Indiana Broadband Mapping - Program Summary
Opportunity No. 0660-ZA29
Submitted by the State of Indiana, Indiana Office of Technology

The State of Indiana is well positioned to respond to this information need. We have assembled a broadband mapping workgroup with representatives from the Office of Governor Mitch Daniels, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, Office of Utility Consumer Counselor, Office of Community and Rural Affairs, Indiana Finance Authority, Indiana Office of Technology, Indiana Geographic Information Office, the Indiana Geographic Information Council (a non-profit statewide GIS coordination organization), and Indiana Economic Development Corporation (the legislated steward of our statewide broadband map).

Our approach begins with using data that is "in-hand", that is, within the public domain and immediately available to deliver a substantially complete data set by February 1, 2010. We will collect and organize this information from a wide variety of sources, including a substantial amount of State geospatial data and data supplied by the service providers. We will also digitize those data that are in hardcopy format. We recognize that these data do not have common geometries and that the native geometries and formats (service areas, Zip code boundaries, census blocks, ERSI shapefiles, hard copy maps, databases, etc.) do not match the requirements contained in the project technical specification. We will, therefore, geo-process these data using GIS software tools to transfer relevant data values from the various geographies to a common base, the address, and verify the data, then deliver a substantially complete product to NTIA. The address data layer has provided to the State by most of the counties in Indiana. Broadband specific data will come from State agencies as well as from broadband services providers as part of the public record.

Beginning immediately at project start-up, we will work to refine, complete, and otherwise improve the initial data holding. This process will continue throughout the remainder of the two-year initial project period using additional information from the service providers. To accomplish this, we will engage the service provider community through a series of regional information sessions. This engagement will continue over the term of the project using a variety of outreach methods and channels. In addition, we will work with a local university to collect consumer information using a "crowd sourcing" web-based application. This data will be useful to close data gaps and to verify information obtained from the broadband service providers. This verification is one of several methods we plan to use, including "boots on the ground," source document correlation, inspection of aerial photography, and direct contact with the service provider community.

We believe that this approach satisfies both short and long term project objectives. We have requested $1.26 million to accomplish this work.