

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**Communications Division
Broadband, Video and Market Branch**

**RESOLUTION T- 17669
October 24, 2019**

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION T-17669: Approves the Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia grant applications for the Redwood Coast Connect Broadband Consortium, Gold Country Broadband Consortium, Broadband Consortium of the Pacific Coast, Central Coast Broadband Consortium, Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium, Inland Empire Regional Broadband Consortium, North Bay/North Coast Broadband Consortium, Northeastern California Connect Consortium, and Upstate California Connect Consortium in the amount of \$3,751,515.

I. SUMMARY

This Resolution approves grant funding in the amount of \$3,751,515 from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Grant Account (Consortia Account) for the grant applications of the Redwood Coast Connect Broadband Consortium (RCCBC), Gold Country Broadband Consortium (GCBC), Broadband Consortium of the Pacific Coast (BCPC), Central Coast Broadband Consortium (CCBC), Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium (CCABC), Inland Empire Regional Broadband Consortium (IERBC), North Bay/North Coast Broadband Consortium (NBNCBC), Northeastern California Connect Consortium (NECC), and Upstate California Connect Consortium (UCCC). These nine projects will facilitate the deployment of broadband services by assisting infrastructure applicants in the project development or grant application process in their regions.

There are no direct safety implications. Indirectly, funding the CASF Consortia grant applications will enhance communications, including public safety in the Redwood Coast, Gold Country, Pacific Coast Tri-County area, Central Coast, Capital area, Inland Empire region, North Bay/ North Coast, and Northeastern regions of California in the event of fire, flooding, and earthquakes.

II. BACKGROUND

On October 15, 2017, Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill (AB) 1665 (Garcia, Chapter 851, Statutes of 2017) into law,¹ which among other things, established continuation of the Consortia Account with an additional \$10 million in available funds.²

On October 25, 2018, the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) adopted Decision (D.) 18-10-032, implementing programmatic changes to the Consortia Account as required by AB 1665, that funds be used to “facilitate the deployment of broadband services by assisting infrastructure grant applicants in the project development or grant application process.”³

Pursuant to rules developed to implement the law, Consortia that achieve the following objectives may be eligible for funding:

- Objective 1: Collaborating with the Commission to engage regional Consortia, local officials, internet service providers (ISPs), stakeholders, and consumers regarding priority areas and cost-effective strategies to achieve the broadband access goal.
- Objective 2: Identifying potential CASF infrastructure projects, along with other opportunities, where ISPs can expand and improve their infrastructure and service offerings to achieve the goal of reaching 98% broadband deployment in each Consortia region.
- Objective 3: Assisting infrastructure applicants in the project development or grant application process.
- Objective 4: Conducting activities leading to infrastructure applications.
- Objective 5: Assisting the Commission in publicizing requests for wireline testing volunteers in areas, as needed.

On March 29, 2019, the Commission opened a new round of solicitation for Consortia grant applications. Prospective applicants were invited to submit new proposals by May 17, 2019.

IV. APPLICANT REQUESTS AND NOTICE

Ten applicants, including RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, UCCC, Los Angeles County Regional Broadband Consortium (LACRBC),

¹ AB 1665 is codified at Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code, § 281.

² AB 1665 supplements \$15 million already authorized for the Consortia Grants with an additional \$10 million.

³ Pub. Util. Code, § 281 (g)(1).

submitted grant applications for the CASF Consortia grant funding, by the deadline.⁴ On June 3, 2019, staff posted a list of applications received on the Commission's CASF Consortia Account webpage.⁵

V. APPLICATION REVIEW AND EVALUATION

Staff reviewed all applications according to the guidelines, requirements, and evaluation adopted in D.18-10-032, as follows:

1. Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements;
2. Regional Consortium / Members' Experience;
3. Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan; and
4. Budget.

Applications from previously funded regional Consortia were also considered in the context of past performance in implementing their Action Plan and Work Plan.

Staff's review and evaluation of the applications is summarized below.

