

BEAD Program Environmental Impacts and Documentation Screening Questionnaire

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Complete environmental documentation must contain the following information, or a showing must be made as to why the information is not applicable. This document's organization should follow the major format and numbering system of these post-award filing requirements.

Awardees should email questions about the applicability of specific information requirements to the Wisconsin Broadband Office BEAD General Inbox: PSCBEADGrants@wisconsin.gov

Subgrantee Name:

[If Applicable] Contractor Name:

Project Name and ID [Use the Name and ID assigned by the Commission]:

[If Applicable] Sub-Project Number [Use the Number assigned by the Commission]:

Project Technology Type and Code:

Contact Information for Follow-Up Questions: (Include name, email and phone number)

Brief Description of Project:

Number of BSLs Within This Project:

1. Project Overview

The purpose of the Project Overview Section is to capture general project construction information, and to gather information on the project’s alignment with applicable [Categorical Exclusions](#). This section will also gather project uploads that are required by NTIA for BEAD projects, such as a project description and a project map.

Document Uploads

For review organization, file names should begin with the subrecipient name and include a clear description of their contents.

1.1 [**Upload**] In a separate file, provide a project description that spans from project planning to construction conclusion. The Project Description should provide as much detail as possible, while also remaining succinct (no more than three pages long). A project description must contain a description of what the project is, where the project is proposed, and how the project will be implemented. Describe metrics of the project (dimensions, areas, distances, depths, thicknesses, heights, etc.) as applicable. Within the project description, also provide a narrative of the project site and surrounding area (developed land vs. open space, adjacent natural resources, such as rivers, wetlands, or forests; and any protected lands). As applicable, describe improvements to existing facilities. Lastly, provide any mitigation actions needed to complete the project, as well as any known permits that will need to be acquired prior to beginning project implementation. Has the project description been uploaded to the PSC Grants System as a PDF?

Yes No

1.2 [**Upload if applicable**] If applicable, in a separate file, provide copies of official correspondence between the awardee and all state, federal, Tribal, county, or local governments regarding project permits or approvals. Have Official Correspondences regarding permitting been uploaded to the PSC Grants System as a PDF?

Yes No N/A

1.3 [**Upload**] Provide geospatial files for GIS software that shows the project area as described in the EIDS Instructions and Resources “GIS Data” section. Data file names should be descriptive of the contents. GIS files will be uploaded to a secure file transfer site provided by the Commission. Has the requested GIS data been provided in the proper format via the file transfer link?

Yes No

1.4 **[Upload]** In a separate file, provide a metadata spreadsheet that lists each GIS file submitted (clearly named and organized), a description of the data, data source, the date when the data was generated, and any additional notes for context. Has the requested metadata been provided in the proper format via the file transfer link?

Yes No

Project Details

1.5 Does the proposed project include the construction of new buried and/or aerial telecommunications lines, cables, and related facilities?

Yes No

1.5.1 If yes, will new fiber be added to transmission structures or buried in existing Rights of Way?

Yes No N/A

1.6 Will new or existing communications systems be acquired, installed, operated, or removed for the proposed project?

Yes No

1.7 Will system instruments be retrofitted, upgraded, repaired, or replaced?

Yes No

1.7.1 If yes, will the actions impact a structure that is eligible for the [National Register of Historic Places](#)?

Yes

No N/A

1.8 Indicate which general infrastructure elements (bolded) are included in the proposed project. Below each general infrastructure element is a more specific related project action. For each selected general infrastructure element, indicate all specific actions that are applicable with the proposed project scope.

Proposed Project Infrastructure Element

Towers and directly related structures

Siting

Construction/Installation

Operation/Maintenance

Retrofitting

New construction upon or improvement of land and/or non-tower structures

Construction or modification of aerial or buried utility, or communications systems that use existing Rights of Way, easements, grants of license, distribution systems, facilities, or similar arrangements

New construction in developed area or on previously disturbed site

Land improvement in developed area or on previously disturbed site

Construction or improvement of operations or support facilities, switching stations, maintenance facilities, or other non-tower structures on previously disturbed ground

Construction or improvement of new temporary buildings or experimental equipment on previously disturbed ground

Construction, land improvement, or modification of structures in an undeveloped area or on a pristine (undisturbed) site

Modification of existing fiber optic cable

Modifications, changes, or upgrades of existing telecommunication lines, transmission lines, or aerial or buried utility or communication systems

Pole replacement

Rebuilding existing power or telecommunication lines

Existing buildings, roads, airfields, grounds, equipment, and other facility modifications

