



# NORTHWEST FIBERWORX

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House Committee on Energy and Technology  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

Dear Chairman Briglin and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity for the CUDs to provide an update on our progress. Due to a prior family commitment, I am unfortunately unavailable to give that update in person, and I hope this written statement provides useful insight. Should you have follow-up questions, please let me know, and we will work quickly to answer them.

**NWFX Information:**

21 Communities in Franklin, Grand Isle, and Chittenden County.  
29,176 – Premises in total  
7,876 – Underserved

NWFX plans to build, own, and maintain a FTTP (Fiber-to-the-Premise) open-access network. This network will universally serve every home/business that is currently not connected to a fiber network. The network creates a marketplace for retail ISPs, telehealth providers, 5G providers, enterprise, schools, towns, or other entities. Particularly for retail ISPs, the network will allow users to choose their own service providers, and not be limited to just one option.

**Goals:**

- Universal Access to all homes and businesses in our region.
- Technology Platform based on Fiber to the Premise (FTTP) that allows for Open Access to services.
- Prioritizes the unserved in our region.
- Reliable & Affordable.
- Accelerate the timeline for access to internet services.
- 2022 for some level of implementation.



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## Updates:

- Approved for Act 71/H360 pre-construction funding.
- Hired Executive Director in October 2021
- Hired Admin Support and Operations Project Manager in January 2022
- Completed comprehensive business plan and financial models.
- Participated in the VCUDA fiber pre-purchase consortium, expected delivery in September 2022.
- Worked through OSP standards and infrastructure with National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC)
- Secured warehouse and storage sites.
- Planned campaigns for public awareness and broadband education, including the FCC Affordable Connectivity Program.
- Ongoing database development and fiber management system (VETRO Fibermap)
- Continued negotiations with the first retail ISP network tenant, Google Fiber.
- Awaiting third-party review of business plan and model assumptions.
- Conducting drone LIDAR of VPPSA electric utilities to identify critical data.
- Anticipate High-Level Design in 2 weeks.

Respectfully,

Sean Kio  
NWCUD Executive Director