



Invitation For Bid (IFB)

For: Passive Optical Network (PON) Distribution System equipment and installation Related to Okanogan County Electric Co-Operative (OCEC) "Okanogan County Connect" project for Methow Fiber as funded by the Washington State Broadband Office (WSBO) Grant

Quotes shall be received by April 9th, 2025, 5:00 pm (PST)

All Bids must be submitted to aglenn@ocec.coop and jhardy@ocec.coop

Issued by:

Adam Glenn

Broadband Manager

Street Address: 93 W Chewuch Rd., Winthrop WA 98862

Issued: March 12, 2025

The following timetable outlines the anticipated schedule for the IFB and Purchase Order process; however, the timing and the sequence of events resulting from this IFB may vary.

Anticipated Events Dates:

- RFQ Provided to Vendors: 5:00 p.m. PT, March 12, 2025
- Last Date for Questions Related to RFQ: 5:00 p.m. PT, April 2nd, 2025
- Quotes Due: 5:00 p.m. PST, April 9th, 2025
- RFQ Evaluations Completed by: 5:00 p.m. PT, April 10th, 2025
- Purchase Orders Submission Start Date: No later than: 12:00 p.m. PT, April 14th, 2025
- Purchase Order Issued: Within 10 days of the Award

Overview of the Project:

The Okanogan County Electric Co-Operative (OCEC) has received grant funding to build a new fiber-to-the-home and middle-mile fiber optic distribution network. The goal of this IFB portion of the project is to procure, deliver, and install a telecommunication **Passive Optical Network (PON) Distribution System Rack Equipment and associated outside plant fiber to the home components** for Okanogan Country Electric Co-Op / Methow Fiber Division.

This project is funded thru the Washington State Broadband Office (ARPA Funding) and must adhere to the obligations of the grant funded project, included with this proposal. Bidders are asked to provide full engineering, furnish, and installation of each Scope outlined below. It is the intent of the Owner to have the bidder understand the full scope of the project and to include all necessary labor and materials to supply, deliver, and place the WIC.

All work performed on this project will be subject to the higher of the prevailing state or federal wage rates (if applicable due to other federal funds are in the project).



The Okanogan County Electric Cooperative and subsidiary MethowNet is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer.

This project is Funded by federal award number SLRFP0002 (ARPA SLFRF) or CPFFN0145 (ARPA Capital) awarded to Washington State Broad Band Office by the U.S. Department of the Treasury

Small, Minority, and Disadvantaged Businesses:

Small, Minority- and Women-owned firms are encouraged to submit bids.

Contracting with Small and Minority Businesses, Women’s Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms Pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.321, the Recipient and its sub recipients must take all necessary affirmative steps (as described in 2 CFR § 200.321) to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.

Description of Work:

The project includes the following discrete projects:

The goal of this project is to build a broadband system to connect subscribers to a Passive Optical Network (PON) system in Okanogan Country Electric Co-Op. This project is funded by the Department of Commerce (ARPA funding) through the Washington State Broadband Office and must adhere to the obligations of the grant funded project, included with this proposal. Bidders are asked to provide full engineering, furnish, and installation of each Scope outlined below. It is the intent of the Owner to have the bidder understand the full scope of the project and to include all necessary labor and materials to supply a full turn-key and tested system.

- **Scope A** – Telecom equipment rack:
 - Six 19” Telecom equipment rack to be procured and installed at distinct geographical locations (two at each location).
- **Scope B** – Passive Optical Network (PON) Distribution System:
 - Three Nokia FX-4 PON shelves and equipment to be procured and installed at distinct geographical locations.
 - DC Plants battery backup to be procured and installed at 3 distinct locations.
- **Scope C** – Optical Network Terminals
 - Optical Network Terminals (ONTs) and enclosures to support multiple deployment scenarios for procurement.
 - Network Interface Device (NID) for outdoor and interior installations
 - Fiber Jumpers to connect NID to OFDC
- **Scope D** – Physical Server for Network Management
 - Installation of the server in provided and installed rack
 - Power leads terminated to provided fuse panel