A. Redwood Coast Connect Broadband Consortium (RCCBC)

Applicant

RCCBC represents Del Norte, Humboldt, and Trinity counties. RCCBC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$450,000 in December 2011 (Resolution T-17349), and \$208,000 in October 2016 (Resolution T-17537). RCCBC's first Consortia grant was granted a one-year extension and ended in December 2015, with approximately \$450,000 in total expenditure.⁶ RCCBC's second Consortia grant has a remaining budget of approximately \$124,953 as of August 31, 2019. RCCBC has requested to extend its 2016 Consortia grant to December 2019.⁷

Past CASF Project Performance

RCCBC's past accomplishments include: securing funding plans for middle mile and last mile deployment along Highway 36 and Highway 299, the Klamath River Rural Broadband Initiative, Del Norte Underserved Broadband Project, and Petrolia Project; providing support with permitting, right of way, and environmental issues to CASF infrastructure project grantees; holding quarterly meetings attended by representatives

⁴ LACRBC's application does not meet the minimum scoring requirement of 70 points. LACRBC's application is not discussed in this Resolution.

⁵ <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=870>

⁶ All expenditures for prior consortia grant cycles exclude summit expenses and/or attestation report costs.

⁷ The no-cost extension is pending CD review. RCCBC's new grant proposal does not duplicate funding from the existing cycle.

of the region to share policy and deployment activities; hosting annual broadband forums; and assisting in the preparation and submission of five CASF infrastructure grant applications.

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

RCCBC representation includes county agencies and regional rural and economic development interests. Staff received a total of four endorsements from local governments, an economic development organization, and an academic institution.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

RCCBC operates as a network for member organizations. All member organizations are public entities⁸ that have a diverse group of stakeholders with a long history of working on broadband issues. RCCBC has direct experience working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities, has experience in assisting five successful infrastructure grants, and continues to be active in broadband issues in the region.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

RCCBC proposes to focus on facilitating the deployment of broadband services by assisting CASF infrastructure applicants. Specifically, RCCBC will create written deployment project proposals using the Commission's mapping tool and contact possible ISPs about community needs and CASF grant opportunities; prepare CASF applications in partnership with ISPs and help gather letters of support; work with ISPs on environmental, local permitting, and right of way issues; and keep the community informed of CASF infrastructure grant implementation progress and host meetings with the community members, anchors, regulators, and other stakeholders. RCCBC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032.⁹ Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.¹⁰

Budget

RCCBC requests \$416,025 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, RCCBC allocates approximately 6% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 82% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), 5%

⁸ Member organizations of RCCBC include the Board of Supervisors of Del Norte, Humboldt, and Trinity counties, Access Humboldt, California Center for Rural Policy, and Redwood Region Economic Development Commission.

⁹ In D.18-10-032, the Commission established the Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan should include specific work activities, verifiable work deliverables, quantitative performance measures, the method for performance tracking and measuring, and responsible party(ies), with acceptable timelines for completion.

¹⁰ [http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Redwood Coast Workplan 2019.pdf](http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Redwood%20Coast%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

to assist in publicizing wireline testing requests (Objective 5), and 7% to grant administration. RCCBC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

B. Gold Country Broadband Consortium (GCBC)

Applicant

GCBC represents Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Alpine counties. GCBC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$450,000 in February 2012 (Resolution T-17355), and \$300,000 in November 2016 (Resolution T-17538). GCBC's first Consortia grant was granted a one-year extension and ended in February 2016, with approximately \$449,000 in total expenditure. GCBC's second Consortia grant was granted a five-month extension and ended in May 2019, with approximately \$288,856 in total expenditure.

Past CASF Project Performance

GCBC's past accomplishments include: assisting ISPs in the development of infrastructure grant applications, providing project management support for ongoing Commission mapping updates, and aligning its priorities with economically disadvantaged communities' needs to promote business and job growth. In addition, GCBC assisted with three infrastructure grant proposals.¹¹

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

GCBC representation includes nine member organizations from local cities and counties, a Congressional District, and local ISPs who work on issues of regional importance. Elected officials and public agency staff from Sierra, El Dorado, and Nevada counties, as well as local ISPs, act as the current Consortium oversight committee. Staff received a total of sixteen endorsements from local governments, chambers of commerce, business representatives, local business owners and residents, a local school district, and ISPs.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

GCBC's members have experience with community groups and have had past success in helping to achieve broadband deployment in the region. They have also had success in building regional, collaborative broadband-related efforts. Members have direct experience with managing broadband services at worksites. Members have worked with a culturally and linguistically diverse community.

