

March 7, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket 10-90
GCEC Telecom's Letter Expressing Interest In Rural Broadband Experiments in
Price-Cap Carrier Service Areas

GCEC Telecom ("GCEC") is filing this letter expressing its interest in participating in the Rural Broadband Experiments in price-cap carrier service areas to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband in unserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America Funding. GCEC is a competitive local exchange carrier ("CLEC") that is designated as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") in the State of Texas.

1. Background

GCEC was established as a competitive telecommunications and broadband service provider in northern Texas in 2004 but its roots in the area began 75 years ago as a rural electric cooperative. GCEC provides voice and broadband service to seven north Texas counties (Collin, Cook, Dallas, Denton, Fannin, Grayson, and Tarrant) which encompass an area of 6,431 square miles. The population of these service areas varies in size from as low as 33,915 (Fannin County) to 2,368,139 (Dallas County) with a combined population for the areas of 4,791,782. GCEC's offerings for these areas include but are not limited to residential and business voice and broadband services, residential and business voice over the internet ("VOIP"), SIP Enabled Trunking Services, and other Hosted Services. GCEC has an existing fiber network that runs north to south from Grayson County into Collin County.

2. The Proposed Geographic Territory

GCEC proposes to extend construction from its existing fiber network to use fiber optic technology to provide fiber to the premises ("FTTP") to price-cap area census tracts in Grayson and Collin County. The eligible price-cap carrier service areas consist of thirteen eligible high cost locations in Grayson County and one high cost location in an eligible census tract in Collin County. In addition, GCEC proposes to also provide FTTP to other community census tracts in Grayson County that it believes should be included as eligible price-cap areas (but are not) because these areas are underserved with speeds that do not meet the threshold of 3Mbps downstream / 768 kbps upstream. The FCC should allow GCEC to include these other community areas in its Broadband Experiment with a showing that these areas are actually underserved and that there is a need for broadband in these rural areas. The chart below provides the pertinent information regarding the eligible price-cap areas and the other community areas proposed by GCEC for the Broadband Experiment. Also, attached to this letter are maps that illustrate the census tract areas being proposed for this Rural Broadband Experiment by GCEC.

Census Tracts On Eligible List

State	County	County Name	Tract ID	Eligible High Cost Locations	Extremely High Cost Locations	Annual Support
TX	48181	Grayson	48181000302	10	2	\$ 6,376.59
NM	48181	Grayson	48181000400	3	0	\$ 2,558.07
NM	48085	Collin	48085030305	1	0	\$ 292.03

Other Census Tracts Not On Eligible List But Underserved

State	County	County Name	Tract ID	Community	Households
TX	48181	Grayson	48181000101	Bells	1419
TX	48181	Grayson	48181000102	Whitewright	681
TX	48181	Grayson	48181000304	Sadler	2130
TX	48181	Grayson	48181000400	Denison	N/A
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001101	Southmayd	1572
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001102	Sadler	1212
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001102	Whitesboro	N/A
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001801	Howe	1333
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001802	Tom Bean	1429
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001803	Van Alosty	869
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001900	Collinsville	2854
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001900	Dorchester	N/A
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001900	Gunter	N/A
TX	48181	Grayson	48181001900	Southmayd	N/A

GCEC is unable at this time to provide specific information regarding the population base, the number of anchor institutions, or other information since the particular census blocks within the eligible census tracts since the census blocks have not yet been identified. Once the census blocks within the eligible census tracts are identified, GCEC will be in a better position to provide more specific information relating to these areas. GCEC will canvas the other communities census tracts it believes should be included as eligible census tracts and will either supplement this letter or provide additional details upon submitting a formal proposal.

3. Proposed Technology

GCEC intends utilize fiber optic technology to provide voice, IPTV, and broadband service to these proposed areas by extending FTTP to the areas from GCEC's existing fiber network.

4. Type of Services

GCEC will provide services to customers in the Broadband Experiment area that will include, but will not be limited to, Voice, 911 Emergency Calling, Long Distance Calling, Operator Services, Information Services, Voice Mail Services, Other Calling Features, Security Services, Broadband Services with speed from 4 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream to 100 Mbps

downstream and 25 Mbps upstream. GCEC will also be looking at opportunities to offer IPTV or other video related services.

5. Price of Services

GCEC proposes to offer its customers several voice, IPTV, and broadband bundled services that will range from \$59.95 to \$149.95.