- Jumpers ran to connect to upstream devices
- Install Network Management system on server at the Okanogan County Electric Co-Op office in Winthrop, WA
- **Scope E** – Procurement of two Nokia VSR-a SN8 routers
 - Installation of these two devices in two distinct locations
 - Jumpers ran to connect to upstream devices
 - DC power cables installed to fuse panels
 - All Grounding
- **Scope F** – Procurement of two Nokia IXR-e switches
 - Installation of these devices
 - Jumpers ran to connect to upstream devices
 - DC power cables installed to fuse panel
- **Scope G** – Procurement three DC Plants and fuse panels
 - Installation of these three devices in three distinct locations
 - Power leads ran from DC Plants to fuse panels

The scope of work for each project objective (Scopes) are outlined below.

Scope A – PON Distribution System:

- Six 19” telecom equipment racks to be procured and installed at a distinct geographical location.
- Rack to be installed following the IBC anchoring guidelines for a seismic 4 zone.
- Rack to be installed following the ANSI/TIA-607-B standards for grounding the rack.

Scope B – PON Distribution System:

- Three Nokia FX-4 PON shelves and equipment to be procured and installed at distinct the 3 geographical locations listed below.

Locations: The following location must have a Nokia FX-4 PON shelf installation in accordance with equipment vendor specifications that support expected subscriber counts and a subscriber capacity of at least 2,048 at each location for future growth:

Name	Location	City	Subscribers
Firestation	48.5862, -120.4100	Mazama	1200
Winthrop	48.4907, -120.1934	Winthrop	2200
Twisp	48.3617, -120.1206	Twisp	1200

PON Shelf: The PON shelf must meet compliance standards for the installation of all essential components, including line cards, optics, and route processors, within the Nokia FX-4 PON OLT



chassis, as specified by supplemental design materials and Nokia's guidelines.

Power: Installation must include DC Power Plant with battery backup. A -48V DC Plant with battery backup capable of sustaining equipment up to at least 8 hours at load to be installed in accordance with equipment vendor specifications at requested locations and must be contained within the provided cabinet. The battery bay must be separated from the PON Chassis. Electrical connectivity to be established to the DC Plant, batteries and PON equipment. The Owner will be responsible for running the commercial power to the racks, the awarded contractor will be responsible for electrical connectivity within the racks.

Fuse Panels: Shall have all the necessary breakers to support the Nokia FX-4 PON OLT. The DC Plant must have N+1 rectifier redundancy and must support the load of a fully populated PON Cabinet. All wiring between the DC Plant and the PON system must be supplied and installed. Commercial power feed of 120A to be provided by owner to power the fuse panels.

Fiber Connections: Installation must include fiber patch panels for connectivity from the Nokia FX-4 OLT Chassis to the outside plant fiber-optic infrastructure. These fiber optic patch panels must be sized to support a fully populated chassis, assuming all OLT's. Bidder must supply install for each OLT supplied a jumper to the inside cable patch panel. The jumpers installed are required to be at length to ensure when fully populated all jumpers will fit in cabinet. Bulkhead types will be decided upon award.

Warranty: Bidder shall supply a 3-year warranty service as a line item on their bid if warranty services are a separate fee, this is to be supplied in the bidder sheet. Bidder shall supply the warranty terms and conditions for each of the three systems (PON, Server, DC Plant, and Batteries). Any warranties included with the product should be detailed in the bidder's response.

Software: Bidder shall supply a 3-year software support program including licensing for each of the three systems (Nokia PON, Network Management System and DC Plant) if the vendor requires such. This shall be a line item on the bidder sheet.

Scope C – Optical Network Terminals: ONTs and NID's to support multiple deployment scenarios.