¹¹ Cal.Net El Dorado North Project, Cal.Net El Dorado South and East Project, and Spiral Internet Project.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

GCBC proposes to focus on assisting CASF infrastructure grant applicants in project development, partnering with municipalities and counties on broadband plans, and working with local ISPs to find unserved and underserved areas to connect. Specifically, GCBC will continue to collaborate with the Commission and other stakeholders to deploy broadband; provide data and information about broadband availability; updated speed tests, best practices, and methods of matching funds to ISPs; and assist the Commission in updating the California Broadband map by communicating with communities to find volunteers for wireline testing. GCBC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032. Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.¹²

Budget

GCBC requests \$423,010 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, GCBC allocates approximately 11% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 67% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), 14% to assist in publicizing wireline testing requests (Objective 5), and 8% to grant administration. GCBC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

C. Broadband Consortium of the Pacific Coast (BCPC)

Applicant

BCPC represents the Pacific Coast tri-county area comprising of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties. BCPC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$300,000 in June 2014 (Resolution T-17445), and \$250,000 in January 2017 (Resolution T-17550). BCPC's first Consortia grant ended in July 2016, with approximately \$262,063 in total expenditure. BCPC's second Consortia grant was granted a three-month extension and ended in May 2019, with approximately \$244,684 in total expenditure.

Past CASF Project Performance

BCPC's past accomplishments include: working with local and state decision makers resulting in broadband policies, resolving priority areas, and implementation of Dig Once policies; coordinating with the Commission in the receipt of GIS data of priority areas and creating a new layer identifying municipal maps and boundaries; participating in developing broadband infrastructure applications; conducting regional

¹² [http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Gold Country Workplan 2019.pdf](http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Gold%20Country%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

stakeholder meetings in Ventura County and Northern Santa Barbara County, serving as a catalyst for strategic dialogue between municipalities and broadband providers; and creating draft agreements for the partnership and development of a regional network consisting of middle mile connection of community networks.

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

BCPC representation includes economic development organizations of the three counties representing the business sector, and local county governments representing the public sector. The governing board structure utilizes an executive steering committee and a tri-county board of advisors. Staff received a total of twenty-five endorsements from city governments, a tribal entity, local businesses, anchor institutions, economic development agencies, an Assembly District, a non-profit charitable organization, and ISPs.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

BCPC's members have direct experience with broadband deployment and adoption efforts. As government officials, educators, business owners/developers, they have direct experience working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

BCPC proposes to focus on assisting municipalities to accelerate broadband deployment, identifying opportunities to serve as a catalyst for public-private collaboration. Specifically, BCPC will continue to collaborate with the Commission and other stakeholders through organizing Steering Committee meetings, regional working group, and sharing information with ISPs; update the BCPC municipality toolkit to include the performance and inventory of public assets; assist municipalities in the development of local broadband strategies and implementation support; resolve priority areas identified within municipal boundaries; create and pilot a CASF proposal checklist/toolkit to share among industry partners; and provide support to the development of a regional Geographic Information System (GIS) platform for managing regional fiber assets. BCPC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032. Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.¹³

¹³ [http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Pacific Coast Workplan 2019.pdf](http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Pacific%20Coast%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

Budget

BCPC requests \$450,000 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, BCPC allocates approximately 23% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 73% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), 3% to assist in publicizing wireline testing requests (Objective 5), and 1% to grant administration. BCPC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

D. Central Coast Broadband Consortium (CCBC)

Applicant

CCBC represents Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties. CCBC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$450,000 in December 2011(Resolution T-17349), and \$264,500 in August 2016 (Resolution T-17529). CCBC's first Consortia grant was granted a one-year extension and ended in December 2015, with approximately \$340,254 in total expenditure. CCBC's second Consortia grant will end by September 2021, with a remaining budget of approximately \$230,264.