Exterior renovation, addition, repair, alteration, or demolition

Internal renovation or additions

General minor renovations and/or additions

Purchase, lease, or use of existing facilities (or a portion thereof)

Conducting new activities or operations in existing structures

Installing, operating, maintaining, retrofitting, upgrading, repairing, removing, and/or replacing instruments

Collocating equipment on instruments, structures, or buildings

Changes to existing telecommunication facilities (including updates, changes, or additions)

Acquisition, installation, operation, and/or removal of communication systems

Close facilities, decommission equipment, or temporarily discontinue use of facilities or equipment

Phase or voltage conversions, reconductoring, or upgrading of existing electric distribution lines or telecommunication facilities

Low-earth orbit (LEO) satellite deployment and supporting activities

Satellite development or deployment

New ground station construction

Updates to existing ground stations

Firmware or hardware updates to existing ground stations

Upgrades of existing ground station fiberoptic connection or electric utilities

Supporting infrastructure construction such as permanent or temporary access roads, fencing, new electric poles outside of the fenced area, and storm water detention ponds

Landscaping and vegetation management, such as grading, vegetation removal, tree removal, pesticide use, or substrate replacement

1.9 Is ground disturbance necessary to implement the project? If so, provide the area of necessary ground disturbance in acres, and the methods used. Will the ground disturbance be new, or located in a previously disturbed area? If no ground disturbance will occur, state below, “No ground disturbance will occur to implement this project.”

Yes

No

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1.10 Towers and directly related structures. Briefly summarize the proposed construction. Include the total height of any tower structures, if any tower structures require guy wires, if the proposed actions will impact any [National Register of Historic Places](#) eligible structures, and if the construction of any tower structures will trigger an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statements by a federal agency. If your project does not include towers and directly related structures, answer N/A.

1.11 New construction upon or improvement of land and/or non-tower structures. Briefly summarize the proposed construction. Include if any of the project actions will require ground disturbance in an undeveloped area or on a pristine (undisturbed) site, if all construction or improvement will be compatible with local planning, zoning, and [Coastal Zone Management Programs](#), if the site and scale construction or improvement will be consistent with the scale of existing, adjacent, or nearby buildings, and if any construction or improvement require new local infrastructure. If your project does not include new construction upon or improvement of land and/or non-tower structures, answer N/A.

1.12 Modification of existing fiber optic cable. Briefly summarize the proposed construction. Include if any of the proposed actions will take place outside of Rights of Way, and—if outside Rights of Way—if the proposed action(s) will be adjacent to Right of Way, new road, or easement. Also include (if applicable) the original and new pole quantities, if the new poles will be of similar appearance to the original pole structures, be in or near the original pole locations, and will occur within the existing Right of Way. If your project does not include modification of existing fiber optic cable, answer N/A.

1.13 Existing buildings, roads, airfields, grounds, equipment, and other facility modifications. Briefly summarize the proposed construction. Include if the proposed actions will result in a change in the functional use or operations of real property, if the changes to telecommunications sites and structures require new physical disturbance or fencing, the area of new physical disturbance or fencing in acres, if the proposed actions will impact any [National Register of Historic Places](#) eligible structures, and if hazardous waste will be disposed of at approved sites in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and requirements. If your project does not include existing buildings, roads, airfields, grounds, equipment, and other facility modifications, answer N/A.

1.14 Low-earth orbit (LEO) satellite deployment and supporting activities. Briefly summarize the proposed construction. Include if any of the project actions will require ground disturbance in an undeveloped area or on a pristine (undisturbed) site, if all construction or improvement will be compatible with local planning, zoning, and [Coastal Zone Management Programs](#), if the site and scale construction or improvement will be consistent with the scale of existing, adjacent, or nearby buildings, if any construction or improvement require new local infrastructure, such as new electric utility connections or fiberoptic cable installation; if new pole installation is required, and if any actions will take place out of existing Right of Ways. Also briefly describe all non-construction project actions needed to complete the project. If your project does not include LEO satellite deployment and supporting activities, answer N/A.

Categorical Exclusions

Categorical Exclusions A-9, B-1, C-4, C-5, C-7, C-8, 1-B.3, and 4-B.12 are the most likely to apply to BEAD Projects. If there are any questions regarding BEAD Categorical Exclusions, reach out to the Wisconsin Broadband Office BEAD General Inbox: PSCBEADGrants@wisconsin.gov. BEAD Categorical Exclusions can also be viewed [here](#).