An itemized pricing list must be provided for procurement of ONTs and applicable NID's to support the following deployment scenarios:

- Option A – Outside ONT Installation

Each option must include pricing for GPON and XGS-PON capable ONTs. ONT pricing should reflect procurement with any reduced pricing per unit based on quantities ordered. Unit increments to be fulfilled on an as needed basis. Reference Appendix B – ONT Options Pricing List Example. The supplied ONT must include the power inverter to connect to the subscriber. The supplied NID must have the ability to include a small amount of slack storage. It is not the intent of the NID to have a slack storage system, such as a retractable coil or other options. Our goal is to wrap a short length of the service drop cable in the NID.

This objective is for procurement is to determine the most advantageous options for the owner



and order an appropriate option to fulfill the obligations of the project. The bidder must ensure they supply the price for the ONT and a price for its associated NID. This scope is material pricing only and installation of the ONTs will **NOT** be the responsibility of the awarded contractor. The supplied ONT must include the power inverter to connect to the subscriber.

Scope D – Server installation

The awarded bidder must purchase a physical server and install it in accordance with manufacturer specifications at the Okanogan County Electric Co-Op office in Winthrop, WA. This device will be installed in an existing rack. Awarded contractor will also be responsible for installing optics and running jumpers to existing uplinks. The awarded contractor will be responsible for installation of Network Management Server software on the physical server.

Scope E – Nokia VSR-a SN8 installation.

The awarded bidder must purchase two Nokia VSR-a SN8 routers and install them in accordance with manufacturer specifications at two distinct locations. These devices will be installed in an existing rack. The awarded contractor will also be responsible for installing optics and running jumpers to existing uplinks.

Scope F – Two Nokia 7210 IXR-e(s) installation.

The awarded bidder must purchase two Nokia 7210 IXR-e and install in accordance with manufacturer specifications at two distinct locations. These devices will be installed in an existing rack and the awarded contractor will be required to run power leads to an existing fuse panel to power the device. Awarded contractor will also be responsible for installing optics and running jumpers to existing uplinks.

Scope G – DC Plant and Fuse Panel installation.

The awarded bidder must purchase three DC Plants and fuse panels and install in accordance with manufacturer specifications at three distinct locations. These devices will be installed in an existing rack. Awarded contractor will also be responsible for running power leads from DC Plant to fuse panels.

General Scope Conditions

Furnish all labor, materials, tools, supplies, equipment, transportation, supervision, goods in strict conformity with Bid documents and addenda if any, for the installation and electrical interconnection of supporting infrastructure Bidders are asked to provide full engineering, furnish, and installation of each Scope outlined above. It is the intent of the Owner to have the bidder understand the full scope of the project and to include all necessary labor and materials to supply a full turn-key and tested system.



A. Change Orders

Field Change Orders/Changes in Work - The Engineer may issue a change in work for field conditions determined necessary against the construction specifications and prints. Contractor shall submit to OCEC Broadband Manager a written request for a change in work through daily and/or weekly production reports, approved and signed by Engineer within five (5) calendar days when the Contractor or Engineer determines the circumstances or condition that arrives to address the change in work. All Changes in Work during the course of the project will be reconciled in one end of project change order against the bid units.

Contract Change Orders - The process for agreeing to a change order begins when one of the parties to a contract requests a change to this agreement. The contractor prepares a "change order proposal" quoting a price for the extra work. Once the district and contractor have agreed on scope, price, and schedule, a formal written change order is prepared and signed by all parties. Then the contractor proceeds to perform the changed work.

B. Performance Schedule

Upon Notice to Proceed, the awarded contractor will be required to complete each objective of the project within 60 calendar days. OCEC reserves the right to extend the agreement beyond the original term upon written consent of the Contractor.

The following is an estimate of the proposed schedule objectives:

Scope A –Walk-in cabinet procurement

- April 14, 2025

Scope B – walk-in cabinet delivery and installation

- June 14, 2025

If the contractor feels they will be required to work nights, non-weekend work, additional work requirements and work site safety need to be included in RFP package. No extras will be allowed for night work.

C. Kick-off Meeting

A kick-off meeting will be scheduled with Contractor and Owner prior to commencing deliver and installation work.



