



PROJECT SELECTION NOTICE

Rural Development has approved a grant of \$868,022

Program: Public Television Digital Transition Grant Program

State: Mississippi and Arkansas

Counties: MS: Grenada, Bolivar, Carroll, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Montgomery, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Washington, and Yazoo
AR: Chicot and Desha

Congressman, District: MS: Wicker 1, and Thompson 2
AR: Snyder, 2

Senators: MS: Cochran and Lott
AR: Lincoln and Pryor

Recipient: Mississippi Authority for Educational Television (dba Mississippi Public Broadcasting)

Recipient Contact: Marie Antoon, Executive Director

Mailing Address: 3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211

Telephone: (601) 432-6565

Purpose of Grant: Rural Development funds will be used to bring the WMAO Greenwood, Mississippi, digital transmitter to full power. Maximization of the digital transmitter will increase the population coverage by 40 percent, serving an additional 105,662 people. The full WMAO-DT coverage area will include 15 rural counties in Mississippi and Arkansas. Mississippi Public Broadcasting has been designated in the state emergency preparedness plan as a primary responder in the event of an emergency and WMAO serves key evacuation routes for the Mississippi Gulf Coast and southern Louisiana including New Orleans.

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PROJECT SELECTION NOTICE

Rural Development has approved a grant of \$994,079

Program: Public Television Digital Transition Grant Program

State: Mississippi and Louisiana

Counties/Parishes: MS: Claiborne, Copiah, Jefferson, Adams, Amite, Franklin, Jefferson Davis, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion (part), Pike, Walthall, Wilkinson, Marion (part)
LA: Tangipahoa, Washington, Concordia, Tensas, East Feliciana, and West Feliciana,

Congressman, District: MS: Thompson, 2; Pickering, 3; Taylor, 4
LA: Jindal, 1; Alexander, 5; Baker, 6

Senators: MS: Cochran and Lott
LA: Landrieu and Vitter

Recipient: Mississippi Authority for Educational Television (dba Mississippi Public Broadcasting)

Recipient Contact: Marie Antoon, Executive Director

Mailing Address: 3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211

Telephone: (601) 432-6565

Purpose of grant: Rural Development funds will be used to bring the WMAU digital transmitter to full power. Maximization of the digital transmitter will increase the population coverage by 145 percent, serving 438,771 additional people in 19 rural counties in Mississippi and Louisiana. Mississippi Public Broadcasting has been designated in the state emergency preparedness plan as a primary responder in the event of an emergency and WMAU-DT serves key evacuation routes for the Mississippi Gulf Coast and southern Louisiana, including New Orleans.

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PROJECT SELECTION NOTICE

Rural Development has approved a grant of \$398,436

Program: Public Television Digital Transition Grant Program

State: Minnesota

Counties: Beltrami (part), Clearwater, Todd, Cass, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Morrison, Wadena

Congressman, District: Peterson, 7 and Oberstar, 8

Senators: Coleman and Klobuchar

Recipient: Northern Minnesota Public Television, Inc.(dba Lakeland Public Television (LPTV))

Recipient Contact: William Sanford, General Manager

Mailing Address: 1500 Birchmont Drive, NE #9, Bemidji, MN 56601

Telephone: 218-751-3407

Purpose of Grant: Rural Development funds will be used for new digital video production equipment to enable LPTV to continue to provide local programming services. Televised local news and public affairs programming was non-existent in this rural area until nine years ago when LPTV began providing local television newscasts. This grant will enable DTV continuation of what is the area's only weeknight local news, weather, and sports. Northern Minnesota Public Television Inc., known as Lakeland Public Television (LPTV) has two digital transmitter sites, located in Bemidji, and Brainerd, MN. KAWE-DT and KAWB-DT cover 7,500 square miles and serve 383,000 people.

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PROJECT SELECTION NOTICE

Rural Development has approved a grant of \$837,895

Program: Public Television Digital Transition Grant

State: North Dakota

Counties: Billings, Golden Valley, Hettinger, Slope, and Stark

Congressman, District: Pomeroy, At Large

Senators: Conrad and Dorgan

Recipient: Prairie Public Broadcasting, Inc.