1.15 For each table below, indicate if any of the actions in the first column will occur in your project. **Check all actions that apply to the proposed project. Awardee will need to provide an answer in each Categorical Exclusion section.** It's possible for a BEAD Project to have multiple applicable Categorical Exclusions.

A. Department of Commerce Categorical Exclusions Project Action Descriptions

A-1: Minor renovations and additions to buildings, roads, airfields, grounds, equipment, and other facilities that do not result in a change in the functional use of the real property (e.g. realigning interior spaces of an existing building, adding a small storage shed to an existing building, retrofitting for energy conservation, or installing a small antenna on an already existing antenna tower that does not cause the total height to exceed 200 feet and where the FCC would not require an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for the installation).

A-2: New construction upon or improvement of land where all of the following conditions are met:

- ✓ The site is in a developed area and/or a previously disturbed site,
- ✓ The structure and proposed use are compatible with applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local planning and zoning standards and consistent with Federally approved State coastal management programs,
- ✓ The proposed use will not substantially increase the number of motor vehicles at the facility or in the area,
- ✓ The site and scale of construction or improvement are consistent with those of existing, adjacent, or nearby buildings, and
- ✓ The construction or improvement will not result in uses that exceed existing support infrastructure capacities (roads, sewer, water, parking, etc.).

A-3: Software development, data analysis, or testing, including but not limited to computer modeling in existing facilities.

A-4: Siting/construction/operation of microwave/radio communication towers less than 200 feet in height without guy wires on previously disturbed ground.

A-5: Retrofit/upgrade existing microwave/radio communication towers that do not require ground disturbance.

A-6: Adding fiber optic cable to transmission structures or burying fiber optic cable in existing transmission line rights-of-way.

A-7: Acquisition, installation, operation, and removal of communications systems, data processing equipment, and similar electronic equipment.

A-8: Planning activities and classroom-based training and classroom-based exercises using existing conference rooms and training facilities.

A-9: Purchase of mobile and portable equipment and infrastructure which is stored in previously existing structures or facilities.

A-10: Siting, construction (or modification), and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible).

A-11: Personnel, fiscal, management, and administrative activities, such as recruiting, processing, paying, recordkeeping, resource management, budgeting, personnel actions, and travel.

OR

My project **DOES NOT** fit within any of the project descriptions provided.

B. NTIA Categorical Exclusions: Administrative Actions Project Action Descriptions

A-1: Personnel, fiscal, management, and administrative activities, including recruiting, processing, paying, recordkeeping, budgeting, personnel actions, contract administration, and travel.

A-2: Preparation, modification, and issuance of policy directives, rules, regulations, procedures, guidelines, guidance documents, bulletins, and informational publications that are of an administrative, financial, legal, technical, or procedural nature, for which the environmental effects are too broad, speculative, or conjectural to lend themselves to meaningful analysis and will be, in whole or part, subject later to the NEPA process, either collectively or on a case-by-case basis.

A-3: Studies and engineering undertaken to define proposed actions or alternatives sufficiently so that environmental effects can be assessed.

A-4: Planning, educational, informational, or advisory activities provided to other agencies, public and private entities, visitors, individuals, or the public, including training exercises and simulations conducted under appropriately controlled conditions and in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and requirements.

A-5: Software development, data analysis, or testing that does not involve ground disturbing activities.

A-6: Preparation and dissemination of scientific results, studies, surveys, audits, reports, plans, papers, recommendations, and technical advice.

A-7: Technical assistance to other Federal, Tribal, State, and local agencies or the public.

A-8: Routine procurement, use, storage, transportation, and disposal of non-hazardous goods and services in support of administrative, operational, or maintenance activities in accordance with Executive Orders and Federal procurement guidelines. Examples include office supplies and furniture; equipment; mobile assets (i.e., vehicles, vessels, aircraft); utility services; and deployable emergency response supplies and equipment.

A-9: Purchase of deployable mobile and portable telecommunications equipment (e.g., radios, Cell on Wheels, Cell on Light Truck, System on Wheels) that will be housed in existing facilities when not deployed.

A-10: Routine use of hazardous materials (including procurement, transportation, distribution, and storage of such materials) and reuse, recycling, and disposal of solid, medical, radiological, or hazardous waste in a manner that is consistent with all applicable laws, regulations, and requirements. Examples include use of chemicals for laboratory applications; refueling of storage tanks; temporary storage and disposal of solid waste; disposal of waste through manufacturer return and recycling programs;

and hazardous waste minimization activities, including source reduction activities and recycling.