Past CASF Project Performance

CCBC's past accomplishments include: publication and promulgation of broadband deployment policies, conducting primary research in the tri-county region to understand broadband services offered and needs for residences and businesses, producing GIS and other analytical tools to document broadband infrastructure and service gaps throughout its region, and providing resources to deployment CASF-funded projects in the region that are in various stages of development. Along with its public outreach and coordination, the GIS web-platform technical resources have been used to support and expedite infrastructure planning and development. Since CCBC began its work, more than twenty broadband infrastructure proposals were approved – eleven of them were CASF infrastructure grant proposals.

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

CCBC representation includes local city and county agencies, educational institutions, industry and economic development interests, and community-based organizations. Staff received a total of six endorsements from local government entities and businesses, an academic institution, and a local ISP.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

CCBC's members have experience with community groups and have demonstrated success in helping to achieve broadband deployment in the region. They have strong experience in assisting infrastructure projects, including eleven CASF infrastructure

grant proposals, three federal broadband infrastructure grants, as well as ten municipal broadband initiatives. They have also had success in building regional, collaborative broadband-related efforts. Members have direct experience with managing broadband services at worksites. Members work with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

CCBC proposes to focus on developing and supporting broadband projects funded by the CASF Infrastructure Account, including the deployment of last-mile infrastructure, affordable access via greater competition, and more choices and policy engagement. Specifically, CCBC will continue to develop GIS resources and web platform functionality, work directly with ISPs and local agencies to identify business opportunities and create fundable business plans for broadband deployment, provide direct project-specific mapping data analysis and community support assistance to ISPs and local agencies as they develop and implement infrastructure projects, and directly support the development and submittal of CASF infrastructure applications. While CCBC's prior grant cycle is still ongoing, this new proposal does not duplicate funding with its existing cycle funding. CCBC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032. Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.¹⁴

Budget

CCBC requests \$450,000 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, CCBC allocates approximately 4% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 82% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), 3% to assist in publicizing wireline testing requests (Objective 5), and 11% to grant administration. CCBC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

E. Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium (CCABC)

Applicant

CCABC represents the four-county capital area, including Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties. CCABC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$448,301 in February 2012 (Resolution T-17355), and \$298,750 in November 2016 (Resolution T-17538). CCABC's first Consortia grant ended in March 2015, with approximately

¹⁴ [http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Central Coast Workplan 2019.pdf](http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Central%20Coast%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

\$445,212 in total expenditure. CCABC's second Consortia grant ended in December 2018, with approximately \$298,098 in total expenditure.

Past CASF Project Performance

CCABC's past accomplishments include: compilation of an inventory of adoption and digital literacy assets in the region and development of a prioritized list of infrastructure development opportunities; creation of broadband resource documents for education and outreach in Yuba, Sutter, and Sacramento counties; assisting in the planning and facilitation of the Yolo Broadband Strategic Plan; partnering with Sacramento County Public Library and City of Sacramento on Digital Inclusion Initiative; and sharing information on served and unserved areas in the region through outreach meetings and forums.

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

CCABC representation includes economic development organizations, local educational agencies, and institutions of higher education, a library, health organizations, community-based and nonprofit organizations, and accessibility advocates, utilizing a steering committee consisting of geographic representation and key stakeholders. Staff received a total of four endorsements from city and county government entities, an academic institution, and public and nonprofit organizations.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

CCABC's membership includes a wide array of organizations, which have experience with broadband deployment, policy development, and adoption efforts. Member organizations also have experience in serving culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

CCABC proposes to focus on facilitating broadband infrastructure deployment, fostering and assisting in project development or grant application preparation and submittal, and strengthening partnerships with ISPs. Specifically, CCABC will define CASF eligible areas and use that information to cultivate champions and solicit providers, assist the Commission in publicizing requests for wireline testing volunteers, continue to research and designate projects, based on data and eligibility, and provide technical assistance to ISPs wanting to actively pursue projects. CCABC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and

consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032. Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.¹⁵

Budget

CCABC requests \$438,560 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, CCABC allocates approximately 13% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 61% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), 4% to assist in publicizing wireline testing requests (Objective 5), and 22% to grant administration. CCABC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

F. Inland Empire Regional Broadband Consortium (IERBC)

Applicant

IERBC represents Riverside and San Bernardino counties. IERBC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$450,000 in February 2012 (Resolution T-17355), and \$300,000 in November 2016 (Resolution T-17538). IERBC's first Consortia grant was granted a one-year extension and ended in February 2016, with approximately \$450,000 in total expenditure. IERBC's second Consortia grant ended in December 2018, with approximately \$300,000 in total expenditure.

