

## **NEWS RELEASE**

January 12, 2017

Lt. Governor Tina Smith and the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) announced grants totaling \$34 million for 42 broadband infrastructure projects that will provide 16,627 households, 2,240 businesses, and 71 community institutions across Minnesota access to reliable, affordable high-speed internet. This is great news for KMTelecom and many broadband providers in Minnesota! The new state funding will help level the playing field for households and businesses in Greater Minnesota by providing them access to the same opportunities available to urban area residents.

KMTelecom has been awarded nearly \$765,000 for a rural Mantorville Fiber Build. The total eligible project cost is \$1.96 million, with KMTelecom investing \$1.2 million. This project will serve 205 unserved households and businesses near Mantorville. The KMTelecom project will improve access to education, health care and provide advanced broadband service to residences in the area.

Thank you MN Office of Broadband and all who support us!