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1 General Information Questions

1.1 Where can we access the FAQ document from the Tuesday and Thursday calls?

Because office hours are held twice each week, FloridaCommerce consolidates questions from both sessions into a single FAQ document. This document will be uploaded to the “[All ISP Resource folder](#)” on the official SharePoint no later than the following Monday after the Thursday call. In addition, FAQs are posted on the Office of Broadband’s [website](#) under the BEAD Deployment tab, and on the BEAD HUB [website](#), under BEAD Deployment Frequently Asked Questions.

1.2 The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) recently issued updated guidance allowing ISPs to submit an executed performance bond within 60 days of contract execution. Will FloridaCommerce follow this guidance, and if so, will pre-contract documentation be updated to reflect this change?

FloridaCommerce will follow NTIA’s guidance and as described in [version 18 of the NTIA’s BEAD FAQ](#), will allow provisional subgrantees 60 days following grant execution to secure the necessary performance bond. Grant agreements will include language regarding this. Should provisional subgrantees not secure the necessary performance bond during the 60-day time limit, the agreement will be terminated.

Additionally, provisionally subgrantees should have received an email regarding this update on February 5, 2026, in relation to the deadline as seen in the Pre-Contract Documentation Request sent out on January 30, 2026.

1.3 Will reporting and payment requests be submitted in the same manner as current ARPA processes through the SERA portal?

Yes, provisional subgrantees will utilize the FloridaCommerce SERA Portal, like other Office of Broadband programs, to submit their progress reports and payment requests for reimbursement.

1.4 Will indemnification requirements change for BEAD, and will subgrantees receive draft agreements prior to execution?

FloridaCommerce anticipates that indemnification requirements will remain the same for the BEAD Program. While final confirmation will be provided, no significant changes are currently expected.

The Office will not distribute draft agreements in advance, as contract language is consistent across all provisional subgrantees. The language in the grant agreement will look similar to previous broadband grant agreements executed by FloridaCommerce with the addition of

BEAD specific terms. FloridaCommerce is working toward contract execution no later than July 2026, to ensure a timely and uniform process for all participants.

1.5 Will site visits be scheduled as they are for ARPA? At the 50% complete and 100% complete milestones?

Yes. Site visits will be scheduled based on project progress and risk level. They will be initiated based on payment reimbursements requests and/or percentages complete. Provisional subgrantees will receive a notice in advance for a site visit from FloridaCommerce's monitoring team.

1.6 Is there a timeline for when contracts will be signed?

FloridaCommerce maintains its goal to have agreements sent out and full execution by the end of July 2026.

1.7 Are there any Build America, Buy America (BABA) compliance reporting templates Florida will be using?

More information about BABA compliance reporting requirements is forthcoming. Please visit the [NTIA website](#) for more information on the current waivers and list of providers that are already compliant.

1.8 Will FloridaCommerce be negotiating reimbursement milestones with subgrantees?

FloridaCommerce will have standardized deliverables and milestones. FloridaCommerce will also be standardizing agreement, terms, and deliverables as required by the NOA and for consistency.

1.9 Will the contract include a clause for transfer of awards?

No provision will be included in the agreements to allow for the transfer of awards, and provisional subgrantees should be prepared to complete their projects as awarded. If a transfer becomes necessary, FloridaCommerce has an established process to manage such requests. Any transfer is subject to NTIA review, the federal interest period will continue uninterrupted, and all program requirements will apply to the new entity.

1.10 Are the FAQs being updated to include questions submitted directly to the Office of Broadband by email or phone?

Yes. Any technical questions received by FloridaCommerce are incorporated into the FAQs.

1.11 Will 1:1 calls with FloridaCommerce be scheduled once National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) approval is received?

Yes, if needed. FloridaCommerce is available to assist provisional subgrantees through this process if extra time or coordination is needed.

Provisional subgrantees should be aware that FloridaCommerce anticipates scheduling 1:1 meetings to conduct project NEPA reviews once NIST approval is obtained.

1.12 What is the current status regarding NIST approval?

NIST was approved on March 11, 2026.

1.13 Is FloridaCommerce considering pursuing a statewide BABA waiver for fiber, given recent supply-chain availability challenges and actions taken by other states?

FloridaCommerce has not yet discussed pursuing a statewide BABA waiver. The team will review the issue internally but does not have plans to pursue a waiver at this time.

1.14 Will FloridaCommerce follow NTIA guidance on overbuilt locations (up to 20%)?

Yes. FloridaCommerce will follow NTIA guidance.

1.15 Can FloridaCommerce provide clarification on what is included in the Administrative Setup under Deliverable 2 of the milestone timeline. Will there be a checklist provided, or how will we know when the Administrative Setup portion of the milestone is complete?

FloridaCommerce will provide a checklist outlining any administrative requirements or questions. Additional details will be shared during the 1:1 meetings.

1.16 Is FloridaCommerce still expecting draft agreements to be available by the end of July 2026?

Yes, FloridaCommerce's legal team is in the final stages of review. The agreement includes extensive NTIA requirements, and efforts are being made to streamline the execution process as much as possible. While feedback is being considered, there is limited flexibility to revise language due to federal requirements.

1.17 Where can general access to program resources be found?

- Live webinars will be available on the FloridaJobs website. A dedicated webinar section will also be added to the bottom of the referenced page. All recorded webinars will be posted there as well.
- Tailored resources provided through KPMG are preferred, as they contain awardee-specific information. However, templates and general guidance documents are also available on the resource page.
- [BEAD Provisional Awardee Resources | Florida Office of Broadband](#)

1.18 Are there any updates from FloridaCommerce as of the beginning of June 2026?

Subgrant Agreement Status:

The subgrant agreement is currently undergoing a comprehensive internal review. We are actively monitoring its progress and will share immediate notifications regarding any required actions or as soon as the agreement reaches final approval.

- **BEAD Resource Hub Availability:**

On May 13, 2026, FloridaCommerce issued an official communication containing a link to a centralized hub for additional resources. This portal is designed to support provisional awardees with critical program documentation and guidance. You can access these materials directly at the following link: [Florida Office of Broadband](#).

- **Permitting Process Guidance:**

Please be advised that local permitting authorities, particularly utilities “make ready” agreements, do not currently hold master agreements with all service providers, which means project approvals may require individualized coordination. If you experience any administrative bottlenecks or difficulties navigating the local permitting process, please reach out to our team immediately so we can provide targeted assistance.

1.19 Once the draft agreement is available, will there be the opportunity to submit redlines?

Yes. You will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft agreements. Please note that many provisions are required under the Special and General Terms and Conditions of the NTIA Federal Award. Redlines in the template are unlikely to be approved. Feedback on the scope of work and deliverables will be considered.

1.20 Is FloridaCommerce on track to send ISPs draft agreements in the next week, June 15-19, 2026?

The agreements are currently in the final stages of legal review. FloridaCommerce maintains its goal to finalize agreements by July 2026.

1.21 Does FloridaCommerce have a set timeline for how long subgrantees will have to redline contracts once they are executed?

A specific timeline has not yet been established; however, the review and redlining period is expected to be short and will require prompt turnaround.

1.22 What is the best way to track which operators Florida has fully executed subgrantee agreements with?

The [BEAD HUB](#) will have all additional resources and links to mapping resources. The executed grant agreements will be in FACTS.

1.23 Would BEAD awards be present in FACTS?

While there are currently no BEAD contracts in FACTS, all executed agreements will be posted to FACTS with 10 days of execution.

1.24 There was an email sent out by FL Commerce with a link to a "FL BEAD Pre-Award Cost Policy" doc. Can this be shared as a regular PDF without the KPMG SharePoint link?

Yes. FloridaCommerce has updated the [FL BEAD Pre-Award Cost Policy](#) to clarify that certain materials may be treated as allowable pre-award costs. This update is intended to help mitigate potential supply chain issues.

The updated policy is available as a PDF on [SharePoint](#) and can also be found online at [BEAD Provisional Awardee Resources | Florida Office of Broadband](#).

1.25 If someone needs access to the SharePoint, who should we contact to be added?

Please email the Broadband inbox at Broadband@commerce.fl.gov. Requests should be submitted by your organization's primary point of contact to ensure appropriate approvals are in place before granting access.

2 Technical Support Questions

2.1 Will FloridaCommerce follow NTIA's guidance regarding required speed and latency testing? Will testing be required more than once per year?

Yes, FloridaCommerce will adhere to all NTIA speed (100/20 Mbps) and latency (below 100ms) testing requirements for the BEAD Program. Testing will be conducted during site visits at various stages of each project, following similar protocols to other broadband programs.

2.2 Will FloridaCommerce be providing a professional engineer (PE) certification template, or should subrecipients use their own standard PE certification format?

The certification statement that should accompany the PE signature is included in the [guidance document](#) for the network design/diagram, timeline and milestones, and project costs. Additionally, the financial workbook includes fields for where to apply for this certification.

2.3 Will FloridaCommerce reduce or modify BEAD program requirements for satellite providers?

NTIA has indicated that BEAD requirements should not be lowered based on provider type and FloridaCommerce will follow all requirements and guidance provided by NTIA. State statutes do not allow exceptions to program rules for specific providers.

2.4 Can FloridaCommerce clarify the PE final design certification requirement? Will this be part of the closeout?

FloridaCommerce recommends submitting the PE-certified final design as early as possible. Please refer to **Questions 2.1, 2.5, 2.6, 2.14, and 2.20** for more information on requirements.

2.5 Will a new PE certification be required if design changes occur after contract execution?

A new PE certification will be required only if there are significant or drastic changes to the original project design. Minor changes do not require resubmission of a PE certification.

