

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Yesterday, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) announced the 2022 Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant recipients. The grants total \$99.6 million for 61 broadband infrastructure projects across Minnesota that will provide roughly 33,000 residents and businesses with access to reliable, affordable high-speed internet.

KMTelecom is pleased to announce that we have been awarded two grants totaling \$3,118,122 for two separate projects in SE Minnesota. Specifically, these grants will bring synchronous broadband speeds up to 1GB to 472 unserved households and businesses in the rural areas of Rock Dell, Salem, Vernon, High Forest, and Rochester Townships. The grant areas include 160 miles of fiber optic cabling. KMTelecom will also be investing \$3.4 million in the projects. Construction is tentatively set to begin in the Fall of 2023.

This grant is great news for KMTelecom and our rural communities. We extend our thanks to the MN Office of Broadband Development and to all those residents and businesses in the project area who were instrumental in helping us receive these grants!