A-11: Reductions, realignments, or relocation of personnel, equipment, or mobile assets that do not result in changing the use of NTIA facilities or space in such a way that could cause a change to existing environmental effects or exceed the infrastructure capacity outside of NTIA-managed property. An example of exceeding the infrastructure capacity would be an increase in vehicular traffic beyond the capacity of the supporting road network to accommodate such and increase

A-12: Federal assistance, grants, and external funding for activities that do not concern environmental matters or where the environmental effects are negligible. Examples of relevant activities could include, but are not limited to, planning, studies, or programs such as the Digital TV transition, which provided rebates to consumers to subsidize the purchase of digital antennas, that have no potential impact on the environment. If an analysis determines that such activities have the potential to impact the environment, the CE cannot be applied.

A-13: Contracts, collaborative, research agreements, cooperative research and development agreements, interagency agreements, and other agreements that do not concern environmental matters or where the environmental effects are negligible.

My project involves administrative actions, **AND** the project does not fit within any of the project descriptions provided

OR

My project **DOES NOT** involve administrative actions; therefore, the project does not fit within any of the project descriptions provided.

C. NTIA Categorical Exclusions: Real Property/Facility Actions Project Action Descriptions

B-1: Maintenance of facilities, equipment, and grounds. Examples include interior utility work, road maintenance, window washing, lawn mowing, landscaping, weed management/maintenance, trash collecting, facility cleaning, and snow removal.

B-2: Internal modifications, renovations, or additions (e.g., computer facilities, relocating interior walls) to structures or buildings that do not result in a change in the functional use of the property.

B-3: Exterior renovation, additional, repair, alteration, and demolition projects, affecting buildings, roads, grounds, equipment, and other facilities, including subsequent disposal of debris, which may be contaminated with hazardous materials, lead, or asbestos.

Hazardous materials must be disposed of at approved sites in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and requirements. Examples include the following:

- ✓ Painting, roofing, siding, or alterations to an existing building;
- ✓ Adding a small storage shed to an existing building;
- ✓ Retrofitting for energy conservation, including weatherization, installation of timers on hot water heaters, installation of energy efficient lighting, and installation of low-flow plumbing fixtures; or
- ✓ Closing and demolishing a building not eligible for listing under the National Register for Historic Places.

B-4: Abatement of hazardous materials from existing facilities, including asbestos and lead-based paint, conducted in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and requirements established for the protection of human health and the environment. Examples include containment, removal, and disposal of lead-based paint or asbestos tiles and asbestos-containing materials from existing facilities, and remediation of hazardous materials in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and requirements as part of facility and space management activities.

B-5: Proposed new activities and operations conducted in an existing structure that would be consistent with previously established safety levels and would not result in a change in use of the facility. Examples include new types of research, development, testing, and evaluation activities and laboratory operations conducted within existing enclosed facilities designed to support research and development activities.

B-6: Acquisition of use of existing facilities or portion thereof by purchase, lease, or use agreement where use or operation will remain unchanged. Examples include acquiring office space through lease, purchase, or use agreement, and acquisition of laboratory space through lease, purchase, or use agreement.

B-7: Transfer of administrative control over real property, including related personal property, between another Federal agency and NTIA that does not result in a change in the functional use of the property. Examples include transfer of facilities for use by NTIA and transfers of computer equipment, office equipment, and personal property, including laptops and cell phones.

B-8: Decisions and actions to close facilities, decommission equipment, or temporarily discontinue use of facilities or equipment, where the facility or equipment, including office equipment, telecommunications equipment, and computer equipment, is not used to prevent or control environmental impacts.

B-9: The determination and disposal of real property, such as excess office space, or personal property, including laptops and cell phones, that is excess to the needs of NTIA,

when the real property or personal property is exceeded in conformity with applicable General Services Administration procedures or is statutorily authorized to be exceeded.

My project involves real property/facility actions, **AND** the project does not fit within any of the project descriptions provided.

OR

My project **DOES NOT** involve real property/facility actions; therefore, the project does not fit within any of the project descriptions provided.

D. NTIA Categorical Exclusions: Operational Actions Project Action Descriptions

C-1: Research activities conducted in laboratories and facilities where research practices and safeguards prevent environmental impacts. Examples include types of research, development, testing, and evaluation activities, and laboratory operations conducted within existing enclosed facilities designed to support research and development activities.