If a redesign is required, an updated PE-certified design should be submitted within 30 days. FloridaCommerce may evaluate circumstances on a case-by-case basis if engineering resources are not immediately available.

2.6 What types of redesigns require approval and a new PE certification?

Redesigns involving changes to the pathway (such as shifting from aerial to underground), or equipment changes that affect upload/download speeds or latency, require approval. However, generally, should there be significant changes to projects, they may need to be reevaluated. This could be but is not limited to a change route change, design changes affecting capacity or reliability, or a modification of permitting/right-of-way.

Please be aware that significant changes to design may impact determination of applicable Categorical Exclusions for NEPA evaluations and may also require a reevaluation of the NEPA determination if they occur after NTIA's evaluation decision has been issued.

2.7 If a project must move underground one year into deployment due to permitting issues, does this require approval even if it is after the 30-day redesign period?

Yes. If the change occurs after contract execution. Provisional subgrantees must notify FloridaCommerce within 30 days of the modification.

2.8 Will there be a process for removing locations that may not be valid structures?

Yes, there is a process to address these locations. If a location is determined to not require a broadband connection (for example, it is a barn, hay bale, or rock) but has been included as part of your BEAD award, please notify both FloridaCommerce and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

These locations cannot be removed by FloridaCommerce until the FCC formally updates the Fabric. They must be reported as non-eligible BEAD locations. Requirements for managing these locations will follow NTIA guidance, and FloridaCommerce will communicate any updates once available.

2.9 Can milestones and deliverables be submitted out of order?

Yes. Milestones and deliverables may be completed and invoiced out of order and may be submitted concurrently. However, construction cannot begin until NEPA approval is received, regardless of milestone sequencing.

2.10 How should proof of project initiation be documented?

Proof of project initiation (Deliverable 2) include administrative setup, development of the project plan and budget, creation of the detailed project schedule, preparation and submission of permitting plans, submission of a 60% project design certified by a licensed Professional Engineer, and any permit approvals received. Construction activities cannot begin until NEPA approval is issued, but design work, inventory activities, and mobilization planning may proceed.

Additionally, FloridaCommerce is finalizing additional guidance outlining acceptable forms of documentation, which will be provided once available the [FloridaCommerce BEAD - NEPA Subgrantee Guidebook.pdf](#) can be located on the KPMG SharePoint for reference. It was also emailed to all provisional subgrantees on March 31, 2026.

2.11 Is the project schedule submitted in Deliverable 2 the schedule used to measure timing?

Yes, the project schedule in Deliverable 2 will help FloridaCommerce and team estimate timing, payment needs, administrative volume, and measure provisional subgrantees progress and responsibilities. Schedules or milestones are not binding unless incorporated into the executed agreement.

2.12 Which party is responsible for entering information into the ESPATT tool?

FloridaCommerce, and their consultants will enter information into the ESPATT tool.

Provisional subgrantees will use the APPEIT tool, a public-facing GIS tool, to identify land jurisdiction and possible environmentally sensitive areas that may intersect with their project. This can be used for project planning, NEPA, and permitting considerations.

2.13 A standalone version of Section 4 of the Subgrantee Application was posted in SharePoint. Are subgrantees required to complete this version, or may they rely on

previously submitted Section 4 materials? Was there anything changed or added to this standalone version?

A standalone version of Appendix B can be found in the SharePoint site for use or can be found in the Subgrantee Supplemental Application and Pre-Contract Document Collection Form, which is required for each project. This is only for convenience or preference.

There were no changes or differences to these two versions.

2.14 For Deliverable 3 Milestone 3 (Completed Project Design), what if the final project design does not match the PE-certified design? Is there a process to amend the design?

Milestone 3 requires submission of a 100% project design certified by a licensed Professional Engineer.

A new project design certified by a licensed Professional Engineer will be required only if there are significant or drastic changes to the original project design. Minor changes do not require resubmission of a PE certification.

2.15 Can FloridaCommerce provide additional clarification on Deliverable 2 Milestone 4 (Permitting Plans) and Milestone 6 (Permit Approvals Received)?

Definitions are included in Deliverable and Milestone Definitions document which can be found on the SharePoint:

- **Deliverable 2 – 4) Permitting Plans:** Comprehensive plan to acquire all necessary permits, including permitting agency, permit type, anticipated submission date of all permits, and anticipated approval and completion dates of all required permits. Additionally, provisional subgrantees will submit their first quarterly Permit Status Report.
- **Deliverable 2 – 6) Permit Approvals Received:** Proof of approvals sent to FloridaCommerce for all required permits.

2.16 What is the difference between Deliverable 9 Milestone 2 (FC Approval of Subgrantee Project Completion) and Milestone 3 (Approved Certificate of Completion)?

Definitions are included in Deliverable and Milestone Definitions document which can be found on the SharePoint:

- **Deliverable 9 – 2) FloridaCommerce Approval of Subgrantee Project:** Formal written authorization confirming that the provisional subgrantee met all milestones and deliverables. It is also the formal confirmation that all required work, testing, documentation, and contractual obligations have fulfilled and accepted by or on behalf of FloridaCommerce.

- **Deliverable 9 – 3)** Approved Certificate of Completion: Receiving an approved certificate of completion from FloridaCommerce.

2.17 How should subgrantees name these uploaded documents to the SharePoint?

Please name the documents as follows:

- 3.1.1 Audited Financial Statements
- 3.1.2 Cybersecurity & Supply Chain Risk Management Plans
- 3.2.3 Certified Timeline & Milestones for Project Implementation
- 3.2.5 Executed LOC or Performance Bond
- 3.2.6 Tribal Consent

Using the naming conventions listed in the checklist (e.g., 3.1.1 Audited Financial Statements, 3.2.5 Executed LOC) is acceptable. FloridaCommerce confirms these naming standards are sufficient.

2.18 Deliverable 3 Milestone 2 Construction/Project Site Mobilization– does this include lay down yards and staging areas? If so, are existing lay down yards subject to NEPA review?

Yes, typically any area that would be needed for construction of your project will be included in the NEPA project area.

2.19 Is the NTIA NEPA Project ID Workbook available to subrecipients?

Yes. The NTIA NEPA Project ID Workbook has been uploaded to each provisional subgrantee's NEPA folder in SharePoint.

2.20 How should subrecipients ensure confidentiality of documents submitted as part of the risk assessment?

FloridaCommerce follows the confidentiality requirements outlined in Florida Statute 815.045.

Provisional subgrantees must:

- Clearly identify all materials claimed as confidential at the time of submission.
- Provide a redacted version of the same document concurrently.
- Ensure each redacted section includes a citation to the specific law that protects the information.

A provisional subgrantee's failure to comply with this provision may serve to waive any applicable confidentiality of the information at issue.

If a public records request is received, provisional subgrantees will be requested to supply redacted versions of any documents containing trade secrets or similarly protected information.

2.21 Within RSM's questionnaire, some risk assessment questions allow for only one selection, but multiple options may apply, such as when a subrecipient uses more than one funding source. How should subrecipients respond in this case?

Provisional subgrantees should:

- Select the primary funding source.
- If additional clarification is necessary and no comment field is provided, email: **Tori Unseth** – Tori.Unseth@rsmus.com.

FloridaCommerce also reminds provisional subgrantees to submit the risk assessment questionnaire by March 5, 2026, and respond based on available information.

2.22 What is the process for a public records request involving a subrecipient?

FloridaCommerce will notify the provisional subgrantee of the request and ask whether a redacted version of the requested documents should be provided to safeguard confidential information.

2.23 Do subrecipients need to notify KPMG when uploading documents to the external SharePoint site?

Email notification is helpful for maintaining clear documentation and awareness. Provisional subgrantees can choose to notify KPMG via email after uploading documents as a courtesy.

SharePoint upload alerts have been retired, and notification helps ensure timely reviews.

2.24 What is the turnaround time for RFIs? Does the timeline vary?

Provisional subgrantees are expected to respond to RFIs within two business days.

The goal is to consolidate as many project items as possible into a single RFI to reduce multiple requests.

2.25 What common issues is FloridaCommerce seeing in precontract document submissions?

Common issues include:

- Required files missing from submissions.
- Failure to save Appendix B as a PDF
- Missing PE certifications or required narratives on Appendix B
- Missing BSLs or Project IDs in financial workbooks
- Missing tribal consent for locations overlapping tribal lands
- Provisional subgrantees are encouraged to review documentation carefully prior to uploading.

2.26 How is FloridaCommerce calculating Appendix B?

FloridaCommerce is reviewing the timelines submitted by providers during the application stage that was published in the Final Proposal. The Final Proposal published the estimated subaward date and estimated performance end based on what was submitted at the application stage. FloridaCommerce calculated the number of months between the estimated subaward date and the estimated performance end that were both published in the final proposal.

For example, in the final proposal, an ISP may have listed:

- **Estimated subaward date:** January 1, 2026
- **Estimated performance end date:** January 1, 2029

This would reflect a 36-month performance timeline based on the timeline published in the Final Proposal.

For the timelines submitted in Appendix B, FloridaCommerce calculated the total months between the start date of the first milestone and the end date of the last milestone. FloridaCommerce then compared the total months in each timeline to ensure the timelines matched in total months of performance.

If the timelines submitted during the pre-contract documentation request phase differed from what was included in the final proposal, an RFI was issued to request clarification. The RFI provided provisional subgrantees with the opportunity to either: submit revised documentation *or* provide a detailed written explanation describing the reason for the discrepancy, such as adjustments related to permitting timelines or the NEPA process.

RFIs were issued for projects where there was a variance of 60 days or more, particularly when the timeline reflected in Appendix B was longer than what was included in the final proposal. FloridaCommerce understands that Appendix B timelines may now be more

detailed, as provisional subgrantees may have a clearer understanding of project scope at this stage, as well as NEPA and Permitting timelines and Project Closeout Period.

