

SCRPS Status Update

FCC Form 5640

OMB Control No. 3060-1270

File No. SC-SU0002202

Applicant Information

Applicant FRN 0031580152 Applicant Address 3120 Frederick Road
Applicant Name Point Broadband Fiber Holdin Applicant City Opelika
Applicant Email chad.wachter@point-broadba Applicant State AL
Applicant Phone 7067732663 Applicant ZIP Code 36801

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 Summit Ridge Group Contact Address 49 West 38th Street 12th Floor
Contact Email PointRR@SummitRidgeGroup Contact City New York
Contact Phone 2124334800 Contact State NY
Contact ZIP Code 10018

*Indicate which deadline you are meeting with this filing.

2023-10-08

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.

Over the past 90 days, we uncovered numerous issues that we did not previously anticipate including tower issues of overcapacity slowing our progress on getting our tower providers contracts reworked to allow us to place the new equipment where the Huawei resides. We had to engage an engineering company to provide engineering drawings of all towers prior to any climbs being allowed. We should have all the engineering designs that we need by the end of November 2023. We have also had a problem acquiring the switches that will interface the wireless core to our network. The switches were ordered months ago; however, the arrival time we hope will now be the end of October 2023.

We have made very good progress on the installation of the FTTH equipment with 70% of our core sites completed with the use of a muxing product allowing us to place the Ciena FTTH equipment in parallel to the Huawei FTTH. Of the 5,000 customers on the FTTH equipment, we have migrated 450 customers to date. Our major hurdles have been contacting and scheduling a time when a technician can get into the customer's location.

We have engaged additional contract resources to assist with the complexity of our Huawei distribution routers where we still face a number of challenges migrating all the complex routing over to the new routers. We are utilizing as much time of our internal engineers as possible to work with contract resources, while maintaining the integrity of our current network. All this work on our backbone must be done in maintenance windows to alleviate as much disruption to our customer base as possible. We have started reaching out to business customers to schedule changes in their network from Huawei routers that we provide. Given the customer service level agreements, we are challenged with meeting the customers' maintenance windows and having sufficient personnel to be able to work with large customers during an on-site conversion of the Huawei equipment.

We have engaged an outside contractor to assist with the installation of our DC plant given the fact that we only have one resource internally that is familiar with AC/DC engineering. As we reviewed AC power requirements at our sites, we discovered that a number of the sites require incoming power upgrades before we can place our new DC plants.

From a long-term perspective, our biggest concern at this point is that we will deplete our allotted funds and have to stop our changeouts until additional funds are allotted. We are also concerned about the pace of the reimbursement processing. We have limited capital and require regular replenishing of funds to continue. Other challenges regarding the reimbursement process include:

1. Reallocation between FRNs is both time-consuming and costly as money is shifted to keep the program going.
2. Suspension of reimbursements during application amendments.
3. Resources processing reimbursements have slowed over the summer from an average of 30 days (from submission till reimbursed) to 66 days as measured in the timeline being reimbursed in the proceeding months.

The challenges above have added burden, complexity, and additional cost to the reimbursement process, which should be corrected as soon as possible.

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

We received the majority of our core equipment, but we have been plagued with problems obtaining the necessary switches to connect the wireless core to the network. Equipment that was ordered months ago has not yet arrived and is due at the end of October. This pushes our start date on our wireless change out to at least the end of November. We will have at least three weeks of testing that will be required before we can remove the first Huawei 2.5 radios from a tower.

* 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.

We continue to remove Huawei equipment from our network and are storing it in an offsite warehouse to be disposed of through our authorized agent.

We have ordered and received most of the equipment needed for replacement, including core routers, FTTH equipment, microwave equipment, 2.5 radio equipment, cables, and DC plant equipment. However, we are still experiencing challenges with switches being back ordered due to supply chain problems, which will impact the installation timeline of our 2.5 wireless replacement.

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?

3

*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?

10

*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?

0

*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.

Certifier Information

Certifier
Signature Andy Sivell

Certifier Phone 7067730705

Certifier Name Andy Sivell

Certifier Email ASivell@point-broadband.com

Certifier Title VP Network Operations

Date Signed 2023-10-13