C-2: Outdoor research activities conducted in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and requirements. Examples include types of research, development, testing, and evaluation activities conducted outdoors where no new ground disturbance occurs and no sensitive resources (e.g., threatened or endangered species, archaeological sites, Tribal resources, wetlands, and waterbodies) are present, such as radar testing, radio noise measurements, and public safety communications research.

C-3: Periodic flight activities for training and research and development, that are routine and comply with all applicable laws, Federal Aviation Administration regulations, and other requirements.

C-4: New construction or improvement of land, operations, or support facilities, switching stations, maintenance facilities, and other non-tower structures supporting wired or wireless communications systems in a developed area and/or on previously disturbed ground, with no more than one acre (0.4 hectare) of ground disturbance, where the proposed facility use is generally compatible with the surrounding land use and applicable zoning standards and will not require additional support infrastructure.

C-5: Installing, operating, maintaining, retrofitting, upgrading, repairing, removing, and/or replacement of existing microwave or radio communication towers, instruments, structures, or buildings that do not require ground disturbance outside of the original footprint, including installing or collocating equipment such as antennas, microwave dishes, or power units. For communications towers at or below 199 feet, renovations and equipment additions must not cause the total height of the tower to exceed 199 feet. Existing structures must not be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

C-6: New construction or improvement of temporary buildings or experimental equipment (e.g., trailers, prefabricated buildings, and test slabs) on previously disturbed ground, with no more than one acre (0.4 hectare) of ground disturbance, where the proposed facility use is generally compatible with the surrounding land use and applicable zoning standards and will not require additional support infrastructure.

C-7: New construction of self-supporting (e.g., monopole or lattice) wireless communication towers at or below 199 feet with no guy wires that require less than one acre (0.4 hectare) of ground disturbance, and where another federal agency would not require an EA or EIS for its acquisition, installation, operations, or maintenance.

C-8: Acquisition, installation, reconstruction, repair by replacement, and operation of aerial or buried utility (e.g., water, sewer, electrical), communication (ex: fiber optic cable, data processing cable and similar electronic equipment), and security systems that use existing rights-of-way, easements, grants of license, distribution systems, facilities, or similar arrangements.

My project involves operational actions, **AND** the project does not fit within any of the project descriptions provided

OR

My project **DOES NOT** involve operational actions; therefore, the project does not fit within any of the project descriptions provided

E. FirstNet Categorical Exclusions Project Action Descriptions

B.3: Construction of buried and aerial telecommunications lines, cables, and related facilities.

B.4: Changes to existing transmission lines that involve less than 20 percent pole replacement, or the complete rebuilding of existing distribution lines within the same right-of-way. Changes to existing transmission lines that require 20 percent or greater pole replacement will be considered the same as new construction.

B.7: Changes or additions to telecommunication sites, substations, switching stations, telecommunications switching or multiplexing centers, buildings, or small structures requiring new physical disturbance or fencing of less than one acre (0.4 hectare).

B.12: Rebuilding of power lines or telecommunications cables where road or highway reconstruction requires the Applicant to relocate the lines either within or adjacent to the new road or highway easement or right-of-way.

B.13: Phase or voltage conversions, reconductoring, or upgrading of existing electric distribution lines or telecommunications facilities.

B.15: Deployment of Cells on Wheels, Systems on Wheels, or another deployable architecture intended for temporary placement (no more than two years) on an impervious surface.

OR

My project **DOES NOT** involve operational actions; therefore, the project does not fit within any of the project descriptions provided

1.16 If there are any notes regarding the above questions, add them here.

1.17 Refer to the Limited Permissible Pre-Implementation Activities found in the accompanying Instructions document for this questionnaire, or in the [General Terms and Conditions for NTIA BEAD Program Funds](#). Does this project involve any limited permissible pre-implementation activities?

Yes No

1.17.1 If yes, what limited permissible pre-implementation activities have been completed?

1.18 To your knowledge, what specific permits (federal, state, county, municipal) will be required to implement this project? Are any of these permits already in progress? Note that permits are not required to be in hand to be considered NEPA compliant for BEAD but are required prior to beginning project implementation.

1.19 If applicable, describe the post-construction actions anticipated to occur for this project, including but not limited to revegetation, decommissioning, maintenance plan, etc.

1.20 Provide the anticipated general construction schedule, identifying any potential seasonal or regulatory construction constraints. Include a timeline showing construction activities from the beginning of construction to in-service.

1.21 Is the proposed project area on or traversing [federally recognized Tribal land](#)?

Yes No

1.22 List the specific public properties that would be crossed by the project area—including but not limited to [U.S. Forest Service Land](#), [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Land](#), [public access lands](#), state, federal, or local government buildings; schools, and other government-owned land. State if public access restrictions would be necessary for construction.