The project closeout period is addressed separately through specific milestones in Appendix B and is not expected to be fully reflected in the construction timeline submitted in the application. However, if the overall project timeline in the application extends more than a few months beyond construction, FloridaCommerce allows and encourages provisional subgrantees to provide a detailed explanation as part of the RFI response to better understand the variance and to support accurate review and alignment.

If the project schedule has changed for these reasons, provisional subgrantees may amend the documentation and submit an updated version in response to the RFI. FloridaCommerce will review the revised documentation.

2.27 How should RFI response documents be submitted, and where should they be uploaded?

RFI response documents should be uploaded to SharePoint using the same process followed for prior pre-contract documentation submissions:

- Upload documents to the Pre-Contract folder.
- Provisional subgrantees may create a subfolder (i.e., an “Archive” folder) and move all outdated documentation there and leave all new or revised documents for review in the main folder for review, if helpful.

After uploading, provisional subgrantees can email the FloridaCommerce/KPMG team to confirm their documents have been submitted as a courtesy. SharePoint upload alerts have been retired, and notification helps ensure timely reviews.

2.28 Can FloridaCommerce explain the pre-contract documentation review process and why multiple RFIs have been issued?

FloridaCommerce’s review process involves multiple layers of review to ensure accuracy and compliance. These include:

1. Completeness review to confirm all required documents have been submitted.
2. Sufficiency review to assess whether the submitted materials meet program requirements.
3. Additional technical review, when applicable, including network mapping and engineering validation

Because documents move through several review stages, questions or clarifications may arise at different points, which can result in multiple RFIs. FloridaCommerce is actively working to reduce overlap across review teams and does not anticipate issuing many additional RFIs at this stage of the process.

FloridaCommerce appreciates provisional subgrantees' patience and cooperation as this review process is completed.

2.29 Given the recent Notice of Award and the 30-day timeline, how does this impact the rollout and execution of subgrantee agreements?

The Notice of Award took longer than anticipated. FloridaCommerce will make every effort to meet execute agreements by July 2026; however, agreements must incorporate federal requirements and allow sufficient time for legal review by provisional subgrantees. Any updates to the draft grant agreement must also go through internal legal review and approval on the FloridaCommerce side.

The goal is to receive all pre-contract documentation by Friday, March 13, 2026. Grant agreements would follow this if all necessary documentation were received. The NEPA process will happen concurrently with the grant agreement process.

2.30 Have the reimbursement milestones been finalized by FloridaCommerce?

Reimbursement milestones are currently being finalized by FloridaCommerce. Additional guidance will be issued once the milestones are complete.

2.31 Have there been any updates from NTIA regarding how declined project awards will be managed?

If a project is declined, the locations will be offered to surrounding project areas. Any new or combined project area budget must first be approved by FloridaCommerce and subsequently by NTIA and NIST.

2.32 Are definitions available for Milestones 1–6 under Deliverable 2?

Definitions to these milestones can be found here: [FloridaCommerce BEAD - Deliverable and Milestone Definitions 02.23.26.pdf](#).

2.33 For pre-award expenses, should subrecipients formally request approval from FloridaCommerce before incurring costs? If so, how should those requests be submitted?

Provisional Subgrantees should follow existing guidance regarding allowable cost from our [FloridaCommerce BEAD - Pre-Award Cost Policy](#). If there is uncertainty regarding whether an activity is allowable, provisional subgrantees should submit the question directly to **Paul**

Wotherspoon at (broadband@commerce.fl.gov) for clarification. Activities that involve disturbing the ground or otherwise materially affecting the project should not proceed without additional approval.

2.34 Which version of the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric is FloridaCommerce requiring subrecipients to use for reporting purposes? Will Fabric associations change as new versions are released every six months?

Provisional Subgrantees will report based upon the locations awarded in FloridaCommerce's approved Final Proposal (v.4). All locations must be accounted for by indicating whether the awardee has provided access, location doesn't exist, is a non-mass market location, or location currently receiving services through another provider. For instances where the ISP has identified locations within their project area not identified with an existing fabric ID, please notify FloridaCommerce with the latitude and longitude and we anticipate those locations to be added to their project list.

2.35 FloridaCommerce had previously anticipated executing agreements by the end of March. Given delays, what is the updated estimate for contract execution?

A definitive revised date for contract execution cannot be provided at this time due to ongoing review of pre-contract documentation and coordination with legal counsel. FloridaCommerce is working to finalize agreements by the end of July 2026.

Under federal requirements, FloridaCommerce has up to six months from NIST approval to execute grant agreements; however, the expectation is to complete execution well before that deadline.

Pre-award costs incurred on or after January 7, 2026, that do not involve ground disturbance, will be eligible for reimbursement once agreements are executed. If an activity is associated with the BEAD-funded project or is part of the proposed project scope, it cannot proceed until the NEPA process concludes. For further information on limited permissible pre-implementation activities, please refer to the [General Terms and Conditions for the NTIA BEAD Program Funds - Nov 2025](#).

2.36 Is it possible to streamline access to the External SharePoint site? Additionally, will the SERA platform replace the External SharePoint site for reporting and reimbursement requests, or will subrecipients be required to use both systems?

The External SharePoint site is used exclusively to collect pre-contract documentation and NEPA documentation. It also serves as a centralized location for FloridaCommerce to manage document collection and coordination, and host supporting resources, such as FAQs and guidance documents. To increase accessibility and transparency,

FloridaCommerce also posts key guidance materials, such as weekly FAQs and reference documents, on the [Broadband website](#).

FloridaCommerce recognizes that some users may experience challenges accessing the External SharePoint site; however, at this time, it remains the only available method for facilitating secure document collection and access. In some cases, access issues may occur if users are already signed into their organization's Microsoft Teams account. Signing out of Microsoft Teams before accessing the External SharePoint site may resolve these issues.

Provisional subgrantees will submit reimbursement requests and reporting solely through the SERA platform. The External SharePoint site will not be used for reimbursement or reporting activities.

2.37 Can additional guidance regarding the updated deliverables 1-3 email that was sent on May 27 or May 28, 2026, be provided?

1. What is the deadline for response?

A response within approximately two weeks, or prior to grant agreement execution, is preferred, as this information is needed to execute the grant agreement.

2. Has the requirement for Deliverable 1 already been completed?

Yes, this requirement has been met if the provisional subgrantee has submitted their NEPA Project Areas. The majority of provisional subgrantees have completed this task.

3. For Deliverable 2, does submitting NEPA milestones satisfy the "Provide Permitting Plan and Schedule" requirement?

The permit plan and schedule are separate deliverables. At times we may see items overlap with a request for documentation, and we will do our best to keep duplicate actions to a minimum.

4. For Deliverable 3, how should "Mobilization" be demonstrated?

Mobilization may be documented through items such as geo-tagged photos of a site being mobilized. Additional information will be further detailed in the Post-Award Guide, which will include guidance on reimbursements, monitoring & compliance, and other related information.

2.38 Is there a deadline for provisional subgrantees to confirm updates to Deliverables 1-3? Additionally, can the "non-payment" financial consequence be further explained?

Provisional subgrantees should refer to **Question 2.37** for the applicable deadline. At this time, June 15, 2026, is considered a target date for submitting updates for Deliverables 1-3; however, earlier submission is strongly encouraged.

With respect to financial consequences, “non-payment” may include additional measures such as an increase in the required Letter of Credit (LOC) from 10% to 25%, depending on the circumstances.

Further guidance on deadlines, financial implications, and reimbursement processes will be provided once the final grant agreement language is issued. FloridaCommerce appreciates subgrantees’ patience as this guidance is finalized.

2.39 For updated Deliverables 1–3, must all components within a deliverable be completed before submitting for reimbursement? Previously, could subgrantees submit partial (“mini”) reimbursements for individual components?

Under the updated guidelines, Deliverables 1–3 consolidate multiple tasks that were previously treated as separate items. This represents a shift from the original deliverables and milestone chart. Given this consolidation, the approach to partial or “mini” reimbursement submissions is currently under review. Additional guidance will be provided once a determination is finalized.

Final reimbursement workflows will be established and communicated in detail following execution of the grant agreement. Comprehensive instructions and guidance will be distributed to all subgrantees at that time.

3 NEPA and Permitting Questions

3.1 When can we expect more information on the NEPA subprojects? Will that come after the state receives NIST approval?

All provisional subgrantees should have received a communication from the Broadband inbox on February 5, 2026, strongly encouraging them to begin identifying and contracting with environmental consultants to assist them through the next phase of this program.

FloridaCommerce (as of March 11, 2026) received the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) approval. Therefore, all allowable “limited permissible pre-implementation activity” will be able to be incurred. Once grant agreements are fully executed, those costs will be reimbursable.

3.2 The certifications reference placing a project sign within 90 days of contract execution. Could you please clarify?

NTIA has updated its guidance to remove signage requirements and thus FloridaCommerce will be following this update. Certifications within the Pre-Contract Documentation Request Form related to signage may be left blank. Provisional subgrantees will not be held to this requirement, even if they have checked this box/certified it within their Pre Contract Documentation Request Form(s).

3.3 What role will the Broadband Office play in facilitating permitting needs related to federal and state lands as part of the NEPA process?

Further clarification will be provided by email after FloridaCommerce finalizes internal discussions. The Office will coordinate with federal partners through a streamlined NEPA process, but provisional subgrantees are expected to collaborate with their own environmental consultants and identify applicable environmental requirements early in the process. It may be helpful to work with local or regional division specialists. Additional details are forthcoming.

