

Media Contact:

Mark Wigfield, (202) 418-0253
mark.wigfield@fcc.gov

For Immediate Release

FCC AUTHORIZES OVER \$35.3 MILLION IN FUNDING IN ILLINOIS FOR RURAL BROADBAND FROM CONNECT AMERICA FUND AUCTION

Third Round of Funding Starts This Month for Broadband Buildout in 13 Rural Counties in Illinois

WASHINGTON, July 15, 2019—The FCC today authorized over \$35.3 million in funding over the next decade to expand broadband to 15,022 unserved rural Illinois homes and businesses, which is part of the third wave of support from last year’s successful Connect America Fund Phase II auction. Providers will begin receiving funding this month.

In Illinois, nearly \$2.3 million was authorized in May and June. Today’s authorization brings the total to \$37.6 million, which will connect 15,826 homes and businesses to modern broadband.

Nationwide, the auction last fall allocated \$1.488 billion in support to expand broadband to more than 700,000 unserved rural homes and small businesses over the next 10 years. The FCC has already authorized two waves of funding in May and June, and funds from those first two waves are expanding connectivity to nearly 100,000 homes and businesses that lack service. Today’s action, which provides funding in 23 states, brings total authorized funding to nearly \$803 million, or over half of the \$1.488 billion allocated through the auction, expanding connectivity to 305,518 homes and businesses.

In the coming months, the FCC will be authorizing additional funding as it approves remaining applications of the winning bidders from the auction.

“High-speed Internet provides access to opportunity in the 21st century, and the FCC’s top priority is closing the digital divide so that all Americans can fully participate in our connected society,” said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai. “Today’s authorization of funding is the largest yet from the auction, nearly the double the amount authorized in the first two rounds nationwide, and serving over twice as many rural homes and businesses. I am pleased that the Commission is moving quickly to authorize these funds to close the digital divide in rural Illinois.”

Below is a list of companies, by county, receiving support in Illinois in the July funding wave, along with the minimum download/upload speeds being provided, the amount of support over 10 years, and the number of homes and businesses served (locations):

County	Company	Minimum Speed	Support/10 Years	Locations
Adams	AMG Technology	25/3 Mbps	\$665,905	2,057

	Investment Group			
Brown	AMG Technology Investment Group	25/3 Mbps	\$170,446	257
Bureau	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$7,995,660	3,190
Cass	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$8,884,254	2,242
Hancock	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$9,452,115	3,216
Henry	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$1,335,225	593
Knox	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$236,754	55
Marshall	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$1,170,821	554
Peoria	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$2,753,623	1,346
Rock Island	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$151,029	103
Schuyler	AMG Technology Investment Group	25/3 Mbps	\$224,044	390
Stark	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$1,315,496	635
Whiteside	AMG Technology Investment Group	100/20 Mbps	\$974,595	384
Total			\$35,329,966	15,022

Providers must build out to 40% of the assigned homes and businesses in the areas won in a state within three years. Buildout must increase by 20% in each subsequent year, until complete buildout is reached at the end of the sixth year.

More information is available on the auction is available at <https://www.fcc.gov/auction/903>. A map of winning bids is available at <https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/maps/caf2-auction903-results/>.

The Connect America Fund Phase II auction is part of a broader effort by the FCC to close the digital divide in rural America. In addition to the funding that is being made available through this auction, Chairman Pai recently proposed that the FCC launch a new Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, which would provide at least \$20.4 billion over 10 years to expand broadband to additional rural areas

If approved, this Fund would represent the FCC's single biggest step yet to close the digital divide. The FCC is scheduled to vote on launching a rulemaking to establish the Fund on August 1.

###

Office of Media Relations: (202) 418-0500
ASL Videophone: (844) 432-2275
TTY: (888) 835-5322
Twitter: @FCC
www.fcc.gov/media-relations

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).