# CHALLENGE PROCESS Broadband Grant Program

# 2015 Infrastructure Grant Challenge Process

The applications for the Border-to-Border Broadband Grant Program were due by 4:00 p.m. on September 15, 2015. On September 18, 2015, the Office of Broadband Development posted on this website a list of all applicants that have filed for the grant program, the project name, and the description (written and map depiction) of each proposed project.

Existing broadband providers can review the project areas and determine whether they believe an area’s eligibility for the grant program should be challenged because they already provide wireline broadband service within any of the project areas. A provider can either challenge that an applicant’s proposed project includes areas that are already served at 10Mbps down and 5 Mbps upload and is therefore served and ineligible for grant funding; or that a proposed project includes areas that are already served at 25Mbps down and 3Mbps upload and should be re-classified as underserved if the applicant has described the area as unserved.

# Challenge Process Instructions

An entity wishing to challenge an application must do so by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2015. Challenges will only be considered from providers that submitted updated broadband mapping data to Connected Nation in the spring 2015 data collection period. Challenges must be submitted in writing to the Office of Broadband Development, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, 1st National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200, St. Paul, MN 55101-1351.

A separate challenge must be submitted for each project being challenged and must include the following information:

1. Name of company submitting challenge.

2. Name, title, email and telephone number of authorized person submitting challenge.

3. Name, title, email and telephone number of person whom the Office of Broadband Development can contact with questions (if different than authorized person submitting challenge).

4. Name of applicant and name of project being challenged.

5. Reason for challenge:

A. Area is identified in application as unserved (wireline service below 25Mbps download/3Mbps upload) but it is served (has wireline service at or above 10Mbps download and 5Mbps upload)

B. Area is identified in application as unserved (wireline service below 25Mbps download/3Mbps upload) but it is underserved (has wireline service at or above 25Mbps download/3Mbps upload but below 10Mbps download/5Mbps upload)

C. Area is identified in application as underserved (wireline service above 25Mbps download/3Mbps upload but below 10Mbps download/5Mbps upload) but it is served (has wireline service at or above 10Mbps download and 5Mbps upload)

Include a map and written description that clearly delineates each specific area of the project that is being challenged. If different reasons apply for different parts of the proposed project, identify the specific reason (A, B or C) associated with each specific area of the project being challenged.

Include the download and upload speeds already available to end user locations in each specific area of the project that is being challenged and the technology in use to deliver those speeds.

Include any additional information to support the challenge.