3.4 The statement, “No work may begin prior to NEPA approval.” Does this refer solely to construction activities?

Correct. Any action associated with any aspect of the proposed action (e.g., the BEAD-funded action, as currently proposed), is subject to NEPA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. No action, including construction, can occur on those items until NTIA provides an approved NEPA decision memo. No reimbursements can be made until a grant agreement is executed. If a grant agreement is not executed, reimbursement cannot be issued.

As of March 11, 2026, NIST approval was granted, and allowable NEPA costs can begin to be incurred. Please refer to **Question 3.1** for additional information.

3.5 Is there any update on standardization of the reimbursement milestones? Will FloridaCommerce consider creating a payment milestone that can be achieved before NEPA approval? Other states for example have included a “Kickoff Call” or “Contract Execution” milestone that occurs before NEPA approval.

FloridaCommerce is working to standardize the milestones. The initial milestone will be related to NEPA Project Area submissions to The Office. Provisional subgrantees, at their own risk, can incur costs. Please refer to the [FloridaCommerce BEAD - Pre-Award Cost Policy.pdf](#). FloridaCommerce was granted NIST approval on March 11, 2026. No reimbursements will be reviewed or disbursed until an executed grant agreement has been established.

FloridaCommerce is continuing to standardize reimbursement milestones. One of the milestones will be tied to the 25% Letter of Credit requirement, Option 4, and additional milestones will be structured to allow reimbursement throughout the deployment process.

3.6 Would splitting subprojects be monitored independently?

Splitting projects for NEPA approval is solely for NEPA approval. A single subgrant award may be divided into multiple NEPA Project Areas to streamline environmental reviews and accelerate project deployment. This approach allows components that qualify for a straightforward approval, such as a Categorical Exclusion, to proceed to construction without being delayed by more complex parts of the project that may require a lengthy Environmental Assessment. To ensure compliance and avoid improper segmentation, each designated NEPA Project Area must have "independent utility," meaning it can function as a reasonable, stand-alone service.

3.7 Can you confirm Section 106 review and Section 7 compliance is the subgrantee's responsibility?

Yes, provisional subgrantees are responsible for undergoing a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) review and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation as part of their NEPA evaluation process. As communicated on February 5, 2026, provisional subgrantees are highly recommended to begin the process of identifying qualified environmental and cultural resource consultants as soon as possible to support their EHP activities and compliance with their respective BEAD projects.

FloridaCommerce released a NEPA Guidebook on March 31, 2026, which provides additional information about the NEPA process and the Section 106 (see Section 3.6.1 of

the Guidebook) and Section 7 (see Section 3.6.2 of the Guidebook) consultation processes. The Guidebook can be accessed at the following link: [NEPA Subgrantee Guidebook](#).

3.8 When will NEPA 1:1 calls be held?

NEPA 1:1 calls will be scheduled by the end of May 2026. These calls are intended to prepare provisional subgrantees for the NEPA review process and support a streamlined approach to environmental compliance.

3.9 What types of documentation should be submitted during the Jefferson County permitting process?

Documentation requirements depend on the type of construction:

- Underground construction: Provide a site plan including depth, distance from the road, trench details, and a clear depiction of the proposed path.
- Aerial construction (pole-to-pole): Minimal documentation is required unless new poles or antennas are being installed.

Additional documentation may be required due to separate tower-related regulations.

The primary goal is to provide clear details of where the work will occur and the extent of ground disturbance.

3.10 What information will be required in the Jefferson County permitting status report?

Provisional subgrantees should provide:

- A list of required permits.
- Estimated timelines for obtaining each permit.
- Any known barriers at the county or local level.

This information helps assess how permitting timelines impact NEPA review.

FloridaCommerce may assist in communicating with local jurisdictions if delays arise.

3.11 Is there anything subgrantees can do to streamline the Jefferson County permitting process?

Provisional subgrantees should provide specific details such as:

- Linear distance of construction.
- Depth of underground installation.
- Distance from roadway.

- Whether lines cross bridges or other structures.

Complete and precise descriptions help avoid delays.

3.12 Will Jefferson County assist applicants in identifying adjacent ROW permitting requirements (e.g., county road ROW next to state land)?

Counties typically do not oversee state-level right-of-way requirements. Provisional subgrantees must coordinate separately with state agencies when applicable.

3.13 Regarding the Jefferson County permitting process, are there common mistakes or reasons applications are denied?

No. Permit denials are rare, and the process is generally straightforward.

3.14 How should subgrantees answer the NEPA question in the risk assessment asking whether NEPA was completed prior to contract execution?

Provisional subgrantees should answer “No,” as the NEPA process has not begun due to pending NIST approval.

If “No” is selected, the form will request an explanation and an estimated timeframe for NEPA activities. Provisional subgrantees may submit documents to FloridaCommerce or to the pre-contract KPMG SharePoint site once they become available.

FloridaCommerce does not expect any NEPA work to be completed at this time, apart from procuring an environmental consultant.

3.15 Regarding permitting, what definition of “rural” should be used?

A rural area is defined as having 75,000 people or fewer and characterized by remote geography, low population density, or difficult topography. For further guidance please see the [Florida Commerce Office of Rural Initiatives](#).

3.16 What permitting or compliance measures apply given that planning tools show the entire state of Florida as a coastal zone?

Guidance on the Florida State Clearinghouse review for Florida Coastal Management Program Consistency is available in the NEPA Guidebook, released on March 31, 2026, and located at [FloridaCommerce BEAD - NEPA Subgrantee Guidebook.pdf](#)

Section 3.6.3 of the Guidebook provides an overview of the process to ensure consistency with the Florida Coastal Management Program. In addition, Section 6.1 of the Guidebook provides information on circumstances where additional Florida Department of Environmental Protection coordination may be necessary, for example for projects located in

coastal areas, coastal high hazard zones, or areas subject to coastal construction control line requirements.

3.17 If a project is divided into multiple NEPA subprojects, does Deliverable 1 count as satisfied when the NEPA memo is issued for each subproject?

FloridaCommerce will work with provisional subgrantees to establish a percentage-based approach for meeting Deliverable 1 when projects are divided into multiple NEPA components. For example, if a project is separated into several areas, FloridaCommerce will determine what percentage must be completed to request payment for completed portions.

3.18 What happens if overbuild within a project area exceeds 20%?

Cases will be reviewed individually. FloridaCommerce anticipates remaining below the 20% threshold by following eligible BEAD locations and following guidelines. Overbuild excludes routes where construction must pass through a served area to reach an eligible location (e.g., Point A → served area → Point B).

3.19 Will FloridaCommerce consider providing NEPA subproject guidance to help determine subproject structure?

FloridaCommerce has generally avoided distributing NEPA guidance prior to funding approval due to reimbursement restrictions, however, FloridaCommerce shared preliminary NEPA Project Area instructions and forms via the Broadband inbox on March 4, 2026.

Following NIST approval received on March 11, 2026, FloridaCommerce issued formal instructions authorizing provisional subgrantees to begin submitting NEPA-related materials. To further support provisional subgrantees in determining appropriate NEPA subproject structure, FloridaCommerce released the NEPA Guidebook on March 31, 2026, which provides detailed and comprehensive guidance on the NEPA process.

To assist with implementation and address questions, FloridaCommerce will host a NEPA webinar on April 23, 2026, to walk through the guidebook and discuss key elements of the NEPA requirements.

Provisional subgrantees should continue to monitor Broadband inbox communications for the most current NEPA instructions, updates, and deadlines.

3.20 Can FloridaCommerce clarify the geospatial requirements for NEPA submissions? Should submissions include linework, polygons, or both?

FloridaCommerce requires enough geospatial detail to clearly understand the proposed NEPA Project Areas. This includes:

- The entire awarded project area, represented geospatially; and

- **Proposed linework** showing anticipated build paths, where available.

If a project is divided into multiple NEPA Project Areas, geospatial data must be provided for the entire awarded project area and for each NEPA Project Area to allow FloridaCommerce to assess boundaries, scope, and independent utility.

The geospatial package should clearly identify:

1. Locations served,
 2. BEAD-funded infrastructure placement,
 3. Existing infrastructure that will be leveraged, and
 4. Extent of ground disturbance across the NEPA Project Area(s).
- **Accepted Formats:** File geodatabase (preferred) or zipped shapefile. If using shapefiles, include .shp, .shx, .dbf, .prj and any supporting files in a single .zip.
 - **Required Layers (As Applicable):** NEPA Project Area polygon; proposed route line(s); points/polygons for staging/laydown areas; temporary/permanent access roads outside ROW; interconnection points; and technology-specific facility layers (e.g., towers, cabinets, handholes, vaults).
 - **Attributes/Symbology:** Distinguish new vs existing; aerial vs buried; installation method (trench, bore, microtrench, attach); and show ground disturbance footprint where known.
 - **File Naming:** Subgrantee_ProjectID_DocType_Date_v#. Example: Provider_CM61-BEAD-FL-XXX-1234_GIS_2026-02-27_v1.zip.
 - **Metadata sheet (Excel or PDF):** Listing layer names, descriptions, coordinate system, date created, and contact.
 - *Note: At this stage, final designs may not be available. Subgrantees should submit the best-available preliminary GIS and clearly flag uncertainty; updated GIS may be required before a final NEPA decision.*

3.21 Regarding the NEPA subproject request email that was sent on March 16, 2026, can FloridaCommerce clarify if submissions are limited to the NEPA subproject CSV, or are additional materials, such as project route shapefiles and APPEIT outputs required as indicated in the instructions? Are the NEPA subproject CSV and the Project Area Review Form the only items required to be submitted?