Past CASF Project Performance

IERBC's past accomplishments include: initiating and performing outreach about the digital divide and the need for more broadband in their region; supporting numerous CASF grant applications, including seven approved projects that will serve approximately 16,000 residents;¹⁶ establishment of a "Priority List of Actions" for broadband advocacy efforts related to education, job growth, healthcare, and community-based organizations. IERBC also developed policies that need to be implemented so that broadband will be addressed in all projects, whether public or private in San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

IERBC representation includes thirty-five members, including city and county government agencies, regional rural and economic development interests, public safety, education, healthcare providers, libraries, community-based organizations, technology providers, engineering, utilities, businesses, and ISPs. Staff received a total of thirty-

¹⁵ [ftp://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Connected Capital Workplan 2019.pdf](ftp://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Connected%20Capital%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

¹⁶ Anza Electric Cooperative's Connect Anza Phase 1 and Phase 2 Projects, UIA's Helendale Project, UIA's Wrightwood Project, and Race Communication's Gigafy Phelan, Red Mountain, Lytle Creek Gigabit Service Projects.

five endorsements from local governments, a tribal entity, community-based organizations, academic institutions, engineering and consulting firms, and ISPs.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

IERBC members have direct experience with broadband deployment and adoption efforts. They have experience in assisting over \$39 million in infrastructure grants. They have also had success in building regional, collaborative broadband-related efforts. Members have direct experience with managing broadband services at worksites. Members work with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

IERBC proposes to focus on helping expand broadband deployment through CASF and leveraging other broadband infrastructure grant opportunities and address strategic broadband planning and deployment for unserved areas. Specifically, IERBC will utilize the Commission's California Interactive Broadband Map to identify unserved households in Riverside and San Bernardino counties; study demographics and characteristics of the areas; update its list of priority unserved areas in the Inland Empire Broadband Infrastructure and Access Plan and share such information with ISPs, regional leaders, and the Commission; and encourage and assist ISPs in applying for CASF infrastructure grants to serve unserved households. IERBC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032. Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.¹⁷

Budget

IERBC requests \$450,000 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, IERBC allocates approximately 23% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 63% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), 7% to assist in publicizing wireline testing requests (Objective 5), and 7% to grant administration. IERBC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

G. North Bay/North Coast Broadband Consortium (NBNCBC)

Applicant

NBNCBC represents Marin, Mendocino, Napa and Sonoma Counties. NBNCBC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$250,000 in June 2014 (Resolution T- 17445), and \$250,000 in December 2016 (Resolution T-17544). NBNCBC's first

¹⁷ [http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Inland Empire Workplan 2019.pdf](http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Inland%20Empire%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

Consortia grant ended in June 2016, with approximately \$187,947 in total expenditure. NBNCBC's second Consortia grant ended in January 2019, with approximately \$245,724 in total expenditure.

Past CASF Project Performance

NBNCBC's past accomplishments include: engaging residents, businesses, public agencies, and policymakers regarding the value of broadband infrastructure; carrying wireline speed testing¹⁸ of existing internet service in priority areas and establishing two Countywide Strategic Broadband Plans; assisting with CASF infrastructure grant proposals (three were awarded),¹⁹ as well as feasibility study for new middle mile segments; conducting an assessment of adoption resources and needs for the counties, and participating in establishing a computer literacy lab in Marin City.

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

NBNCBC representation includes an oversight committee made up of four county supervisors with four alternates, and a consortium management team. Each county has its committee or task force that interacts with the respective local decision makers and the community to develop and implement the county broadband strategy plan. Staff received a total of fifteen endorsements from county governments, public agencies, community organizations, and business associations.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

NBNCBC's members have experience with community groups and have demonstrated success in helping to extend broadband networks to public agencies, and to secure funds for broadband deployment in the region. They have experience in assisting three CASF-funded infrastructure projects and two other infrastructure projects. They have also had success in building regional, collaborative broadband-related efforts. Members have direct experience with managing broadband services at worksites. Members have worked with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

NBNCBC proposes to focus on facilitating the planning for community-based last mile infrastructure capabilities for communities in the region with an emphasis on unserved and underserved priority communities. Specifically, NBNCBC will engage and maintain stakeholder commitment; engage and work with existing and prospective ISPs and determine interest in applying for infrastructure grants; identify, assess, and document unmet broadband needs; conduct feasibility studies in priority areas, identify

¹⁸ For example, using mobile-based applications to compare actual speeds to advertised speeds.