1.23 Provide a list of all cities, villages, towns, and their respective counties, that the proposed project, any associated facilities, and any potential construction activities would intersect.

1.24 Summarize the location of the proposed projects in terms of existing Rights-of-Way (ROWs) and easements and describe what new ROWs and easements will be required for this project to proceed (public/private landowners, area needed, location, etc.). Include the size of the ROWs and easements required (width and length, new and existing) and an approximate percentage of existing ROWs versus new ROWs. Summarize any work that would occur outside of the ROWs or easements as well.

1.25 Summarize the off-ROW access roads and staging/preparation areas that may be required. Provide an identifying name or number for each off-ROW access road and staging/preparation area. If access roads need to be constructed, provide the dimensions (length and width) and construction method, including if any modifications would be needed to utilize the off-ROW access roads, such as road widening, road fill placement, or tree clearing.

1.26 Would this project corridor share with [Wisconsin Department of Transportation \(WisDOT\) ROWs](#)? State Trunk Highway maps at the County level are reviewable [here](#).

Yes No

2. Environmental Impacts

The purpose of the Environmental Impacts Section is to gain enough information from the BEAD awardee to understand if the proposed project meets any of the [BEAD Extraordinary Circumstances](#). If a project fits within a categorical exclusion, but also meets an extraordinary circumstance, then the project may be subject to further environmental review. This section will also gather some project uploads that are required by NTIA for BEAD projects.

Document Uploads

For review organization, the corresponding Project Name shall be included in the name of each uploaded document.

2.1 **[Upload]** In a separate PDF file, provide a map showing the project boundary (including temporary workspaces and laydown/preparation areas), sites, routes, and activities highlighted and clearly marked overlain onto a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory (USFWS NWI) map. The basemap should be aerial imagery. The map must cover the project area in a manner that is appropriate for the scale of the project and can also be multiple pages. USFWS NWI data is retrievable from here: [National Wetlands Inventory](#). Has the USFWS NWI Map been uploaded to the PSC Grants System as a PDF?

Yes No

2.2 **[Upload if applicable]** In a separate PDF file, provide a map showing project boundaries (including temporary workspaces and laydown/preparation areas), sites, routes, and activities highlighted and clearly marked overlain onto the [FEMA Floodplain Map](#). The basemap should be aerial imagery. The map must cover the project area in a manner that is appropriate for the scale of the project and can also be multiple pages. **Only submit a map if your project interacts with a floodplain.** Has the FEMA Floodplain Map been uploaded to the PSC Grants System as a PDF?

Yes No

2.3 **[Upload]** In a separate PDF file, provide a PDF of a completed ER Preliminary Assessment for the project through the [Wisconsin DNR NHI Public Portal](#). The full project area should be evaluated, including off-ROW access routes, staging or laydown areas, new facilities, and expansion of existing facilities. Has the ER Preliminary Assessment been uploaded to the PSC Grants System as a PDF?

Yes No

2.4 **[Upload if applicable]** If applicable, provide results from habitat assessments and biological surveys for the proposed project, if already completed. Have the results from habitat assessments and biological surveys been uploaded to the PSC Grants System as a PDF?

Yes No N/A

Environmental Impacts and Best Management Practices

2.5 Does the proposed project occur within an environmentally sensitive or unique geographic area of notable recreational, ecological, scientific, cultural, scenic, or aesthetic importance? If yes, describe the area—including the name of the owner or manager of the area.

Yes No

2.6 Navigate to the [USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\) website](#). Click on “Get Started” and define the project area. The following question relates to the species shown after defining the project area in IPaC. List the Endangered Species, Bald and/or Golden Eagles, and Migratory Birds populated from the project area in IPaC.

Note that as capacity is available, Commission staff will facilitate the Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation on behalf of the subrecipient. However, subrecipients should also be prepared to support the consultations through additional information gathering when requested.

2.7 Does the proposed project require the deployment of submarine or underwater cable?

Yes No

2.8 Are you aware if the proposed project has the potential to adversely affect historic, archeological, or cultural sites, including Native American Traditional Cultural Properties, properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? If yes, describe the potential impacts. **Do NOT describe the specific location of these sites.**

Yes No

2.9 Are you aware if the proposed project has the potential to restrict access to and/or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian practitioners, or adversely affect the physical integrity of such religious sacred sites? If yes, describe the potential impacts.

