

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

January 29, 2021

For more information, contact: Mary Ehmke, President

Company: KMTelecom, Kasson, MN

Phone: (507) 634-2511

Yesterday, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) announced the 2021 Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant recipients. The grants total \$20.6 million for 39 broadband infrastructure projects across Minnesota that will provide access to reliable, affordable high-speed internet.

Of those grants, KMTelecom has been awarded \$789,882 for a rural Rock Dell area fiber build. This project will bring high speed internet to 221 unserved locations in the rural areas surrounding Rock Dell, located in the Southeastern region of Dodge County. In a funding partnership with the State of Minnesota, KMTelecom will provide broadband speeds up to 1 Gig to these unserved areas. The total eligible project cost is over \$2.6 million with KMTelecom investing an additional \$1.8 million to the project. The fiber build is set to begin this summer.

This grant is great news for KMTelecom and many other broadband providers in Minnesota. “The pandemic this past year has made it crystal clear that fast, reliable broadband access is critical for people living in Greater Minnesota – for everything from education and health care to business operations and telecommuting.” stated Governor Walz.

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