FloridaCommerce issued the request for Project Areas to be submitted and provided the “Instructions for Dividing BEAD Subgrant Awards into Multiple NEPA Project Areas” document via email to subgrantees on March 16, 2026.

The NEPA Project Areas are due no later than March 30, 2026. Please submit all required documentation to the SharePoint Hub. As outlined in the instruction file and distribution e-mail, the following documents should be submitted:

1. A completed NEPA_Project_id workbook (.csv) for each of your awarded project areas as defined in the Final Proposal.
2. The prescreening output from NTIA’s ArcGIS Pro Permitting & Environmental Information Tool (APPEIT) for each original BEAD-awarded project area and each proposed NEPA Project Area. APPEIT and instructions for how to use the tool can be accessed [here](#).
3. Shapefile/KMZ files related to your project showing the overall awarded project area as well as each identified NEPA Project Area. The shapefiles should define the geographic boundaries of your proposed NEPA Project Areas. Subgrantees should provide a geospatial package with the following:
 - **Accepted Formats:** File geodatabase (preferred) or zipped shapefile. If using shapefiles, include .shp, .shx, .dbf, .prj and any supporting files in a single .zip.
 - **Required Layers (As Applicable):** NEPA Project Area polygon; proposed route line(s); points/polygons for staging/laydown areas; temporary/permanent access roads outside ROW; interconnection points; and technology-specific facility layers (e.g., towers, cabinets, handholes, vaults).
 - **Attributes/Symbology:** Distinguish new vs existing; aerial vs buried; installation method (trench, bore, microtrench, attach); and show ground disturbance footprint where known.
 - **File Naming:** Subgrantee_ProjectID_DocType_Date_v#. Example: Provider_CM61-BEAD-FL-XXX-1234_GIS_2026-02-27_v1.zip
 - **Metadata sheet (Excel or PDF):** Listing layer names, descriptions, coordinate system, date created, and contact.
 - *Note: At this stage, final designs may not be available. Subgrantees should submit the best-available preliminary GIS and clearly flag uncertainty; updated GIS may be required before a final NEPA decision.*
4. A completed “[NEPA Project Area Review Form](#).” In this form, you will provide your rationale for your proposed approach to identifying multiple NEPA Project Areas or

not. This will help document independent utility and screen for initial project concerns. A separate form should be completed for each NEPA Project Area.

3.22 For fixed wireless projects, does each tower require a separate NEPA review? Given that site locations are still evolving, could FloridaCommerce clarify what level of detail is required in this initial NEPA submission?

Dividing a project into separate NEPA Project Areas is optional and is not required for any awarded project. Subgrantees may submit their awarded project area as one NEPA Project Area. However, for some projects it may be beneficial to divide an awarded project into one or more NEPA Project Area. A BEAD awarded project can be split into multiple NEPA Project Areas to help streamline construction timelines and accelerate deployment. NEPA Project Areas are defined on the basis of independent utility and connected and similar actions with logical end points.

Once a NEPA Project Area is submitted and approved by NTIA, it is considered final and should not change. Therefore, it is important that the submitted NEPA Project Area encompasses the entire area in which the project may occur.

Following finalization of the NEPA Project Area, as subgrantees move into the NEPA process, if changes are made to the project, including changing the location of project related infrastructure, the NEPA analysis will need to be updated to accommodate those changes. This includes situations where the NEPA determination was once issued and the project later changes in a way that affects environmental impacts; in which case, the NEPA process would need to be reinitiated.

3.23 When are the NEPA documents due?

All required NEPA documentation required for the NEPA Project Area determination must be submitted by March 30, 2026. Please disregard the typo within the guidance document that has a due date of April 1, 2026. All items are due by March 30, 2026. Please see Question 3.22 for additional information.

3.24 Can FloridaCommerce clarify expectations for the NEPA Project Area polygon included in the geospatial submission? Specifically, how should this polygon be created? Would a 100-foot buffer along the proposed fiber route be sufficient?

While it is possible that a 100-foot buffer could fully encompass all areas needed for project construction, the NEPA Project Area polygon should represent the construction footprint needed to build the project and not a generic area. The NEPA Project Area polygon should include the total limit and extent of ground disturbance., including:

- including:

- The proposed fiber route centerline or proposed facility.
- The full construction footprint (all disturbances associated with the project).
- Temporary and permanent access areas.
- Bore pits, laydown yards, staging areas, and preparation areas.

The polygon should capture all locations where construction activities or ground disturbance will occur. A fiber route buffer is acceptable only if it is a representation of the actual construction footprint and includes all associated disturbance (staging, access, bore pits, off ROW work). If any of those elements are outside the corridor, they must be mapped separately and included in the NEPA Project Area footprint.

3.25 Should the NEPA Project Area include any locations where materials or equipment will be staged during deployment?

Yes. Points or polygons for staging/laydown areas along with temporary/permanent access roads outside of the ROW should be included for each NEPA Project Area.

3.26 How much detail is required on the NEPA Project Area Review Form if the project is not being subdivided into multiple NEPA subprojects?

Provisional subgrantees should provide sufficient detail to allow FloridaCommerce to make an informed determination regarding the proposed project area. Regardless of the number of NEPA Project Areas, questions requesting project narratives (listed below) should be answered thoroughly.

- Are there other reasonably foreseeable or connected actions (as defined in [NTIA's Guidance on NTIA National Environmental Policy Act Compliance, June 2025](#)) that are in or related to the NEPA Project Area? If yes, explain their relationship to the project and why they should not be included as part of the project.
- Provide a narrative explanation detailing why the project was or was not separated into multiple NEPA Project Areas.
- What is the proposed construction method for infrastructure deployment (i.e., plowing and trenching
- What is the proposed method for crossing waterways (i.e., Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD))?

3.27 Could FloridaCommerce clarify the definitions of the NEPA Point of Contact (POC) and Subgrantee POC to ensure the appropriate individuals are listed? Are secondary contacts permitted?

The NEPA POC should be an individual your organization designates as the primary contact for the NEPA process. For example, NEPA POC may be an environmental support contractor or a representative of your organization whom FloridaCommerce can contact for clarification on submitted materials.

The Subgrantee POC should be a representative from your organization, particularly if the NEPA POC is an external environmental consultant. You may identify more than one individual for each category, if applicable.

3.28 How soon should subgrantees expect the NEPA analysis to begin following the March 30, 2026, submission?

Once NEPA Project Areas are reviewed by FloridaCommerce, FloridaCommerce were submitted to NTIA at the end of April. The NEPA process can begin once NTIA responds to FloridaCommerce's submittal. NTIA approved Florida's NEPA Project Areas and granted FloridaCommerce access to the ESAPTT tool on May 11, 2026.

3.29 If certain project features, such as laydown or staging areas, are not yet identified, how should FloridaCommerce and KPMG be notified? What is the change management process for NEPA-related updates?

Changes can be made anytime up until NEPA Project Area Submission to NTIA, which will be at the end of April. After information is submitted to NTIA, a decision memo will need to be drafted to identify the scope of the changes that are being requested. Based on the extent of the change in scope will depend on the level of resubmission, this may vary from a FloridaCommerce/state approval to an NTIA approval.

However, for example if the laydown/staging areas are within the ROW, you could include the ROW boundary in the project area and include it in the polygon. If there are additional concerns, please provide a narrative and email KPMG and FloridaCommerce. We can create a more definitive plan based on these concerns. If information is changed after the NEPA decision is finalized, it may be necessary to reinitiate the NEPA process for that project.

1. **Changes to NEPA Project Areas:** NEPA project areas can be revised after initial submission and creation in the NTIA ESAPTT tool. However, these changes require additional coordination and review.
 - All changes to NEPA project areas must be coordinated through FloridaCommerce to reflect in the NTIA ESAPTT system. Please refer to the "Bulk Data Upload to ESAPTT" and "Grant Project Records" of the [Environmental Screening & Permitting Tracking Tool \(ESAPTT\) - External User Guide](#). Please note it does not include instructions to "reconstitute" previously subdivided records.

- FloridaCommerce's NEPA specialist will review and confirm all proposed changes before they are submitted to NTIA.
- Each NEPA project area will require its own NEPA submission. NEPA documentation prepared for the original project areas will need to be revised to reflect the updated boundaries. Because changes require administrative coordination and specialist review, project teams are strongly encouraged to define final NEPA project areas as early as possible to avoid rework and potential delays.

2. Changes to Project Design During the NEPA Evaluation Process: Project level and design changes are expected and understood, especially given real world conditions such as routing constraints or site-specific considerations.

Before NEPA submission to NTIA:

- You may freely update and revise NEPA documentation:
 - Changes in routing.
 - Decisions to place infrastructure above or below ground.
 - Adjustments based on site conditions or engineering refinements.
- These updates are allowed until the NEPA package is formally submitted to NTIA.
- FloridaCommerce's NEPA specialist will be reviewing the NEPA submission before it is submitted to NTIA.
- Please note change to a project design may impact or change applicable categorical exclusions or extraordinary circumstances. These will need to be reevaluated by FloridaCommerce's NEPA specialist if there is a change to the design.

After NEPA submission and NTIA decision:

- Once NTIA issues a NEPA decision memo, any subsequent changes to project scope, location, or design must be reviewed by FloridaCommerce NEPA specialist. The review should assess the change against the approved NTIA decision memo and use ESAPTT to determine whether the original NEPA decision remains valid or whether additional NEPA documentation and a revised NTIA decision memo are required.
- No official written guidance has been issued by NTIA on this point; the approach above reflects our understanding based on conversations with NTIA staff.

3.30 What is the anticipated timeline for receiving feedback on NEPA submissions submitted in late March, and has the initial review identified any common or recurring deficiencies that subrecipients should be aware of and address?