¹⁹ Inyo Networks Nicasio Marin Project, Inyo Networks Bolinas Marin Project, and Race Communications Gigafly Occidental Sonoma Project.

and assess providers capabilities and match them to priority projects; and assist infrastructure applicants in project development, based on feasibility studies. NBNCBC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032. Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.²⁰

Budget

NBNCBC requests \$450,000 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, NBNCBC allocates approximately 10% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 90% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4). In addition, NBNCBC proposes to perform the activities required for Objective 5 and grant management using its county budget funds. NBNCBC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

H. Northeastern California Connect Consortium (NECC)

Applicant

NECC represents Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, Lassen, Tehama, Butte, and Plumas counties. NECC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$449,991 in December 2011 (Resolution T-17349), and \$289,343 in January 2017 (Resolution T-17550). NECC's first Consortia grant was granted a one-year extension and ended in September 2015, with approximately \$449,991 in total expenditure. NECC's second Consortia grant was granted a sixteen-month extension and will end by June 2020, with a remaining budget of approximately \$143,803 as of August 31, 2019.

Past CASF Project Performance

NECC's past accomplishments include: establishment of a framework to position local partners to apply for funding to expand existing or develop new digital literacy programs and curriculums throughout the region; identifying gaps in digital literacy services and conducting outreach to county leaders for potential partnerships; completion of planning activities that identified key opportunities for expanding broadband infrastructure in the region, developing network backbone conceptual designs and reviewing them with stakeholders to produce priority areas for expansion, and assisting development of CASF infrastructure grant applications.

²⁰ [ftp://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Northbay Northcoast Workplan 2019.pdf](http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Northbay%20Northcoast%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

NECC representation includes local city and county government, the California State University (CSU), Chico Research Foundation, non-government organizations, and ISPs. Staff received a total of ten endorsements from non-profit organizations, city and county government entities, a Congressional District, and ISPs.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

NECC's members have experience with community groups and have had past success in helping to achieve broadband deployment in the region. They have experience in assisting CASF-funded infrastructure projects. They have also had success in building regional, collaborative broadband-related efforts. Members have direct experience with managing broadband services at worksites. Members have worked with one culturally and linguistically diverse community.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

NECC proposes to focus on facilitating the deployment of broadband services by assisting CASF infrastructure grant applicants in the project development or grant application process. Specifically, NECC will collaborate with the Commission to engage with ISPs and stakeholders on broadband deployment, identify potential CASF infrastructure projects, assist infrastructure applicants, support project permitting activities, and assist the Commission in publicizing requests for wireline testing volunteers. While NECC's prior grant cycle is still ongoing, this new grant proposal does not duplicate funding from the existing cycle. NECC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032. Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.²¹

Budget

NECC requests \$355,390 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, NECC allocates approximately 18% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 73% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), 5% to assist in publicizing wireline testing requests (Objective 5), and 4% to grant administration. NECC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

²¹ [ftp://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Northeast Workplan 2019.pdf](http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Northeast%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

I. Upstate California Connect Consortium (UCCC)

Applicant

UCCC represents Glenn, Colusa, and Lake Counties. NECC and UCCC are under the same management and fiscal agent. UCCC received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$448,184 in December 2011 (Resolution T-17349), and \$267,445 in January 2017 (Resolution T-17550). UCCC's first Consortia grant was granted a one-year extension and ended in September 2015, with approximately \$448,184 in total expenditure. UCCC's second Consortia grant was granted a sixteen-month extension and will end by June 2020, with a remaining budget of approximately \$119,836 as of August 31, 2019.

