



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

October 19, 2007

Dear State Administrative Agent:

I am writing to inform you about the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). This letter is intended to clarify the Federal Funding Opportunity Announcement and the PSIC Grant Guidance as amended on August 16, 2007.

Grant recipients are required to provide, from non-federal sources, not less than 20 percent of the costs of acquisition, deployment, and management and administration (M&A) for the interoperable communications systems funded under the program. The PSIC Grant Guidance states that each public safety agency receiving PSIC funds is required to meet and document the match requirement for each project, during the period of performance of the grant. States and Territories have the discretion, however, on how they plan to meet and document the matching requirement for their grant, so long as at the aggregate State-level, the costs associated with the overall acquisition, deployment, and M&A categories have met the minimum requirement of the 20 percent match. For example, one Investment could provide a higher matching share and another Investment could provide a lower matching share, as long as the aggregated State-level costs associated with the overall acquisition and deployment categories meet the minimum requirement of the 20 percent match.

The SAA is still responsible to track and report the 20 percent match requirement for the grant program. Additionally, each State and Territory continues to be required to submit its Statewide Communications Interoperability Plans and Investment Justification under the PSIC Grant Program no later than December 3, 2007.

This clarification is intended to give States and Territories the greatest flexibility with respect to matching the costs of the acquisition, deployment, and M&A expenses. For further information, please free to contact me at (202) 482-5802.

Sincerely,

Laura M. Pettus
Program Specialist, PSIC Grant Program