The initial review of NEPA documentation is underway. Provisional subgrantees who were missing NEPA Project Area materials received RFI notifications on April 3, 2026. FloridaCommerce requested missing materials be provided by 5 PM on April 7, 2026. If applicable, an additional follow-up email will be sent this week requesting clarification on submitted NEPA Project Area materials.

FloridaCommerce's goal is to complete collection of all NEPA Project Area documentation by April 20, 2026, with submission to NTIA planned for April 24, 2026.

Provisional subgrantees are reminded that the NEPA Project Area form requires detailed narrative responses. Submissions containing brief or single-word answers may be deemed insufficient and will likely result in an RFI. Provisional subgrantees are encouraged to proactively amend such submissions to avoid processing delays and to notify the FloridaCommerce, KPMG, and ICF team if updates are made.

3.31 What is the correct procedure for addressing project locations that are discovered to be non-existent, either due to storm damage or the absence of a pre-existing structure?

For any location that is determined to be non-existent, the designated procedure is to file a formal challenge with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Concurrently, provisional subgrantees should notify FloridaCommerce and clearly identify the affected locations so they can be reviewed and addressed accordingly.

3.32 Can FloridaCommerce clarify expectations regarding impact corridor assumptions? Our utility easement is only 10–15 feet wide, however there was a reference to a 100-foot buffer?

The reference to a 100-foot buffer originated from a prior Office Hours discussion in which a provisional subgrantee asked whether a 100-foot buffer along a proposed fiber route might be sufficient. That response was not intended to establish a standard requirement for all projects.

NEPA Project Area polygons must encompass all necessary areas required for project construction, including temporary and permanent area access, ground disturbance, bore pits, and staging or laydown areas. If a 10–15-foot utility easement fully accommodates these needs, no additional buffering is required.

3.33 What is the anticipated timeline for federal approval of the NEPA Project Areas following the submission of all requested information?

Once all NEPA Project Area documentation is collected, FloridaCommerce will submit the materials to NTIA, planning for April 24, 2026. Within approximately 90 days, NTIA is expected to grant FloridaCommerce access to the environmental review tool (ESAPTT), which

FloridaCommerce will use to submit the necessary documentation on behalf of provisional subgrantees. NTIA approved Florida's NEPA Project Areas and granted FloridaCommerce access to the ESAPTT tool on May 11, 2026.

3.34 What degree of flexibility is available regarding the approximate timelines for the phases outlined in the NEPA guidance document?

FloridaCommerce recognizes that provisional subgrantees may face challenges, such as delays in obtaining PE certifications. If provisional subgrantees anticipate issues meeting timelines or deadlines identified in the NEPA Guidebook, they should notify FloridaCommerce as early as possible. FloridaCommerce will work with provisional subgrantees to address timing concerns and accommodate reasonable adjustments where appropriate.

3.35 When is the ESAPTT form expected to be distributed via email, as referenced in Phase 2 (NEPA Project Planning and Consultations), Section 3.3 of the NEPA Guide?

Once NEPA project areas are identified, FloridaCommerce will submit the required information to NTIA on April 24, 2026. The ESAPTT form is expected to be distributed to provisional subgrantees by the beginning of May. Project details collected through the form will subsequently be entered into the ESAPTT tool by FloridaCommerce.

3.36 Will the ESAPTT form include both project implementation details and the extraordinary circumstances of screening?

Yes. As mentioned in Section 3.3 (ESAPTT Form) of the [NEPA Guidebook](#), the ESAPTT form includes information related to how the project will be implemented and supports screening for extraordinary circumstances.

In addition to the ESAPTT form, provisional subgrantees are required to submit a separate, detailed project description during Phase 2, and as outlined in Section 3.2 (Developing a Detailed Project Description). The detailed project description provides comprehensive information necessary to support the NEPA process, including evaluation of the appropriate level of NEPA review (e.g., categorical exclusion, environmental assessment, or other analysis, if required). Provisional subgrantees will also submit a NEPA milestone schedule as described in Section 3.4 (NEPA Milestone Schedule). The NEPA milestone schedule template will be provided to provisional subgrantees by the end of April.

3.37 How does the Program Comment process affect the standard Section 106 review process?

The Program Comment process does not replace Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). All four steps of the Section 106 consultation process must still be completed; however, the Program Comment streamlines documentation. Additionally, in

order to utilize the Program Comment, provisional subgrantees and their environmental consultants must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for historic preservation.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has developed template letters, documentation forms, and standardized procedures to assist provisional subgrantees in completing Section 106 review under the Program Comment. Please see the following question for additional guidance.

3.38 Many BEAD projects may utilize the Program Comment process. Can FloridaCommerce provide additional context or guidance?

NTIA has issued guidance on the use of the Program Comment, which is also incorporated into the [NEPA Guidebook](#) and discussed during the [SHPO presentation](#) on April 16, 2026.

Key reference materials include:

- [Program Comment for Federal Communications Projects | Advisory Council on Historic Preservation](#)
- Program Comment text: [Communications Project PC amendment - 20240313 letterhead SIGNED.pdf](#)
- Program Comment Documentation Form: [Program Comment for Federal Communication Projects - NTIA Section 106 Documentation Form](#)
- Program Comment Documentation Form Instructions: [Program Comment Form Instructions](#)
- General overview from the National Park Service of Secretary of Interior Qualification requirements: [Professional Qualifications Standards \(U.S. National Park Service\)](#).

For further questions, please contact **Kelly Chase, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer**, at CompliancePermits@dos.fl.gov.

3.39 Have there been any common challenges or pitfalls associated with the Program Comment process that subgrantees should be aware of prior to submission?

If a project is known to be located within a historic district or involves historic properties, provisional subgrantees are strongly encouraged to schedule a pre-consultation meeting with SHPO early in the planning phase. This allows potential issues to be identified and addressed before formal submission and helps avoid delays.

Environmental and cultural resource consultants must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards. SHPO has encountered situations where unqualified consultants resulted in incomplete or incorrect submissions, leading to additional costs and

extended review timelines. If there is any doubt, provisional subgrantees are encouraged to submit consultant resumes to SHPO for review prior to engagement.

3.40 If make-ready work has already been completed in certain areas, should those activities be excluded from the environmental review process?

If an activity is associated with the BEAD-funded project or is part of the proposed project scope, it cannot proceed until the NEPA process concludes. For further information on limited permissible pre-implementation activities, please refer to the [General Terms and Conditions for the NTIA BEAD Program Funds - Nov 2025](#).

The Grantee must ensure that implementation (site preparation, demolition, construction, ground disturbance, fixed installation, or any other implementation activities) does not begin prior to the completion of all EHP requirements as outlined in this Section. The Grantee must comply with all conditions placed on the grant funded activities as the result of NEPA or NHPA consultation or processes under other applicable laws—e.g., mitigation requirements, best management practices, or other measures necessary to reduce environmental impacts—and ensure that Subgrantees comply with such conditions as well. The Grantee must also provide any information requested by NTIA to ensure both initial and ongoing compliance with all requirements described above.

The Grantee may undertake or allow limited permissible activities under NEPA to proceed using award funds prior to the completion of the EHP review process, including the following:

- Pre-construction planning, including collecting information necessary to complete environmental reviews;
- Applications for environmental permits;
- Studies including, but not limited to, Environmental Assessments (EA), wetland delineations, biological assessments, archaeological surveys, and other environmental reviews and analyses;
- Administrative costs;
- Pre-award application costs;
- Activities supporting consultations required under the NHPA, the Endangered Species Act, and the Clean Water Act; and/or
- Limited, preliminary procurement, including the purchase or lease of equipment, or entering into binding contracts to do so; the purchase of applicable or conditional insurance; and/or funds used to secure land or building leases (including right-of-way easements).

Grantees or Subgrantees that undertake unauthorized project activities in contravention of this Section proceed at their own risk and may face de-obligation of funding.

3.41 In the Categorical Exclusion (CatEx) portion of the presentation, a timeframe of 3–6 months was mentioned. What does this timeframe represent?

The 3–6-month timeframe refers to the typical duration needed to develop the documentation necessary to support a determination that a CatEx is the appropriate level of NEPA review. This timeframe generally encompasses activities completed during Phase 2 and Phase 3, including preparation of project descriptions, environmental screening (including whether Extraordinary Circumstances exist), and required consultations. At the conclusion of this process, FloridaCommerce will submit the complete NEPA documentation to NTIA through the ESAPTT tool. NTIA will then determine whether a CatEx applies and ultimately issue the NEPA decision document, if appropriate.

3.42 Is there a set deadline for submitting NEPA materials to KPMG and team for review?

No. There is currently no fixed deadline for submitting NEPA materials for review, as each project proceeds on its own timeline. FloridaCommerce may provide additional guidance in the future regarding recommended or target timelines.

3.43 Can FloridaCommerce clarify the timing of the NEPA 1:1 meetings? Will they occur at the beginning of Phase 2 or after materials are submitted?

The NEPA one-on-one meetings will occur after Phase 2 draft materials are prepared. ISPs should first complete and submit draft versions of the ESAPTT form, detailed project description, milestone schedule, and any required consultation support materials. KPMG and partners will review these draft submissions and, typically within two weeks, schedule a follow-up discussion to review the project and identify any concerns. Following this discussion, ISPs will have the opportunity to revise their materials prior to submitting final versions and proceeding to Phase 3.

3.44 When does the 12-month clock to complete an Environmental Assessment (EA) begin?

If an EA is required, NTIA will determine the official start date for the EA process. Typically, the timeline begins once NTIA determines that an EA is necessary. Most BEAD projects are expected to qualify for categorical exclusions rather than requiring an EA.

