

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.

In the past quarter, Point has run into more delays associated with supply lines from vendors. As stated previously, we engaged Ericsson to provide a broad portion of the Huawei replacement equipment. We have ordered the DC plant replacements from Ericsson but, as with all vendors we spoke with, the batteries are a long lead time out months. As a consequence of the long lead times to accure the batteries, Point has had to make a decision on how to continue installing Ciena FTTH and Ericsson Radio equipment while needing to replace the Huawei DC power systems first. We are faced with having to do work twice as we cannot follow the logical installation path.

Point ran into an issue in our core site of Greenville-Dickerson where there was not adequate space to place the new Ericsson Core, ENM, new DC Power replacement, and new StarSolution processing core without expanding the site. A plan was drawn up and that work was completed in mid-March, allowing us to install the core equipment and hopefully start the installation of the Ericsson radio equipment no later than the end of August 2023. Before any radio equipment can be replaced, extensive testing will have to be performed in our lab to make sure that the control components and the radio equipment are all working properly together.

We are currently installing our first Ciena FTTH after coming up with a solution to allow us to insert a fiber MUX into each distribution leg allowing us to maintain customer service until we can go out and replace their equipment one by one. As with all disciplines that we are having to place in the network, regardless of contractors that we are utilizing to assist with the installation services, our internal resources are heavily tasked to understand, turn up, and operate the new FTTH equipment. We anticipate similar issues as we get into replacing the 2.5 radio equipment.

As so many parts are needed to support the installation of the wireless equipment, we are noting the difficulty that we have incurred in the last quarter to obtain the proper size power cables and fiber cables to place on all of the radio tower sites. We'll be using a combined fiber and power combination in the same casing to allow a smaller footprint on the tower infrastructure. We have provided length and termination requirements to several vendors and have chosen Ericsson to complete the order, as they gave us the lowest price and the quickest turnaround time. We estimate if we get the PO's to Ericsson by the end of March, we will be able to have the cables delivered in time to start installation in August.

We continue to install Ericsson routers replacing the Huawei routers but at this time we are doing it on an as-needed basis ahead of the Ciena FTTH as we plan for their installations in the coming months.

As with all the equipment that we are replacing currently, much of the work is requiring contractors given Point's very limited internal resources for this size project; however, given the very nature of having to touch and integrate into our billing and enterprise systems, many internal resources are still required placing a strain on our daily operations.

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

We have been able to select all of our vendors at this point for the wireless solutions and the FTTH. Ericsson, Ciena, StarSolutions and Green Packet will be our primary vendors. As with every vendor that we engaged, long lead times on certain items are still an issue and could slow our timelines for deployment.

* 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.

As we remove existing Huawei equipment from our network, we are documenting and placing it in a separate location in our R&R warehouse to be disposed of by an FCC-authorized agent.

Over the last quarter, we have been able to place a number of PO's and get equipment moving to our location for preparation to deploy in the network. While we still have supply line issues, a single component missing can slow or stop the continuance or completion of any of the systems.

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, replaced, and disposed of (or is in the process of permanently removing, replacing, and disposing of) all covered communications equipment or services that were in the recipient's network as of the date of submission of the recipient's application requesting funding.

Yes No

If you have not yet completed the removal, replacement, and/or disposal process, what estimated percentage of the removal, replacement, and/or disposal process have you completed?

*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.

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.

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