Yes No

Note that as capacity is available, Commission staff will facilitate the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation on behalf of the subrecipient. However, subrecipients should also be prepared to support the consultations through additional information gathering when requested.

2.10 Will the proposed project occur in a floodplain or involve significant changes to or effects on waterbodies, wetlands, floodplains, water quality, sole source aquifers, public water supply systems or state, local, or tribal water quality standards established under the Clean Water Act or the Safe Drinking Water Act? If yes, describe the potential impacts and submit a map as described in Question 2.2.

Yes No

2.11 Will the proposed project involve construction impacts on or near an active, inactive, or abandoned contaminated or hazardous waste site, or involving non-permitted generation transportation, treatment, storage, or disposal of substances hazardous to human health or the environment? If yes, describe the potential impacts, including if the proposed project is consistent with an approved remediation plan for the site.

Yes No

2.12 Will the proposed project involve human exposure to ionizing or non-ionizing radiation or use of any radiation in excess of the [Federal Communication Commission's established Maximum Permissible Exposure limits for human exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Energy fields](#)? If yes, describe the potential impacts.

Yes No

2.13 Is the proposed project controversial because of the introduction or employment of unproven technology, highly scientifically uncertain or unique environmental effects, substantial disagreement over the possible size, nature, or effect on the environment, or likelihood of degrading already existing poor environmental conditions? If yes, describe the potential impacts.

Yes No

2.14 Will the proposed project violate a Federal, Tribal, state, or local law, regulation, policy, or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment? If yes, describe the potential violation.

Yes No

2.15 Is the proposed size or scope of the project greater than normal for a project of its type? If yes, describe why the size or scope is greater than normal.

Yes No

2.16 Will the proposed project cause other significant effects on human health or the environment that have not been otherwise addressed? If yes, describe these significant effects.

Yes No

2.17 NTIA published the [Best Management Practices \(BMP\) and Mitigation Measures](#) document to help grantees avoid or minimize potential impacts during the construction, deployment, and operation of BEAD funded broadband projects. NTIA may require grantees to implement mitigations or follow BMPs as a condition of its NEPA review. BMPs may also be recommended as practicable or feasible during construction, deployment, and operation of the proposed project. Using the Internet for All BMP and Mitigation Measures document, list any mitigation commitments that will be used when completing the proposed project to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential environmental impacts. Include any special construction methods that would be used in/around agricultural lands, forest lands, grasslands, surface waters, or wetlands. Awardees can also list mitigation commitments not found on the Internet for All BMP and Mitigation Measure document.

2.18 Cumulative effects are effects on the environment that result from the incremental effects of project actions when added to the effects of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Does the Awardee foresee any cumulative effects with the proposed project?

Yes No

2.19 Forested Lands are defined as an upland area of land covered with woody perennial plants reaching a mature height of at least six feet tall with definite crown (closure of at least 10 percent). Grasslands are defined as lands covered by non-cultivated herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation predominated by perennial grasses and forbs. Describe any impacts from the proposed project to any forested lands or grasslands. State whether the project requires tree clearing and if so, how much.

2.20 Provide approximate percentages for the following land cover types for **both** the project area and lands immediately adjacent to the project area: agricultural, grassland, non-forested wetland, forested wetland, upland forest, developed/urban, open water.

2.21 What are the anticipated noise sources during construction? Will the project comply with local noise ordinances to avoid noise impacts?

2.22 Sensitive receptors include residences, schools or day-care centers, hospitals or other health care facilities, places of worship, community centers, senior centers or nursing homes, libraries, playgrounds or parks, museums, concert halls, or other points of interest. Describe actions that will be taken to mitigate noise impacts to sensitive receptors.

2.23 Describe any air quality impacts that could occur to population centers, particularly sensitive receptors, and any mitigation actions to reduce impacts.

2.24 If a project may impact archeological resources or human burial sites, the State Historic Preservation Office may request an Unanticipated Archeological Discoveries Plan (UADP). These documents outline procedures to be followed in the event of an unanticipated discovery of archaeological resources or human remains during construction activities for the project. They are not project-specific documents. **Awardees are not required to provide a UADP to complete this questionnaire.** Has the Awardee prepared an unanticipated archaeological discoveries plan?

Yes

No

Waterways, Wetlands, and Stormwater Erosion Control

The following questions apply to all construction related activities in the project area. Answers should be consistent with the associated wetland and waterway maps. For the questions in this section, use the following tool: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/swdv>.

