

CBN Connect Wireless Pilot

1. The cover later states providing planning, database design, field research, database creation, and website creation: however the RFP states to provide technical planning, design, construction, and six months of oversight of a wireless broadband pilot project. Is there database and website work to be included as well, or is this an error?
2. The cover letter states that the RFP will be posted on the www.cbnconnect.org website: however we are not able to find a copy there. Can you provide the location where it can be found?
3. The RFP states that all work in the project phases must be complete by August 15, 2008. We assume that this deadline is just for the first 5 pilot project phases (Conceptual Design through Construction). Is this assumption correct?
4. The scope of Work section, point 1 states that additional site survey work in Chateaugay will be provided upon bid award. Martin Group feels this information is necessary to provide an adequate bid response and to verify that LOS is available.
5. The RFP does not include coordinates for the Mountain Lake PBS TV Tower or the PBS studios.
6. The Constraints section, point 1 states that secondary site options are listed in Appendix B; however there is no Appendix B included. Can you provide this information?

RFP Bidder's Q&A 5/21/08

We currently have two RFP's out, one for a GIS web enabled wireless clearinghouse and the other for the CBN Connect Wireless Pilot Project. It appears that you have the wrong cover letter with the Wireless Pilot RFP. Please disregard the cover letter and adhere to the contents of the RFP.

The RFP as well as the other one that was referred to is now available on www.cbnconnect.org under the Projects tab.

Yes.

This will be provided.

This link will take you to our FCC page with other data you may need such as tower registration number, tower AGL, etc. If you're working with a consultant this should be all the info they need:
<http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/tvq?list+0&facid=46755>

There is no Appendix B; this was an error.

7. In the Constraints section, there is a point 1 and a point 3. Is there a point 2, and what does it state?

"2. The service to end users is to be reduced cost during the pilot, but at the end of the pilot, the end user participants will be given the opportunity to pay for the CPE and to subscribe to production service in order to determine the usefulness of the service and the sensitivity of prices."

8. The Constraints section states that proposals must "define the process of gathering, analyzing, and reporting the data that will form the planning foundation of the CBN Connect pilot, including, but not limited to, the following two primary components:" Can you provide what the two primary components are? Will the winning bidder be responsible for carrying out the data analysis? Will this form the planning foundation for the CBN Connect Pilot or for the overall CBN Connect Plan?

There is no data analysis required by the bidder.

9. The RFP states that "soft" costs must be recovered from revenues generated from operations or provided gratis. Will all revenue generated from operations belong to the winning bidder?

Please propose terms on the RFP. CBN Connect must charge providers for using their infrastructure, and this price will be negotiated. This can either be done with a revenue share or a straight lease agreement between the ISP and CBN Connect. CBN Connect will not be the service provider, only the wholesale circuit (wireless in this case) provider for the ISP.

10a. The RFP states that one of the objectives of the pilot is to demonstrate that CBN Connect can effectively execute its plan.

For this pilot, the plan is what we have outlined as the intent and objectives of the pilot and nothing more. This includes using the wireless as a part of the network, having an open access model and working with outsource partners to manage the network, etc.

10b. It is not fully clear what the CBN Connect plan is. Can you provide more detail on this plan (other than the CBN Connect Vision)? What network infrastructure is already in place?

This is the first part of the CBN Connect infrastructure. There is no other part in place. The RFP for Engineering Design was issued on Friday, May 16, 2008.

11. Would it be possible to have a call with Robert Green, the IT Director of Franklin County?

Yes, a call is being scheduled for Tuesday, May 20 at 8:30am.

12. Is it mandatory to propose a solution with open standards? This is not something that is readily available at this time?

It was suggested by members of the bidder's group that while standards have not been confirmed, it is possible to define a solution utilizing hardware/software vendors that are taking into account the standards planning that is in progress at this time and to not pick a solution that is completely not tested and very proprietary.

13. Is there fiber between 1 Sesame Street and the tower on Averill Peak?

There is not fiber that directly runs between the two at this time but there may be providers such as Charter or Time Warner that has fiber near there, and that can be researched. However, at this time, there is no funding to run fiber between the two.

14. Have potential hardware vendors considered the ice issues that occur on the transmission tower each winter?

This has not been discussed by CBN Connect with any hardware vendors but is something that all bidder's should discuss to determine the best solution for the situation.

15. Have the 100 households been identified?

No, this will be determined once the awardee determines that exact location that the signal will be targeted to.

16. Is it possible to get addresses for the households that should be included for the Pandemic Preparation tie in with Franklin County?

Julie West will ask Robert Green, the IT Director of Franklin County for these addresses.

17. Is it possible to get the exact coordinates for the two or three high points that would work as receptor locations in that area?

Yes, Julie West will get these coordinates from Rob Green the IT Director of Franklin County and get them out to the group as soon as she receives them.

18. Can the names of potential ISPs be sent to the bidder's?

Yes, the current list include Primelink, Westelcom and Ridgeview Telecom.

19. Does the bidder have to be an ISP?

Not at all. They can be but there is no reason why they have to be.