

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WIRELESS BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Overview: Our first preference is that broadband providers submit their data in the wireless file geodatabase provided on the CPUC website. We certainly understand, however, that many providers do not use GIS in the ordinary course of their business, and thus cannot submit data in file geodatabases. When a provider cannot deliver the requested data via file geodatabase, the following 2 files must be submitted: (1) the Excel workbook template for Wireless must be used to submit provider identification, broadband technology, and speed information; and (2) the necessary KML files representing the service area footprint.

PROVIDERS WITH NO GIS CAPABILITY

If you don't already have one, please register for a free Google Maps account (maps.google.com) which you'll use to create "KML-files" of your coverage area. Pair the KML-files with the information in the BB_Service_Wireless spreadsheet. If you need assistance creating KML files, please contact broadbandmapping@cpuc.ca.gov

PROVIDERS WITH GIS CAPABILITY

Please provide data in the **file geodatabase** using the template provided on the CPUC website in accordance with the corresponding record formats. **It is of the utmost importance that the provider adds geometry detailing their broadband availability areas** by loading a shapefile into the file geodatabase.

OTHER BROADBAND DATA REQUIRED

In addition to broadband availability area data, broadband providers must also provide other data sets.

Subscriber-Weighted Nominal Speed: Broadband providers must report "subscriber-weighted nominal speed" information by county for their entire service area. These data must be included in the file titled "Service Overview" in accordance with the corresponding record format.

Middle-Mile and Backbone Connection Points: There has been quite a bit of confusion regarding what exactly is meant by Middle Mile Connection points. Perhaps the best description is contained in the White House document from December 2009 titled Executive Office of the President National Economic Council Recovery Act Investments in Broadband: Leveraging Federal Dollars to Create Jobs and Connect America, a copy of this document is available at our website.

It describes Middle-Mile as follows:

"To get broadband service into homes and businesses, Internet service providers such as telephone, cable, and wireless companies must connect their local networks – known as the 'last mile' – to the Internet backbone. The 'middle mile' is the critical connection between the Internet backbone and the last-mile local networks. When residents initiate a connection from their home, school or work, the information flows from the last-mile network segment to the middle-mile infrastructure, which then directs the flow of traffic to the backbone network through an interconnection point. An Internet backbone provider then continues the transmission to a distant endpoint."

Broadband providers must provide a list of connection points where the facilities provide connectivity between a broadband service provider's "last mile" network and another provider's network, including the Internet backbone. These data must be submitted via the file titled "Connection Point Middle-Mile."

In addition to the basic middle mile information, we are asking you to provide answers to 3 key questions regarding middle-mile capacity as reflected in the record format. The answers to these questions will help policymakers pinpoint areas where additional subsidies for middle mile projects are warranted (such as from the California Advanced Services Fund or from the federal government).