

**Media Contact:**

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

**For Immediate Release****FCC AUTHORIZES SUPPORT FOR BROADBAND IN OVER 44,000 TRIBAL HOMES AND BUSINESSES NATIONWIDE*****Another Important Step Toward Closing the Digital Divide on Tribal Lands and Nationwide***

WASHINGTON, August 22, 2019—Taking further steps to close the digital divide, the Federal Communications Commission today authorized support over the next decade for maintaining, improving, and expanding affordable broadband in 44,243 homes and businesses on Tribal lands nationwide.

In most of these Tribal homes and businesses – 37,281 of them – carriers must deliver speeds of at least 25/3 Mbps. The authorization on Tribal lands in 13 states was part of a nationwide authorization of over \$4.9 billion in support over the next decade for 455,334 homes and businesses served by 171 carriers in 39 states and American Samoa.

The support is targeted to smaller rural carriers, traditionally known as “rate-of-return” carriers. These carriers agreed this year to accept subsidies based on the FCC’s Alternative Connect America Cost Model, or A-CAM, which provides predictability, rewards efficiency, and provides more value for each taxpayer dollar. The homes and businesses are in sparsely populated rural areas and Tribal lands where the per-location price of deployment and ongoing costs of providing broadband service are high, requiring support from the FCC’s Universal Service Fund to facilitate network improvements and keep rates reasonably comparable to those in urban areas.

Providers will be held accountable to taxpayers and the Commission through an enforceable schedule for delivering improved and expanded service, with the first interim deployment obligation occurring in 2022.

“With this commitment to broadband on Tribal lands over the next decade, carriers get the predictable support they need to close a digital divide that, for too long, has disproportionately separated Native Americans from digital opportunity,” said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai. “And taxpayers, who fund this support through a fee on their phone bills, are getting more bang for their buck through this efficient, accountable program.”

Following is a list of Tribal lands, by state, where companies will receive support, and the number of homes and businesses supported (locations):

<b>STATE</b>	<b>Tribe / Reservation</b>	<b>Total Locations</b>
Arizona	Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Reservation	2
Arizona	Navajo Nation Off-Reservation Trust Land	7
Arizona	Navajo Nation Reservation	1,477
Arizona	Salt River Reservation	627
Arizona	Tohono O'odham Nation Reservation	3,123
Arizona Totals		5,236
Maine	Passamaquoddy Trust Land	47
Maine Totals		47
Michigan	L'Anse Off-Reservation Trust Land	5
Michigan	L'Anse Reservation	386
Michigan Totals		391
Minnesota	Leech Lake Reservation	2,913
Minnesota	Minnesota Chippewa Trust Land	1
Minnesota	Red Lake Reservation	1,932
Minnesota	White Earth Off-Reservation Trust Land	7
Minnesota	White Earth Reservation	745
Minnesota Totals		5,598
Mississippi	Mississippi Choctaw Off-Reservation Trust Land	1
Mississippi	Mississippi Choctaw Reservation	155
Mississippi Totals		156
Montana	Blackfeet Indian Reservation	185
Montana	Crow Off-Reservation Trust Land	3
Montana	Crow Reservation	1,287
Montana	Fort Peck Indian Reservation	3,247
Montana	Turtle Mountain Off-Reservation Trust Land	8
Montana Totals		4,730
North Dakota	Lake Traverse Reservation	90
North Dakota	Spirit Lake Reservation	1,427
North Dakota	Turtle Mountain Off-Reservation Trust Land	722
North Dakota	Turtle Mountain Reservation	1,691
North Dakota Totals		3,930
Nebraska	Omaha Reservation	57
Nebraska Totals		57
Oklahoma	Caddo-Wichita-Delaware OTSA	2,377

Oklahoma	Cherokee OTSA	1,560
Oklahoma	Cheyenne-Arapaho OTSA	157
Oklahoma	Chickasaw OTSA	1,550
Oklahoma	Choctaw OTSA	2,596
Oklahoma	Creek OTSA	1,530
Oklahoma	Kiowa-Comanche-Apache-Fort Sill Apache OTSA	789
<b>Oklahoma Totals</b>		<b>10,559</b>
South Dakota	Cheyenne River Reservation	41
South Dakota	Crow Creek Reservation	705
South Dakota	Lake Traverse Reservation	2,964
South Dakota	Lower Brule Reservation	284
South Dakota	Pine Ridge Reservation	4,805
South Dakota	Rosebud Indian Reservation	2,812
South Dakota	Rosebud Off-Reservation Trust Land	467
South Dakota	Standing Rock Reservation	111
South Dakota	Yankton Reservation	317
<b>South Dakota Totals</b>		<b>12,506</b>
Utah	Goshute Reservation	58
Utah	Uintah and Ouray Reservation	27
<b>Utah Totals</b>		<b>85</b>
Wisconsin	Ho-Chunk Nation Off-Reservation Trust Land	7
Wisconsin	Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation	633
<b>Wisconsin Totals</b>		<b>640</b>
Wyoming	Wind River Reservation	308
<b>Wyoming Totals</b>		<b>308</b>
<b>Tribal Totals</b>		<b>44,243</b>

###

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

*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).*