3.45 What is the correction process if NTIA does not agree with the proposed NEPA Project Areas?

If NTIA identifies concerns with the proposed NEPA Project Areas, NTIA will request additional information or clarification. The specific process will vary depending on the nature of the issue and cannot be defined in advance.

3.46 Is there a deadline for Phase 2? Can 1:1 meetings occur without all supporting materials completed (e.g., SHPO, ESA Section 7, water resources screening, etc.)?

There is no fixed deadline for completing Phase 2. Phase 2 occurs on a project specific timeline. 1:1 meetings are most productive once draft materials are available, and FloridaCommerce will schedule meetings as soon as sufficient materials are prepared. If questions arise before all materials are complete, interim discussions or draft reviews are welcome and will be accommodated.

FloridaCommerce sent an email on May 13, 2026, regarding the next steps. Currently, NTIA is reviewing project areas, this can take up to 6 months. Please work diligently on completing the requests from May 13.

3.47 Will all document submissions continue to be completed through SharePoint? Will notifications be provided to provisional subgrantees when the ESAPTT form and milestone schedule are available, and will provisional subgrantees need to inform KPMG and team when files are uploaded?

Yes. All submissions will be completed through the SharePoint site. KPMG and/or partners will notify provisional subgrantees when the ESAPTT form and milestone schedule templates become available and will provide guidance on where specific files should be uploaded. As a courtesy, provisional subgrantees are encouraged to notify KPMG via email when files have been uploaded.

3.48 Does NTIA expect that service drops (the connection between the subgrantee infrastructure and the customer premises) will be subject to NEPA and Section 106 review?

If it's part of the proposed action (e.g., the BEAD-funded action as proposed right now includes drops), then NEPA and Sec 106 applies to it. If the BEAD-funded action will install fiber in a roadway and a drop is not part of the proposed action but could be installed at the request of a to-be-determined customer at a later date, then it's not a clearly connected action.

Please see the guidance on NEPA for LEO/FW: [BEAD Guidance on NEPA and NHPA for LEO Satellite Service - October 2025](#). Customer premise infrastructure (consumer-owned, over-the-air) is exempt from NEPA.

3.49 Who should ISPs contact with questions regarding the Duke Energy presentation held on Thursday, April 30, 2026?

Provisional subgrantees should contact Sarah Zweigart (sarah.zweigart@duke-energy.com) and Jeremy Gibson (jeremy.gibson@duke-energy.com) for questions related to pole attachments and the make-ready process. The [presentation](#) was uploaded to the SharePoint for further reference.

3.50 How should provisional subgrantees incorporate CSX railroad utility permits into their project workflow? What is the minimum information needed to begin the process?

Each application is unique; however, CSX aims to provide permitting decisions within approximately 30 days, assuming a complete application package is submitted. Provisional subgrantees should plan accordingly and incorporate this timeline into their overall project schedule.

To begin the process, provisional subgrantees are encouraged to review the CSX Utility Application and permitting requirements in advance to ensure all necessary documentation is included. At a minimum, a complete application package should contain detailed project information, including location, design, and installation methods. After permit approval, subgrantees should anticipate an additional ~30 days for scheduling and required railroad flagging.

For more information and to access application materials, visit the CSX permitting [website](#).

3.51 What is the most common issue encountered when evaluating CSX applications?

The most common issue is the submission of incomplete applications. Missing or insufficient engineering documentation can delay the review process and result in requests for additional information. Providing precise location data, such as accurate latitude and longitude coordinates, is critical, as it allows CSX to quickly identify the exact crossing location.

Additionally, applications that involve crossings of other railroads (e.g., Norfolk Southern) may be rejected if submitted through CSX in error. Applicants should verify the correct railroad ownership prior to submission. Please note that application review fees are final and non-refundable.

Each railroad crossing is assigned a U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) crossing number, which can be used to identify the operating railroad and obtain additional information. For more information on DOT crossing numbers and their railroad operators visit this [website](#).

3.52 Are there circumstances where a CSX utility permitting application is denied without the opportunity for revision? Are there railroad crossings that a provisional subgrantee cannot seek approval to cross?

In most cases, if an application does not meet CSX requirements, it will be returned with comments and an opportunity for revision. However, there may be situations where a proposed crossing is not feasible due to conflicts with existing railroad infrastructure or operational constraints.

In such cases, CSX may identify an alternative, feasible location and inform the applicant that approval is possible at this location instead of the proposed original due to constraints. These issues are typically identified during the engineering review process, and any required revisions will be communicated to the applicant. Early coordination and thorough site evaluation can help minimize the risk of delays.

6.4 Who should provisional subgrantees contact with questions related to CSX utility permitting presentation held on May 21, 2026?

Please find the CSX presentation on [SharePoint](#). For questions related to CSX utility permitting, provisional subgrantees should contact the appropriate representative based on the topic area:

- Engineering / Specification Compliance:
Anthony Gilmore
Email: Anthony_Gilmore@CSX.com
- Contract, Insurance, and Fee Compliance:
Eric Horton, Manager – Corridor Services
Email: Eric_Horton@CSX.com

Ebony Shumake
Email: Ebony_Shumake@CSX.com
- Towers and Wireless Infrastructure
Engineering / Specification Compliance:
Anthony Gilmore — Anthony_Gilmore@CSX.com

Contract, Insurance, and Fee Compliance:
Eric Horton — Eric_Horton@CSX.com
- Longitudinal Occupancies:
Eric Horton — Eric_Horton@CSX.com

3.53 Should SHPO consultation be completed prior to submission of the Phase 2 CatEx Screening?

No, SHPO consultation screening does not need to be completed prior to submitting the Phase 2 materials, however, it should be in progress.

3.54 Is there an expectation that State of Florida-listed threatened and endangered (T&E) species be considered in the NEPA process, and/or that a request for comment be submitted to FWC with documentation of this correspondence included in the project's NEPA records?

Yes, state-listed species should be considered in any documentation provided to FloridaCommerce. However, direct coordination with FWC is not required.

3.55 What is the timeline for completing the CatEx Screening document?

FloridaCommerce is holding 1:1 NEPA kickoff calls with each provisional subgrantee starting the first week of June to discuss the Phase 2 process. Each provisional subgrantee should sign up for a timeslot using the [Excel spreadsheet](#) posted to the SharePoint site.

Following those kickoff calls, provisional subgrantees are each working on their own timelines to complete the Phase 2 documentation. Once a draft of the Phase 2 documentation is submitted, FloridaCommerce will schedule a second call to discuss any necessary revisions to the Phase 2 documentation. Additional time will then be required to address comments and prepare the final submission. FloridaCommerce expects all provisional subgrantees to have their draft Phase 2 documentation submitted by mid-August.

3.56 What format is required for document submittal?

Documents should be uploaded to the SharePoint site. When all documents are submitted please submit an email to let the FloridaCommerce team know the files are ready for review.

3.57 For NEPA Phase 3, will the required items follow the same format?

Yes, Phase 3 requirements will follow a similar format. Additional guidance will be provided after completion of Phase 2.

3.58 Is completion of the Florida Clearinghouse review required prior to submission of Phase 2?

No, these items do not need to be completed prior to submission and may remain in progress.

4 Project Financial Questions

4.1 The payment deliverables milestone template is due on February 20, 2026. How should subgrantees proceed given milestone standardization is still in progress?

Please proceed by entering time periods rather than specific dates (e.g., “6 months”). FloridaCommerce needs a general understanding of your anticipated deployment timeline. Exact dates and milestone structures can be adjusted as standardization is finalized.

Provisional subgrantees should estimate their deployment period while accounting for anticipated challenges such as weather delays, supply chain constraints (including fiber shortages), and workforce development needs. Timelines will not be identical across projects, and subgrantees are not expected to generate numerous custom milestone versions at this stage.

4.2 If a subgrantee intends to use a Letter of Credit (LOC), when is the LOC required to be submitted?

If a provisional subgrantee is using a Letter of Credit, it must be submitted by February 20, 2026, or within 60 days of the execution of the subgrant agreement. FloridaCommerce prefers to receive receipts by February 20, 2026, to allow sufficient time for review before agreements are executed.

4.3 What happens if a subgrantee cannot meet the February 20, 2026, LOC deadline?

The BEAD Letter of Credit Waiver by the NTIA was updated in January 2026 to clarify that, for provisional subgrantees electing to satisfy the BEAD Letter of Credit requirement with a performance bond, Eligible Entities may make securing a performance bond a contingent condition of the subgrant agreement that must be satisfied within 60 days of the execution of the subgrant agreement. If the performance bond has not been obtained prior to entering a subgrant agreement, the grant agreement will be terminated.

4.4 When are audited financial statements required to be submitted?

Provisional subgrantees who provided unaudited financials during the Pre-Contract Documentation Request period and/or prior to grant execution will be required to provide their 2024 or 2025 audited financials no later than May 31, 2026, as determined by FloridaCommerce and in accordance with the BEAD NOFO requirements. Please refer to Question 4.4 and 4.13 for more information.

Provisional subgrantees who do not provide audited financials ahead of grant execution will receive grant agreements including this term and deadline.

4.5 Who should subgrantees contact with questions about financial monitoring requirements?

Provisional subgrantees are encouraged to reach out to the monitoring team with any questions related to audited financial statements or other financial monitoring items. The main point of contact for this is **Tori Unseth** – Tori.Unseth@rsmus.com.

4.6 What if the match amount can be provided on our own with a LOC?

These are separate items that are both required. The LOC is an NTIA requirement for every reward, and a match is also a statutory requirement, of which must be at least 25% of the project's funding.

4.7 How will the In-Kind process move forward?

There will be a guided document created regarding match that will be forthcoming.

