed during this reporting period.										

CERTIFICATIONS

Certifications

18. Please provide certification evidencing compliance with Federal labor and employment laws along with the requirements of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Middle Mile Grant Program, for the bi-annual period for which this report is being filed.

I certify that Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is in compliance with Federal labor and employment laws along with the requirements of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Middle Mile Grant Program, for the biannual period for which this report is being filed.

19. Please provide certification evidencing compliance with the Build America, Buy America Act. The Build America, Buy America Act requires that all of the iron, steel, manufactured products (including but not limited to fiber-optic communications facilities), and construction materials used in the project or other eligible activities are produced in the United States unless a waiver is granted.

I certify that Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is in compliance with the Build America, Buy America Act.

MM GRANT PROGRAM BI-ANNUAL REPORT CERTIFICATION

20. I certify to the best of knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.

20a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official:	**20c. Telephone (area code, number and extension):**	
Stacey Mueller	**20d. Email Address:**	smuller@blackfoot.com
20b. Signature of Certifying Official:		
/s/ Stacey Mueller	**20e. Date:**	**10/27/2023**