



IBOP Upcoming Activities November

- Meetings with Direct Connect Sites
- Begin Environmental Assessment
- Submit Baseline Project Plan

January

- Submit Environmental Assessment
- East Central Illinois Development Corporation - Regional Broadband Summit

IBOP-EC Update



On August 18th, Central Management Services was awarded \$62 million to deploy a high-speed fiber network across a 55-county region of northeastern, central, and eastern Illinois to address a lack of suitable broadband access for community anchor institutions in many of the region's rural, economically distressed counties. The Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership – East Central (IBOP-EC) is a collaboration between the Illinois Century Network (ICN), Illinois State University and more than 40 public and private sector partners.

The project will construct more than 1,000 miles of new fiber and upgrade over 1,000 miles of existing fiber. More than 400 community anchor institutions will be directly connected via fiber including 23 community colleges. The new fiber backbone will support speeds of up to 1.6 terabits per second - hundreds of times faster than the current network and user speeds ranging from 10 megabits to 10 gigabits per second - more than six-times the current speeds of the majority of the community anchor institutions. Residential broadband service providers will be able to use the fiber infrastructure to affordably extend their services into unserved or underserved communities with a potential to reach an additional 5,861 community anchors, 285,410 businesses and 3,931,975 households.

The U.S. Department of Commerce awarded \$62 million in competitive federal funds for the project. State and private sources, including \$26 million from the *Illinois Jobs Now!* capital program, make up more than \$34 million of the total budget.

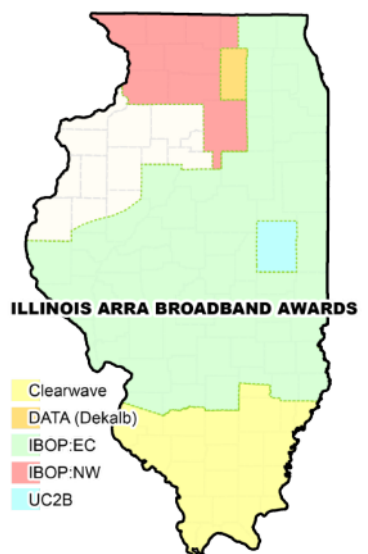
While the project focuses on 55 counties in central and eastern Illinois, the ICN is partnering with other broadband infrastructure awardees to enhance network and Internet access for constituents throughout the state. ICN, as a member driven organization, has always believed that communication with its constituents is important, and with this project will provide monthly updates to keep customers informed and to help facilitate connections to the new infrastructure.

Illinois ARRA Broadband Awards

The network design and service area was developed in coordination with the other middle mile broadband projects – IBOP Southern (Clearwave), IBOP NW, DeKalb County, and UC2B. As a result, there is no duplication in the service area.

Fiber networks will interconnect ensuring that our schools, colleges, libraries, health care, and public safety sites will have a seamless connection to critical applications throughout the state regardless of location.

There is an opportunity to collaborate with the last mile awardees to connect more community anchor institutions to the ICN and provide these service providers with access to the middle mile fiber infrastructure.



Thank You!

The Illinois Century Network appreciates all the comments, feedback, and well wishes expressed by constituents related to the announcement of the BTOP award.

We value the relationship we have with our community and constituents. For the latest news regarding the IBOP project please visit our website at: www.illinois.net/ibop.

Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership East Central

Current Project Status/Progress

The IBOP-EC project is in the initial phase as the grant award was announced on August 18. The immediate focus is on outreach to the communities within the 55-county service area and completing the network design and environmental assessment so we can begin construction this Spring. ICN conducted a series of regional informational meetings during the month of October.

We'll also be following up in November with a series of meetings targeted to the community anchor institutions identified for a direct fiber connection based on their proximity to the proposed fiber path. Additional project activities completed during the first quarter include: submission and approval of the six month budget plan, vendor selection and award notice for professional engineering services, and the first 'Desktop Review' by the Federal Program Officer.

ICN has started working with the Advanced Engineering Taskforce to redesign the cost recovery model to align with the new speeds and services that will be available as a result of the fiber project.

Central Illinois Regional Broadband Network (CIRBN)

ICN and Illinois State University have partnered to design, implement and manage the IBOP-EC project. Illinois State University will be responsible for extending the fiber network into six central Illinois counties as part of a community driven initiative, the Central Illinois Regional Broadband Network (CIRBN). CIRBN is designed to deliver high-speed, lower-cost broadband connectivity to nearly 250 public and private entities within the six county service area.

CIRBN



Project Impact

- 412 anchor institutions connected via fiber
- 285,410 businesses stand to benefit
- 3,931,975 households stand to benefit
- 8,587 additional anchor institutions stand to benefit
- 169 direct jobs created or maintained
- 507 indirect jobs created or maintained
- Over 2,000 miles of fiber to be installed or lit

Infrastructure Costs Broadband System

\$96,382,028 total investment

- \$26,000,000 *Illinois Jobs Now!*
- \$61,895,282 BTOP Grant
- \$8,486,746 local match from more than 40 public & private partners

Where Can I Learn More?

Is my area included?

Who are the partners?

What's happening in other parts of the state?

For answers to these and many other questions, visit:

www.illinois.net/ibop
www.recovery.gov