4.8 Can invoicing be submitted based on individual milestones (rather than Deliverable groupings)?

Invoicing will be based on milestones, specifically for Deliverable 2. Percentages will be assigned to each of the milestones seen within Deliverables. As provisional subgrantees meet these milestones, they can invoice for the corresponding percentages. For example, if Milestone 1 under Deliverable 2 was 2% and a provisional subgrantee finished this, they could submit a reimbursement specifically for that milestone and percent.

Please note that ALL provisional subgrantees will be required to invoice the Office on a 6-month basis to maintain their 10% LOC/PB. Should this not be met, provisional subgrantees will be required to re-obtain a higher percentage LOC/PB.

Additionally, finalization of the reimbursement process is forthcoming and will be included in a reimbursement guide that be distributed to provisional subgrantees.

4.9 Can subgrantees invoice for elements completed concurrently and out of order?

Early deliverables may be completed out of order or concurrently. For example, design work may be completed prior to NEPA approval. However, construction cannot begin until NEPA approval has been granted.

Once provisional subgrantees begin to enter the deliverables that require a percentage of locations to be complete, they will no longer be able to be invoiced and reimbursed out of order. Provisional subgrantees can assume they may do this for Deliverables 1-3.

Additionally, finalization of the reimbursement process is forthcoming and will be included in a reimbursement guide that be distributed to provisional subgrantees.

4.10 How firm are the timeframes listed in Appendix B: Deliverable Payment Milestones?

Provisional subgrantees should provide the most accurate timeframes possible when completing Appendix B.

FloridaCommerce and their monitoring team will need these timeframes to:

1. Develop grant agreement(s) for execution.
2. Monitor and review projects against accurately.

Provisional subgrantees should be reminded that to maintain the 10% LOC requirement, they must invoice FloridaCommerce at least every six months. Financial implications for not meeting this requirement will be included in each grant agreement and will require that the provisional subgrantee acquires a higher percentage of LOC/PB due to the missed invoice.

4.11 Some states provide subgrantees with the full awarded amount upfront rather than reimbursements. What approach will FloridaCommerce use?

FloridaCommerce will follow the approach used in the BOP and CPF programs, which is a hybrid of fixed and reimbursement. At closeout, the award will be reconciled based on fixed price versus actual expenditures drawn. If actual expenditures are less than the funded amount, adjustments may occur on a case-by-case basis which may require provisional subgrantees to return any funding that was provided to them from FloridaCommerce over their true expenditure cost.

FloridaCommerce will implement a process to withhold the final reimbursement or 10% payment for all provisional subgrantees until the program closeout is finalized.

4.12 Are 2024 financial statements acceptable, and will subgrantees later need to submit audited financial statements?

Provisional subgrantees should submit their most recent financial statements available for their organization, as financial documentation is based on each organization's calendar year.

For example, if your organization's fiscal year follows the calendar year, we understand that you will likely be providing audited financials for 2024 and 2025 may not be ready yet. If your organization's fiscal year ends June 30th, you should have your 2025 audited financials to provide.

FloridaCommerce will accept 2024 as the latest year of audited financials overall. Should FloridaCommerce's monitoring team later need an organization's 2025 audited financials, these will be requested later during the monitoring process.

4.13 When can subrecipients reduce the Performance Bond or Letter of Credit (LOC) amount under Option 3 of the NTIA waiver process?

Reductions will be considered on a case-by-case basis and are tied to the percentage of BSLs passed. FloridaCommerce will follow NTIA guidance. This flexibility does not apply to the required 10% LOC.

For example, reductions may be considered once approximately 25% of BSLs have service access.

4.14 Can you substitute a Letter of Credit with a Performance Bond at a later date, post grant agreement execution?

Yes, replacing a Letter of Credit with a Performance Bond during the period of performance is allowable. FloridaCommerce will address this allowance in the subgrantee agreement. Replacement of a Letter of Credit with a Performance Bond will require written request to FloridaCommerce and approval by FloridaCommerce prior to replacement.

4.15 Will submitting audited financial statements from the parent company, even if they are not public, meet the audited financial statement requirements?

Yes, FloridaCommerce now allows AUDITED 2024 financial statements from a parent company even if they are not public. This is as long as the parent entity is the legal owner or controlling entity of the provisional subgrantee, and the audited financial statements are GAA (General Authorized Access) compliant (or equivalent) and clearly demonstrate sufficient financial capability, parent level financials should generally be acceptable.

For further clarification, GAA is a critical technology option, as the NTIA has clarified that ISPs using GAA can qualify for federal funding to deploy "reliable" broadband in rural or hard-to-reach areas where fiber is too expensive.

4.16 What happens if a subrecipient elects the 10% LOC/PB option but cannot meet the six-month invoicing cadence due to unforeseen circumstances?

Provisional subgrantees selecting the 10% LOC/PB option must meet the six-month invoice requirement.

If unforeseen circumstances such as severe weather delay construction, provisional subgrantees should notify FloridaCommerce promptly to avoid penalties.

If there is no reasonable justification for missing the six-month milestone, the provisional subgrantee will be required to obtain a 25% LOC.

The 25% LOC may be reduced as certain milestones are achieved. Reductions will be addressed as they arise.

4.17 What documentation does FloridaCommerce expect or require to support in-kind match contributions?

Documentation required to support in-kind match contributions is evaluated on a case-by-case basis, depending on the nature of the contribution. Provisional subgrantees should refer to [NTIA guidance on in-kind match](#) requirements for general parameters and expectations.

If provisional subgrantees have established the type of in-kind contributions they intend to submit, they are encouraged to email the proposed documentation to RSM (Tori.Unseth@rsmus.com, Megan.Powers@rsmus.com), who can provide project-specific guidance on what supporting materials will be required.

4.18 For each milestone reached, will match dollars be required to be expended and submitted at the same rate as grant dollars? Or will Florida Commerce allow match “catch up” at a later time/milestone similar to how ARPA operated?

Match contributions must be provided proportionally with each reimbursement request at a minimum rate of 25%. If greater leverage was provided in the application, that rate will apply for each milestone payment. For example, a \$100 reimbursement request requires at least \$25 in documented match, whereas if your pledged leverage was 35% the required documented match would equal \$35. Alternatively, the full match amount may be contributed upfront. Match “catch-up” at later milestones will not be permitted.

For more information, please refer to the [FL BEAD Match Policy_Final.pdf](#).

4.19 With the option of using a 10% performance bond, a six-month cadence is required for reimbursement requests. Due to this requirement, other states have determined that a reimbursement request of \$0, with an attestation that no costs have been incurred would be acceptable. Will Florida Commerce also establish this option?

At this time, this option is not available. This suggestion will be taken into consideration by FloridaCommerce. Commerce will consider partial milestone payments to meet the 6-month invoice intervals for those subgrantees selecting the 10% LOC/PB. Further legal review is necessary to determine if a \$0 invoice truly constitutes an invoice in compliance with NTIA guidance.

5 Location IDs/BSL Questions

5.1 Does FloridaCommerce's review of locations include those that were already awarded, and could those awards be reversed?

FloridaCommerce's goal is to achieve the lowest price possible while serving all eligible locations. The state is awaiting guidance from NTIA and is hopeful that previously awarded locations will not need to be unawarded, but no final determination has been made yet.

5.2 Will the NTIA and NIST approved version of the Final Proposal be available on the Florida Broadband website once NIST approval is received?

Yes, the final proposal is available on the Florida Broadband [website](#).

5.4 How is the percentage for project design measured? Is it based on locations?

FloridaCommerce prefers to measure project design progress using standard Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs). However, alternative metrics may be used depending on technology type. Examples include:

1. Percentage of fiber deployed
2. Percentage of BSLs with access to wireless deployments

A target of approximately 60% of locations is recommended as a progress benchmark. Provisional subgrantees may propose alternative measurement methods if more appropriate for their project.

6 Appendix: New Questions

6.1 What are the ongoing programs from your office? Also, do you all have any intel on the deployment-related BEAD funding and when will the non-deployment BEAD funding drop?

Ongoing Programs: FloridaCommerce is currently administering several American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) programs, as well as three Capital Projects Fund (CPF) programs: the Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP), the Multi-Purpose Community Facility Program (MPCF), and the Digital Connectivity Technology Program (DCT). These programs are in various stages of closeout and ongoing administration.

BEAD Deployment Funding: The BEAD deployment program is well underway, and provisional awards have been issued. Additional information, including award mapping, is available on the Florida Office of Broadband HUB [website](https://florida-office-of-broadband-flbroadband.hub.arcgis.com/). FloridaCommerce is currently focused on finalizing grant agreements and preparing for project implementation and permitting activities.

BEAD Non-Deployment Funding: FloridaCommerce is currently awaiting additional federal guidance regarding non-deployment funds. Approximately \$900 million has been reserved for these initiatives. Further information regarding eligible uses and program requirements will be shared once federal guidance is received.

Additional resources,

<https://florida-office-of-broadband-flbroadband.hub.arcgis.com/>

<https://broadband.commerce.fl.gov/pages/capital-projects-fund-programs>

6.2 Is there an update on grant agreements?

Grant agreements have completed legal review and are currently being reviewed by FloridaCommerce staff. A draft grant agreement template will be provided to all provisional subgrantees this week. Please note that the template is intended for review purposes only and will not include project-specific milestones or scopes of work.

6.3 What is the anticipated turnaround time for reviewing the grant agreement template, and when will final agreements be distributed for execution?

A specific review timeline has not yet been established. However, due to the NTIA requirement that all grant agreements need to be executed by **September 11, 2026**, FloridaCommerce expects the review process to move quickly and encourages provisional subgrantees to provide feedback promptly once the template is distributed. Final agreements will be issued for execution as soon as scopes of work are finalized.