6. Projected Funding Needs and Length of Funding.

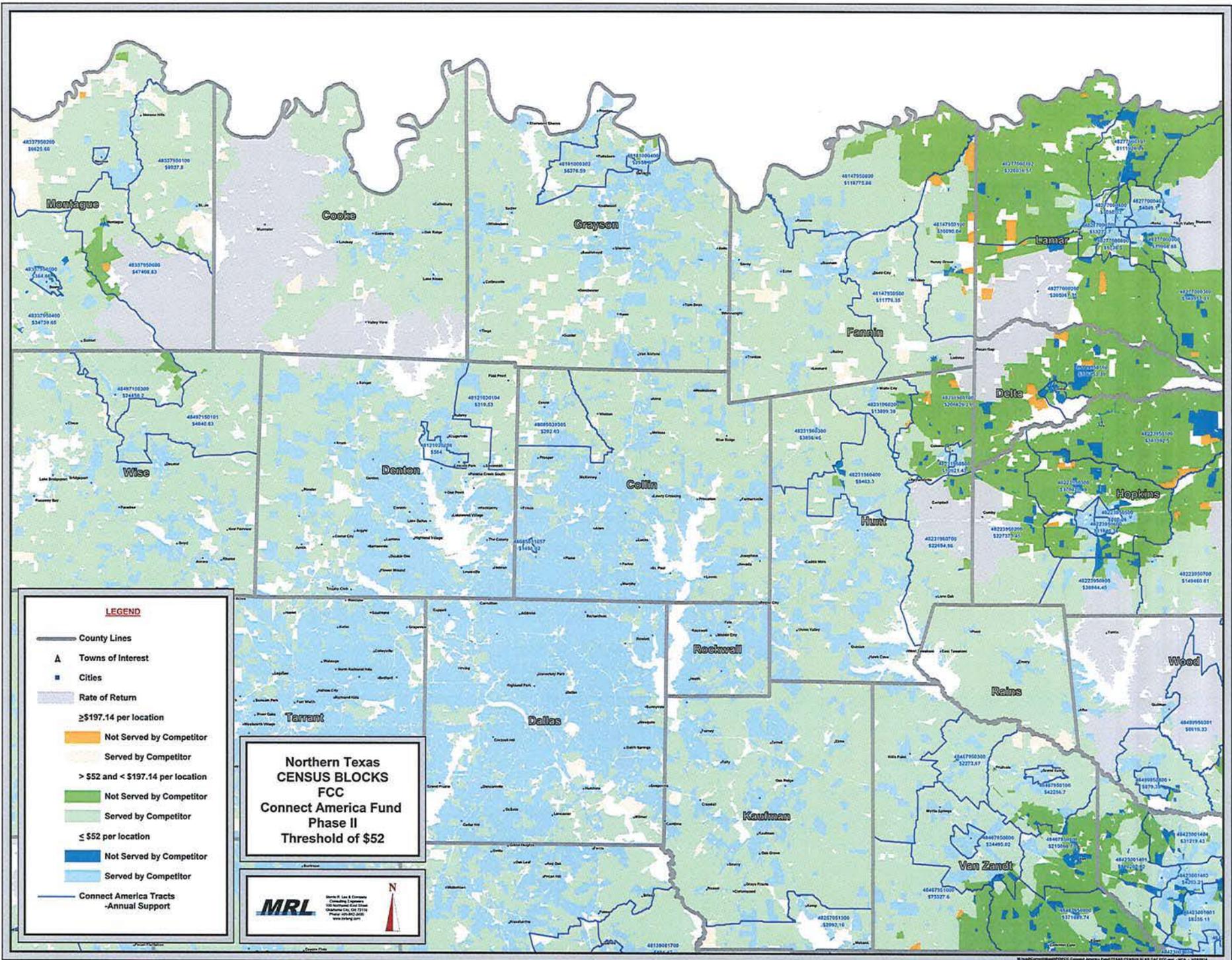
GCEC believes that because the particular eligible high-cost census blocks for this experiment have yet to be identified, GCEC will need to perform a more in-depth analysis of the construction and costs once the actual eligible census block are identified. Further, GCEC will canvas the other community census tracts not listed as eligible census tract to obtain detailed information regarding these areas and to provide information showing that the areas are underserved by broadband. Thus, GCEC will either submit updated details of the construction and estimates of the costs with a supplemental letter or with its formal proposal.