The project area must be evaluated for the presence of wetlands and waterways. PSC staff will complete a desktop review of wetland and waterway impacts for NEPA determination, but the Awardee may be responsible for acquiring state and federal wetland and waterway permits to allow for the project to proceed. The desktop review in Surface Water Data Viewer (SWDV) assumes that all areas mapped under “Mapped Wetlands” and “Wetland Soils & Indicators” layers are wetlands. [Click here to see more information about SWDV](#).

If the project will involve one or more acres of land disturbance, the awardee will need coverage under the Construction Site Storm Water Runoff General Permit. This permit can be completed through the WDNR. The PSC intends to collect basic information about potential storm water runoff.

2.25 Using the Surface Water Data Viewer Map, identify the number of waterways present in the project area, including WDNR-mapped waterways and additional field identified waterways if applicable. Also identify if any of the waterways in the project area that are classified as [Outstanding or Exceptional Resource Waters](#), [Trout Streams](#), [Wild Rice Waters](#), and/or [Wild or Scenic Rivers](#). State if known the anticipated waterway crossing method.

2.26 If applicable, describe the methods that will be utilized to cross the waterways within the project area (open trenching, HDD installation). Also describe the methods used if separate waterway crossings are required for construction equipment. Lastly, describe the proposed area of land disturbance and vegetation removal at waterway crossings and how the site will be restored post construction. Include a description of the type of vegetation to be removed (e.g., shrub, forest), and if this vegetation removal will be temporary (allowed to regrow) or permanent (maintained as cleared).

2.27 Using the Surface Water Data Viewer Map, identify the number and total area in acres of wetlands in the project area. Also identify the number and total area in acres of wetland indicator soils in the project area.

2.28 Will your project cause greater than one acre of total ground disturbance, necessitating the need to obtain a construction site stormwater permit from WDNR?

Yes No

2.29 Will your project result in permanent or temporary impacts to wetlands, temporary clear span bridges, or disturbance of navigable waterways, necessitating waterway and/or wetland permits be obtained from WDNR?

Yes No

2.30 Explain how project design and installation methods avoid and/or minimizes impact to wetlands to the greatest practicable extent.

2.31 Will any wetlands be open-cut trenched? If so, provide the size of the trench(es) (length, width, depth), where stockpiled soils will be placed, and how wetlands will be restored to pre-construction conditions.

Yes No

2.32 If any part of the proposed project will be installed through directional boring, will associated bore pits occur outside of both wetlands and wetland indicator soils as identified in the Surface Water Data Viewer? If not, provide reasoning for why this would not occur.

Yes No

2.33 If wetlands will be directionally bored, summarize a contingency plan for bore refusal or any inadvertent releases of drilling fluid (e.g., a frac-out).

2.34 In the Surface Water Data Viewer, identify any wetlands in the project area that are in or adjacent to an area of special natural resource interest (ASNRI).

2.35 If known, provide the number of wetlands and corresponding approximate square footage that would have the following as part of the project: construction-matting, temporary disturbance (grading, trenching, manholes, boreholes), temporary or permanent structures, permanent fill, forested wetland clearing.

Project Impact	Number of Wetlands	Wetland Area Impacted (sq. feet)	Notes
Construction-matting			
Temporary disturbances (grading, trenching, manholes, boreholes)			
Temporary structures			
Permanent structures			
Permanent Fill			
Forested wetland clearing			

2.36 Summarize the plan to mitigate erosion that results from ground disturbance activities, including the identification of specific erosion and sediment control details that will be utilized during and after construction.

2.37 If storm water runoff is expected in your project, summarize the permanent and temporary storm water management practices and technical rationale, separation distances of permanent storm water management practices from wells, and any other storm water management features.

Upload Reference Table

The table below summarizes the requested uploads in this questionnaire. If there are any questions, contact the Wisconsin Broadband Office BEAD General Inbox: PSCBEADGrants@wisconsin.gov

Upload Name	File Format	Required/Optional?
1.1 Project Description Document	.pdf	Required
1.2 Official Correspondences	.pdf	Optional (if applicable)
1.3 GIS project data	.gdb, .mpx, .lpx, .ppkx	Required (File Transfer)
1.4 GIS file metadata spreadsheet	.xlsx, .xls, .csv	Required (File Transfer)
2.1 USFWS NWI Wetlands Map with Project Area	.pdf	Required
2.2 FEMA Floodplain Map with Project Area	.pdf	Optional (if applicable)
2.3 Endangered Resources Preliminary Assessment	.pdf	Required
2.4 Habitat Assessments and Biological Surveys	.pdf	Optional (if available)