D. Liquidated Damages

If the contract has not been completed in accordance with the performance schedule as stated, such delay will cause consequential damage to OCEC. At this time, it is difficult, if not impossible to determine the actual damages could result from failure to complete the work in accordance with the performance scheduled. Because of the extreme difficulty computing unforeseen damages, OCEC and Contractor agree on the requirements and amounts included with supplemental Instructions, Provisions and Requirements.

E. General Special Conditions

The contractor must comply with the specifications outlined in the latest Standard Specifications and/or specified in the required permits.

An authorized copy of the approved plans must be present at the construction site whenever construction activities are ongoing.

F. Customer Relations

The contractor agrees that its personnel and equipment shall at all times present a neat appearance. All works shall be done, all contacts with the customers made and all complaints handled, with due regard for OCEC public relations. The Contractor agrees that complaints of any nature received from property owners or entities shall receive immediate attention. All complaints and any action taken by the Contractor in connection with such complains shall be reported to aglenn@ocec.coop. It is understood that the Contractor does not represent OCEC and has no authority to obligate OCEC for any payment or benefit of any kinds to any person.

Build America, Buy America Requirements – Manufacturing Requirements of Materials:

A. Applicable and Scope: Pursuant to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-58, 135 Stat. 429 (Nov. 15, 2021) (IIJA) including the Build America, Buy America Act, Pub. L. No. 117-58, §§ 70901-52 (BABA), as well as guidance provided by Memorandum for Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies, Initial Implementation Guidance on Application of Buy America Preference in Federal Financial Assistance Programs for Infrastructure, Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget (April 18, 2022) (OMB M-22-11), non-Federal entities that receive a federal financial assistance award from the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) are hereby notified that none of the funds provided under this award may be used for a Middle Mile (MM) infrastructure project unless all of the optic glass, fiber optic cable, and optical fiber used in the project is produced in the United States, unless a DOC-approved BABA waiver applies. The Buy America domestic content procurement preference only applies to fiber optic



glass and to fiber optic cable that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to a MM infrastructure project. As applicable, the requirements of this subsection must be included in all sub awards and contracts, including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products pursuant to this program.

Note that BABA only applies to “non-Federal entities” receiving Federal financial assistance for an infrastructure project under Section 70912(4) of the Infrastructure Act. As elaborated in OMB M-22-11, under the definition in 2 CFR § 200.1, “non-Federal entities” means “States, local governments, territories, Indian tribes, Institutions of Higher Education (IHE), and nonprofit organizations.”¹ OMB M-22-11 goes on to explain that “for-profit organizations are not considered non-Federal entities” for the purposes of the guidance. Thus, these BABA requirements only apply to MMG recipients that are non-Federal entities, and do not apply to recipients that are for-profit organizations. Whether BABA applies to a specific sub recipient, or subcontractor depends on whether BABA applies to the primary tier recipient. (I.e., if the recipient is a non-Federal entity; BABA applies to that award and all sub recipients and subcontractors under that award.)

Question/Inquiry Process:

All inquiries and questions related to this RFQ shall be directed IN WRITING via email to: OCEC with an email request directed to Adam Glenn at aglenn@ocec.coop and Jeff Hardy jeffhardy@methownet.com. Email subject line shall include OCEC “Okanogan County Connect” Project Washington State Broadband Office (WSBO). To maintain fairness to all bidders, **any attempts to contact OCEC staff regarding this RFQ outside of this specifically provided email vehicle will be grounds for OCEC to reject your submission.**

All questions will be considered to be public and released with appropriate answers to all respondents within 48 business hours of receipt.

The last date for questions will be April 2nd, 2025, at 5:00 pm Pacific Time.

Selection Process:

OCEC will review the quotes based solely on a Best Value Selection process. OCEC will select a Vendor or Vendors whose quote(s) best meet the requirements outlined in this IFB, and whose quotes are determined to be most advantageous to the program goals. OCEC will then begin negotiations with the Vendor(s). If OCEC cannot finalize negotiations successfully with the selected Vendor(s), the next best Vendor(s) will be contacted, and negotiations will begin. The process will continue until a mutually agreeable Purchase Order is finalized between OCEC and the selected Vendor(s).