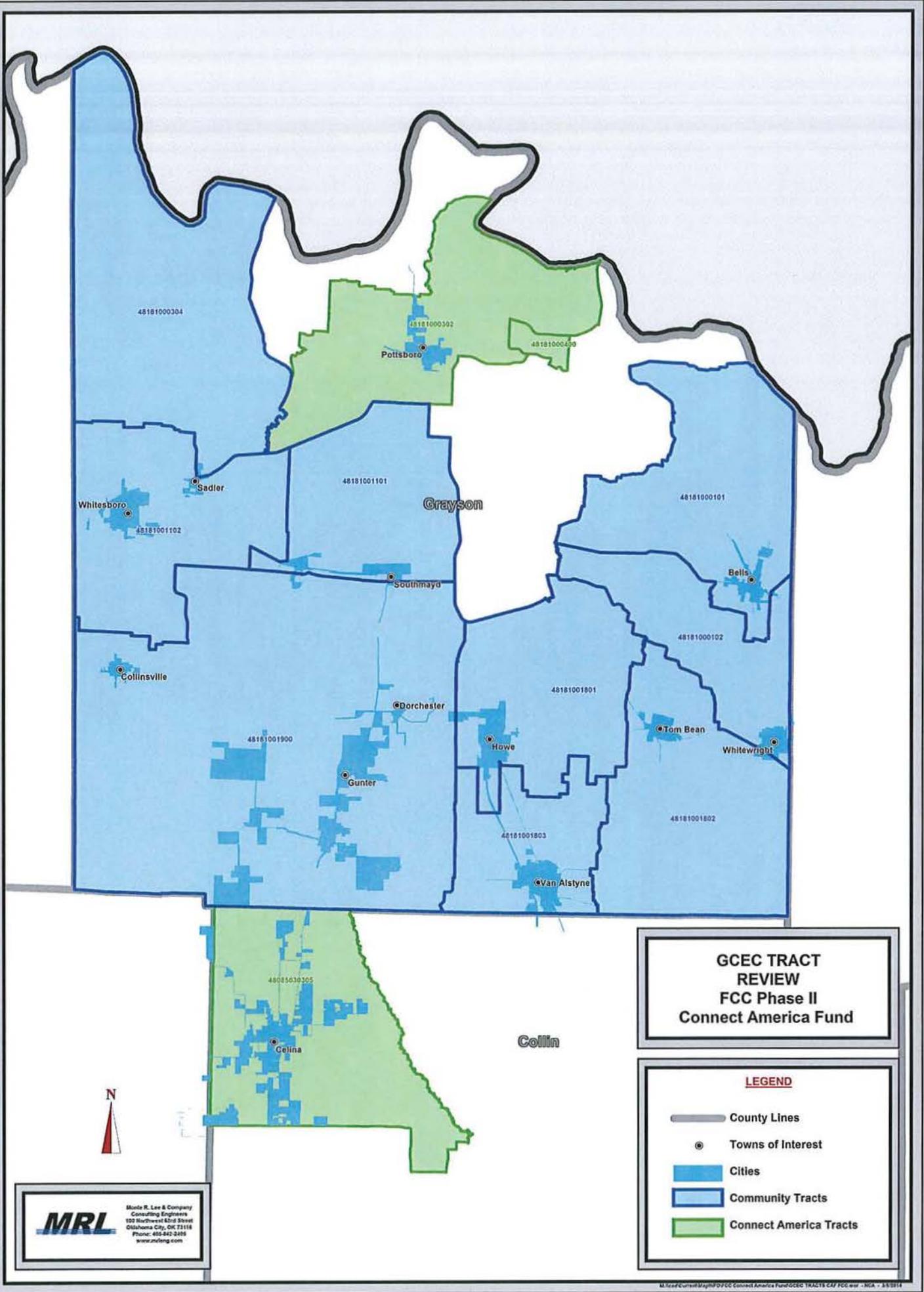
GCEC appreciates the opportunity to submit this non-binding Expression of Interest. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely



Lance White
General Manager
GCEC Telecom





48181000304

48181000302

48181000400

48181001101

48181000101

Whitesboro

Sadler

Grayson

48181001102

Southmayd

48181000102

Bells

Collinsville

48181001801

Dorchester

48181000102

Tom Bean

48181001900

Gunter

Howe

Whitewright

48181001802

48181001803

Van Alstyne

48085030305

Geina

Collin

**GCEC TRACT
REVIEW
FCC Phase II
Connect America Fund**

LEGEND

-  County Lines
-  Towns of Interest
-  Cities
-  Community Tracts
-  Connect America Tracts



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