



## Exhibit M - Large project Worksheet (NOFA #008)

### Purpose:

This form, labeled “EXHIBIT M – LARGE PROJECT WORKSHEET (NOFA #008),” requires an Applicant to justify the quantity of Eligible Service Locations to which the Applicant collectively, including all entities attached or connected to the Applicant, proposes to Facilitate Covered Speeds when that quantity is in the top 25% of all Applicants to this NOFA (“Large Project Threshold”). See NOFA #008, Section 2.2.6.10 for additional information.

It has been determined by the Office that your submitted application(s) falls within the Large Project Threshold and seeks justification for the number of Eligible Service Locations to which service will be facilitated. The Office may use the information in the determination of whether or not to disqualify an application exceeding the Large Project Threshold.

***Given the limited timeframe available for project construction under this NOFA, the Office believes that buildout commitments must be of a reasonable size and distributed among various communication services providers to guarantee project completion by the end of the Project Period. Applicants who are unable to complete projects risk the reversion of funds to the federal government by the Office, leaving Eligible Service Locations without funding to construct new broadband service.***

Applicants should provide additional information to the Office to justify the large number of Eligible Service Locations contained within the proposed project(s) and the ability to complete the project(s) according to the project completion requirements of this NOFA (See NOFA #008 Section 1.3).

Organization Name:

Are there unique construction or project management methods that allow for rapid network deployments to large project areas?

Does your technology or network architecture designs facilitate serving the number of Eligible Service Locations identified in the application within the identified timeline?

Provide prior experience and/or examples of completing comparably sized broadband projects on a materially similar timeline.

Provide completion timeframes on previous Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grants.

Identify any key relationships, partnerships, third-party agreements, or other resources that will allow your organization to overcome supply chain issues, labor shortages, and facilitate expeditious network deployment.

Applicants may also provide any additional information, documents or data sets that might further justify the Large Project Threshold of the proposed project.

All narrative and additional information should be submitted in a single PDF format and attached in reply to this correspondence in the Iowa Grants Online system named as: "Application Number - Applicant Name – Exhibit M." Submissions outside of the Iowa Grants Online system will not be considered

***Applicants should not submit proprietary or confidential information in association with Exhibit M.***



September 6, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

We have had the privilege of being a close working partner with Premier Communications for over 15 years. We have regular communication with both Premier's staff and management in order to ensure current projects remain on their given timeline. H&D is also committed to having the staff available where and when Premier Communications needs them in order to assist them in completing the many projects they have going in Northwest Iowa.

In times of Nation-wide supply chain issues, we have maintained open communication with the Premier team and due to long-term project forecasting, have been able to provide Premier with the material needed to continue project construction.

We have appreciated working with the Premier team and look forward to the opportunity to bid on projects coming in the future. If selected, we are committed to partnering on these projects with the Premier Team and are excited to continue being a part of bringing Fiber Broadband connectivity to this part of the State of Iowa.

Sincerely,

**Terry Hotzler**  
**H&D Underground, Inc.**  
Vice President  
789 7<sup>th</sup> St NW  
Sioux Center, IA 51250  
712-722-2044



September 6, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you today to confirm for you, the OCIO, that Premier Communications is a valued partner of Vantage Point Solutions. We have provided project engineering for Premier Communications for 20 years. Our staff is in close communication with Premier's staff and management team to ensure that projects remain on track and are designed with a great level of efficiency to assist in timely completion of projects.

We have also been excited to recently implement a shared dashboard which helps Premier closely monitor weekly construction progress. This dashboard shows the milage completed and provides a map to see where construction is taking place. The dashboard has provided Premier with the capability to watch their various projects and proactively address potential delays instead of being reactive.

Our company is prepared to continue to work with Premier and is excited about the potential for new projects. We believe Premier is uniquely prepared to quickly execute a large project and has equipped themselves for effective management of any project that comes their way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry D. Thompson', with a stylized, flowing script.

Larry D. Thompson PE  
Chief Executive Officer  
Vantage Point Solutions