

SCRPS Status Update

FCC Form 5640

OMB Control No. 3060-1270

File No. SC-SU0002512

Applicant Information

Applicant FRN	0003758877	Applicant Address	PO Box 67
Applicant Name	Santel Communications Coop	Applicant City	Woonsocket
Applicant Email	info@santel.coop	Applicant State	SD
Applicant Phone	6057964411	Applicant ZIP Code	57385

Contact Information

Is the contact the same as the contact listed on the Application Request for Funding Allocation? If not, please list below.

Contact Name	Ryan Thompson	Contact Address	308 South Dumont Avenue
Contact Email	rthompson@santel.coop	Contact City	Woonsocket
Contact Phone	6057968143	Contact State	SD
		Contact ZIP Code	57385

*Indicate which deadline you are meeting with this filing.

2024-04-08

Explanation of Effort and Availability of Commercial Equipment

*Provide an explanation of efforts undertaken, and challenges encountered, in permanently removing, replacing, and disposing of covered communications equipment or service.

Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc. (Santel) continues progressing forward with its Fiber to the Premises (FTTP) network upgrade to replace its existing Huawei Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) network. Santel has completed the FTTP Outside Plant (OSP) construction activities in its Mitchell West and Mitchell East exchanges and completed the FWA decommissioning efforts at its Poet and Mitchell – Hamar sites and has completed its efforts converting its Mitchell-Area JetNet customer cutovers. Santel completed its efforts on FTTP OSP construction and has completed its efforts converting its Huron-area JetNet customer cutovers. The Huron-Area JetNet customer cutovers and CPE decommissioning had been stalled the winter of 2022-2023, due to the quantity of snow that has been received in eastern South Dakota. In the Huron area, Santel worked with a neighboring ILEC to offer service to the existing JetNet subscribers, either through its new FTTP network or the adjoining FTTP network of the neighboring ILEC. A portion of the Huron-Area JetNet subscribers will be transitioning to a neighboring ILEC, who experienced delays in receiving their necessary Central Office electronics. As subscribers were cutover to the FTTP networks, Santel is decommissioning the FWA customer premises equipment (CPE) and securing the Huawei CPE devices within its secured facility. Santel completed the FWA decommissioning efforts at its Mitchell – West and Huron sites, as well as its Core Network. With the completion of its decommissioning efforts, Santel has removed all Huawei equipment from their network and is working diligently on the final verification of all of the covered Huawei equipment in preparation to send to an ITAR certified recycler. Early on in the process, Santel ordered its fiber optic cabling and FTTP electronics but has also encountered shipment delays on both its fiber optic cabling, as well as portions of its FTTP electronics. While awaiting full funding for the SCRP Program, Santel diligently continues its efforts, while financially straining to internally fund these efforts, to prolong enacting the one-year completion deadline obligation of the Supply Chain Proceeding.

*Explain whether you are finding commercially available equipment in the marketplace. If not, then explain efforts taken to obtain replacement equipment.

Early on in the process, Santel ordered its fiber optic cabling and FTTP electronics but has also encountered shipment delays on both its fiber optic cabling, as well as portions of its FTTP electronics. Fortunately, Santel has been able to finalize its equipment and material orders, however, the lead-times have been exponentially longer than originally quoted and projected. As previously indicated, the Huron-Area existing JetNet subscribers will be transitioned to Santel's new FTTP network or the new FTTP network of its neighboring ILEC. Santel's neighboring ILEC experienced delays in receiving their necessary Central Office electronics, which delayed the transition of a portion of the existing Huron-Area JetNet subscribers.

* If there is additional information relevant to the preceding questions or that you believe the Commission should be aware of, please include the information below.

While awaiting full funding for the SCRP Program, Santel diligently continues its efforts to transition to its FTTP network upgrade and is in process of complying with all requirements of the Supply Chain Proceeding.

Program Compliance

*Indicate whether recipient has fully complied with (or is in the process of complying with) all requirements of the Reimbursement Program.

Yes No

*Indicate whether recipient has permanently removed from its communications network all covered communications equipment or services that were in the recipient's network as of the date of the submission of the recipient's application request for funding.

Yes No

If recipient has not yet completed the removal process, what estimated percentage of the removal process have you completed?

*Indicate whether recipient has replaced all covered communications equipment or services that were in the recipient's network as of the date of the submission of the recipient's application request for funding.

Yes No

If recipient has not yet completed the replacement process, what estimated percentage of the replacement process have you completed?

95

*Indicate whether recipient has disposed of all covered communications equipment or services that were in the recipient's network as of the date of the submission of the recipient's application request for funding.

Yes No

If recipient has not yet completed the disposal process, what estimated percentage of the disposal process have you completed?

45

*Indicate whether recipient has fully complied with (or is in the process of complying with) the timeline submitted by the recipient. If not, provide explanation for deviation.

Yes No

*The filer has indicated no to a question in this section, please provide additional information.

While awaiting full funding for the SCRP Program, Santel diligently continues its efforts to transition to its FTTP network upgrade and is in process of complying with all requirements of the Supply Chain Proceeding. Santel estimates it is 95% complete in completing its Supply Chain Proceeding efforts and is uploaded a revised project timeline into the portal to more accurately capture the progress it has made on its Supply Chain Proceeding activities, including its FTTP construction activities, and revised equipment and material lead-times.

Certifications

*By checking the box and providing the electronic signature where indicated below, the Certifying Official on behalf of the filer certifies under penalty of perjury that:

(1) The Certifying Official is authorized to submit this status report on behalf of the above-named filer and, based on information known to me or provided to me by employees responsible for the information being submitted, the information set forth in this status report has been examined and is true, accurate, and complete, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Federal award. The Certifying Official acknowledges that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information or statement, or the omission of any material fact on this status report or on any other document submitted by the filer may subject the filer and the undersigned to punishment by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), 1606), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. § 1001, §§ 286-287, and § 1343), or can lead to liability under the False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733, and §§ 3801-3812). (2) The filer is in compliance with the statute, rules, and orders governing the Reimbursement Program, including but not limited to allocations, draw downs, payments, obligations and expenditures of money, and the Certifying Official acknowledges that failure to be in compliance and remain in compliance with those statutes, rules, and orders may result in the denial of funding, cancellation of funding commitments, and/or recoupment of past disbursements. The Certifying Official acknowledges that the filer will maintain detailed records, including receipts, of all costs eligible for reimbursement actually incurred for a period of 10 years; and will file all required documentation for its expenses. The Certifying Official acknowledges that failure to comply with the statute, rules, and orders governing the Reimbursement Program could result in civil or criminal prosecution by law enforcement authorities.

Certifier Information

Certifier Signature	Ryan Thompson	Certifier Phone	6057968143
Certifier Name	Ryan Thompson	Certifier Email	rthompson@santel.coop
Certifier Title	General Manager		
Date Signed	2024-04-01		