Quote Requirements:

1. Vendors must provide a line item detail when providing a quote with a level of detail of each Item included.
2. A five percent (5%) bid guarantee is required in form of a cashier's check, money order, or surety bond.
3. All questions and inquiries regarding this IFB shall be submitted via email to aglenn@ocec.coop and jeffhardy@methownet.com.
4. OCEC will not pay for any information requested herein, nor is it liable for any costs incurred by any Vendor in responding to this IFB. All quotes submitted become the property of OCEC; they will not be returned and may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), bidders may not assume their responses are confidential regardless of any statements included in the response. During the evaluation period, OCEC will make every effort allowable by law to maintain confidentiality. Upon award, during contract negotiations or if OCEC chooses to cancel or recast the IFB, confidentiality cannot be reasonably assured.
5. A Vendor may withdraw its quote prior to the IFB response deadline. Quotes received after the deadline will not be considered. Quotes will be reviewed internally at the convenience of OCEC.
6. The quote and cost submissions constitute an offer by the Vendor to do business with OCEC. In the event a Purchase Order is submitted to a Vendor, OCEC, at its option, may incorporate all or parts of a vendor's quote and any or all answers and information contained within that quote shall become part of the final agreement between the successful Vendor(s) and OCEC.
7. Any information released either verbally or in writing prior to the release of this IFB shall be deemed preliminary and not binding upon OCEC in any manner.
8. Notwithstanding any other provision of this IFB, OCEC expressly reserves the right to:
 - Conduct discussions with any or all Vendors for the purpose of clarification of quotes.
 - Waive, or decline to waive, any insignificant defect or informality in any quote or quote procedures.
 - Accept, reject, or negotiate any or all quotes or the terms of any quote, or any parts thereof, for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offer.
 - Cancel or amend this IFB or issue other requests for quotes.



- Select a Vendor or Vendors based on OCECs analysis and evaluation of quotes submitted. OCEC reserves the right to request presentations of quotes if OCEC feels further information is appropriate to the decision-making process.

- Select no quotes at all.

- Cancel an award if a Vendor fails to negotiate in good faith and execute definitive written documents necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated hereby in a manner consistent with the project's timeline and within fifteen (15) days from the award date.

9. OCEC reserves the right to use any and all concepts presented in any quote to obtain the most beneficial and effective path to achieving its desired goals for the project. Selection or rejection of quotes shall not affect this right. All quotes will be evaluated and, at OCECs discretion, an award made to the Vendor(s) who demonstrates the best ability to satisfy the scope of work in the most timely and efficient manner possible.

10. By submittal of a quote, a Vendor attests to have read, understood, and agreed to all requirements, terms, and conditions in this RFQ, including any and all Exhibits, exhibits, and appendices.

11. Quotes responding to this IFB shall not be tied to any potential or future arrangements.

12. A Vendor and any subcontractor must be properly licensed and registered as required by The State of Washington necessary to complete the scope of work contained in this IFB.

13. Vendors must show evidence that they are eligible to receive federal funding and are not currently debarred or suspended from same. Vendors should provide a copy of registration and certification from the U.S. General Services Administration System of Award Management by visiting <https://sam.gov/content/home> and following the instructions contained therein.

14. Vendors must identify any conflict of interest that may arise from providing services to OCEC. OCEC reserves the right:

- To disqualify any Vendor or reject any quote at any time solely because a real or perceived legal or policy conflict of interest is presented.

- To require the Vendor to take any action or supply information necessary to remove the conflict.

- Or to terminate any Purchase Order arising from this solicitation if any such relationship would constitute or have potential to create a real or perceived conflict of interest that cannot be resolved to OCECs satisfaction.



Thank You,

Adam Glenn
Manager - Broadband
Methow Fiber
509 741-0568
aglenn@ocec.coop



Okanogan County Electric Co-op, Inc.
PO Box 69
93 W Chewuch RD, Winthrop, WA 98862

PH: (509) 996-2228 | FAX: (509) 996-2241 | www.okanoganelectriccoop.com
