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Executive Director
January 31, 2023



Formed on April 30, 2020 after affirmative March Town Meeting votes by 26 towns, NEK Broadband is now all of the Northeast Kingdom plus Wolcott - creating **the largest** and **most rural** district in Vermont.





17,000+

Un/underserved addresses represent 32.3% of state total 38.7% of state UNSERVED only 10% of state population



2800+

Miles of fiber to construct

\$196M

## **Accomplishments To Date**

- Construction and Operator contracts
- Took on 170 miles of state fiber
- Constructed fiber to over 500 premise
- Completed over \$1 million in CARES and USDA RDBG pilots in Concord, Lunenburg, and Waterford
- Construction workers will be 95% NEK residents by contract
- 5 full-time employees
- Secured \$31M+ in Grant Funds

## **Current Activities**

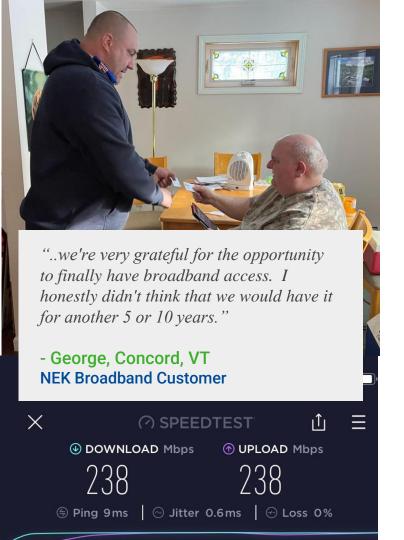
- 100+ volunteers
- Working groups affordability, communications, technology,
- Executive and Finance Committee
- Building statewide capacity CFO and standardized reporting
- \$30M-\$44M in Construction grants
- \$23.5M ReConnect Application
- \$5 Million VEDA Loan
- Affordable Connectivity Program

## **2023 Goals**

- Secure Additional Grant Funds
- Build 350 miles of infrastructure
- Pass 3000 customers
- Complete wholesale agreements
- Upgrade State Fiber & Northern Enterprise Asset Transfer
- Update Business Plan with New Financing Details
- Secure non-federal match for ReConnect and BEAD grants



- \$3.8M in Material in St.J & Brighton warehouse
- 612 Miles of Make-Ready in process
- 10 OLT Cabinets in Easement and Construction
- 150 miles under construction and hired local
- 1,700+ CrowdFiber pre-registration



## What we need to be successful

- Supporting strategies to build a reliable
   WORKFORCE to keep construction on track and sustained long term
- Ensuring <u>AFFORDABILITY</u> of service for every household
- Public Infrastructure and Accountability means we will reinvest profits into the community to build infrastructure and enhance affordability programs
- Affordability doesn't mean lowering everyone's price – it means getting lower costs and education to those in need by lowering construction and operational costs, securing grants, and creating quality programs.