Recipient Contact: John Harris, President and CEO (alternative contact: Jack Anderson)

Mailing Address: 207 North 5th Street
Fargo, ND 58102

Telephone: (701) 239-7569 (alternative contact: (701) 239-7504)

Purpose of Grant: Rural Development grant funds will be used for a digital transmitter and tower upgrades to enable KDSE of Dickinson to provide full digital replication of the current analog broadcast area. Connecting this sparsely-populated area to Prairie Public TV's local programming is critical to schools and rural residents. In an place where many can receive their only other television service via satellite, Prairie Public TV's local broadcast service provides news and cultural programming of special interest to many, including Native American populations in the area.

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PROJECT SELECTION NOTICE

Rural Development has approved a grant of \$25,510

Program: Public Television Digital Transition Grant

State: South Dakota

Counties: Shannon

Congressman, District: Herseth-Sandlin, At Large

Senators: Johnson and Thune

Recipient: South Dakota Board of Directors for Educational Telecommunications

Recipient Contact: Julie Andersen, Executive Director
(alternative contact: Don Forseth)

Mailing Address: 555 North Dakota Street
Vermillion, SD 57069-5000

Telephone: (605) 677-5861
(alternative contact: 605 677-5240)

Purpose of Grant: Rural Development funds will be used for the replacement of an analog translator in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. Pine Ridge is in Shannon County in southwestern South Dakota, within the Pine Ridge Oglala Sioux Reservation. Shannon County has one of the lowest per capita incomes in the U.S. Pine Ridge is outside the coverage area of any other television station, commercial or non-commercial. South Dakota Public Broadcasting provides educational programming for all ages as well as local and Native American programming.

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PROJECT SELECTION NOTICE

Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,000,000

Program: Public Television Digital Transition Grant

State: Oklahoma

Counties: McCurtain, Texas and Tillman

Congressman, District: Boren, 2
Lucas, 3
Cole, 4

Senators: Inhofe and Coburn

Recipient: Oklahoma Educational Television Authority (OETA)

Recipient Contact: John McCarroll, Executive Director
(alternative contact: Lori Holliday)

Mailing Address: 7403 North Kelley Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

Telephone: (405) 841-9250 (alternative contact: (405) 841-9257)

Purpose of Grant: Rural development grant funds will be used for the conversion of translators in the extremely rural communities of Idabel, Frederick, and Guymon, Oklahoma. The final phase of OETA's digital conversion plan is to convert the rural translator network to digital. OETA provides important educational programming in support of its school system. It also provides local and statewide news coverage and is developing a DTV-based statewide weather alert system.

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PROJECT SELECTION NOTICE

Rural Development has approved a grant of \$826,058

Program: Public Television Digital Transition Grant

State: Tennessee and Kentucky

Counties: Tennessee: Bledsoe, Cumberland, Fentress, Pickett, Putnam, Scott, Van Buren, Warren, White, Cannon, Clay, DeKalb, Jackson, Macon, Morgan, Overton, Smith, and Trousdale
Kentucky: Clinton, Cumberland and Monroe

Congressman, District: Tennessee: Davis, 4 and Gordon, 6
Kentucky: Whitfield, 1

Senators: Tennessee: Alexander and Corker
Kentucky: McConnell and Bunning

Recipient: Upper Cumberland Broadcast Council, WCTE TV

Recipient Contact: Rebecca Magura, President and General Manager

Mailing Address: POB 2040
Cookeville, TN 38502

Telephone: (931) 528-2222

Purpose of Grant: Rural Development grant funds will be used for digital production equipment including cameras, a production switcher, format converters, and a graphics generator. WCTE is the only local station serving the Upper Cumberland region of middle Tennessee. The station broadcasts a digital signal and is installing digital master control facilities. This grant will enable the station to continue to produce local programming, including local sports and news.

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