

Reconnecting Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands

April 2018



USF Support in Puerto Rico & Virgin Islands Is Necessary



Support Ongoing Recovery



Support Relief from Unreliable Electric Grid



Help Meet Growing Mobile Demand



Invest in Hardening the Network



Expand Broadband Service

Reinforce Ongoing Recovery Efforts



Continue support for ongoing recovery efforts for both mobile and wireline network

- Support and accelerate restoration of damaged cell towers across Puerto Rico & US Virgin Islands impacted by Irma and Maria
- Replace and harden network facilities
- Short and medium-term need

Provide Relief from Unreliable Electric Grid



Replace & Expand Electric Generators

- Generators have become a critical network element as the electric grid remains unreliable
- Existing generators have a short life-span due to out-of-spec intensive use
- Increased placement of generators throughout network
- AT&T alone has immediate need for over 200 new generators

Investment to Meet Growing Mobile Demand



Capacity must grow beyond pre-Irma and Maria levels to keep up with extraordinary mobile demand

- AT&T must increase mobile network capacity above & beyond its projected pre-hurricane plans in order to support extraordinary customer demand
- Many households still lack reliable home broadband service and are using their mobile service for Internet access
- Average mobile use (voice & data) in March 2018 vs August 2017 up 63% in Puerto Rico & 69% in Virgin Islands

Getting Ready for the Next Maria



New network must be built to withstand future hurricanes

Investment needed above & beyond standard network architecture designs to harden-networks across PR & VI

- Maximize the population served by buried infrastructure
- Diversify key fiber routes to maximize network resiliency
- Replace aerial construction with buried facilities – not just for critical infrastructure
- Expand emergency backup microwave wireless backhaul capabilities
- Reinforce existing poles & towers

Restore & Expand Fixed Broadband



Lay Foundation for Fixed Broadband Deployment

Immediate and medium-term funding can establish base for long term expansion of broadband deployment.

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