



TEKWAV ANNOUNCES FIBER CONNECTIVITY FOR RURAL GRAYSON AND FANNIN COUNTY RESIDENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHERMAN, TEXAS - Local internet service provider TekWav announced the launch of fiber internet services to residents located in rural Grayson and Fannin Counties on Monday. TekWav's newly funded network buildout is part of the company's approximately \$100-million investment, running over 1,500 miles of fiber optic infrastructure in unserved rural communities, which is part of the \$16-billion in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) auction. The RDOF auction will provide broadband access to approximately 1.5-million potential customer locations as estimated by the FCC across 50 states and territories in the coming years. TekWav has plans to bring connectivity to over 50,000 potential customers in the Texoma region with gigabit speeds.

J.J. McGrath, owner and operator of TekWav said he won 60 Census Block Groups in the areas in which they bid. "We understand that the need for reliable connectivity started way before the (coronavirus) pandemic hit our local communities - and while our fiber optic services are available to an estimated 50,000 homes and businesses, we continue to aggressively expand, working to close the digital divide, and we realize this is an opportunity to double down and further invest on top of this award."

The Federal Communications Commission announced the authorization of more than \$16-billion through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund to fund new broadband deployments in 50 states and other territories in the United States. In the largest funding round to date, broadband providers will bring broadband service to over 1 million locations. The Commission also has created the Rural Broadband Accountability Plan, a new effort to monitor and ensure compliance for universal service high-cost programs including the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund.

"This announcement means more connectivity is coming to consumers, while we continue our commitment to make sure that funding goes to areas that truly need it," said Chairwoman Rosenworcel. "The new Rural Broadband Accountability Plan will speed up our audit and verification processes and for the first time make public the results of verifications, audits, and speed and latency testing. These new measures will help ensure that the providers we fund in this program will do the job."

"It is exciting to see TekWav bring high speed internet to our rural areas in Senate District 30," said State Senator Drew Springer. "Having a choice of reliable and fast internet connections is vital to perform essential, everyday tasks like engaging in online business, online education, and tele-health. Given the priority in the 87th legislature, it's clear expansions like this will make a huge impact in our community and I look forward to working with TekWav and other providers as they continue their work to connect rural Texas, especially here in SD-30."

For information about fiber near you - reach out to TekWav on their website at www.tekwav.com

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