Past CASF Project Performance

UCCC's past accomplishments include: developing a conceptual design for a broadband infrastructure plan, assessing the existing infrastructure capabilities in the region, updating the status of access in each of the three counties and assessing the status of training and adoption programs available across the three counties, and collaborating with the other regional Consortia to make sure its conceptual design fits into an overall Northern California Broadband Plan.

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

UCCC representation includes local city and county government, the CSU, Chico Research Foundation, non-government organizations, and ISPs. Staff received a total of nine endorsements from non-profit organizations, city and county government entities, and ISPs.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

UCCC and NECC are under the same management and Fiscal Agent. Similar to NECC, UCCC's members have experience with community groups and have had past success in helping to achieve broadband deployment in the region. They have experience in assisting CASF-funded infrastructure projects. They have also had success in building regional, collaborative broadband-related efforts. Members have direct experience with managing broadband services at worksites. Members have worked with a culturally and linguistically diverse community.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

UCCC proposes to focus on facilitating the deployment of broadband services by assisting CASF infrastructure grant applicants in the project development or grant application process. Specifically, UCCC will collaborate with the Commission to engage with ISPs and stakeholders, identify potential CASF infrastructure projects, assist infrastructure applicants, support project permitting activities, and assist the

Commission in publicizing requests for wireline testing volunteers. While UCCC's prior grant cycle is still ongoing, this new grant proposal does not duplicate funding from the existing cycle. UCCC's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032. Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.²²

Budget

UCCC requests \$318,530 for a three-year grant. Of its total budget, UCCC allocates approximately 19% to conduct marketing/outreach and develop strategies (Objective 1), 71% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), 5% to assist in publicizing wireline testing requests (Objective 5), and 5% to grant administration. UCCC's budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING

Staff has determined that RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC applications qualify for funding. These applications scored at least 70 of 100 points with clear and detailed proposals and meet the minimum criteria established by D.18-10-032. Therefore, staff recommends approval for these nine proposals.

VII. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC are required to comply with all the guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the CASF Consortia grant funding as specified in D.18-10-032 and this Resolution. Such compliance includes, but is not limited to, the following:

A. Execution and Performance

The expected start date is November 1, 2019. By receiving a CASF grant from the Commission, RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC agree to comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of the grant as set forth in this Resolution, and thus submit to the jurisdiction of the Commission with regard to disbursement and administration of the grant.

²² [http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed Consortia Workplans 2019/Upstate California Workplan 2019.pdf](http://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/Telco/CASF/Consortia/Proposed%20Consortia%20Workplans%202019/Upstate%20California%20Workplan%202019.pdf)

RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC may not assign the project in whole or in part except as expressly provided by the Commission's approval.

Should RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC fail to complete the project in accordance with the terms of the Commission's approval as set forth in this Resolution, RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC must reimburse some or all of the CASF funding it has received. If RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC fail to perform in good faith, or in accordance with the expectations set forth in its Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, as affirmed in the affidavit, the Commission may withhold subsequent grant disbursement or suspend or terminate the Consortium grant, as warranted.

Any changes to the substantive terms and conditions underlying the Commission approval of the Consortium grant (e.g., changes to Work Plan, budget or designated Fiscal Agent, etc.) must be communicated in writing to the Communications Director at least 30 days before the anticipated change, and may be subject to approval by either the Director or by Commission resolution before becoming effective.

B. Public Workshop Requirement

AB 1665 directs the Commission to consult with regional Consortia, stakeholders, local governments, existing facility-based broadband providers, and consumers regarding unserved areas and cost-effective strategies to achieve the broadband access goal, through public workshops at least annually no later than April 30 of each year through year 2022.²³ D.18-10-032 requires all Consortia receiving CASF grants to attend at least one of the annual public workshops to be conducted by CD staff.²⁴ D.18-10-032 allocates up to \$10,000 per consortium for each public workshop attendance.²⁵

C. Fiscal Agent

D.11-06-038 requires:²⁶

Each regional Consortium must retain at least one Fiscal Agent with lead responsibility and legal authority to represent the Consortium for purposes of

²³ Pub. Util. Code, § 281(f)(2).

²⁴ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 13.

²⁵ Id. at p. 14.

²⁶ As affirmed by D.18-10-032.

sponsoring the application, administering fiscal activities between the Consortium and the Commission, receiving and dispersing Consortium grant funds and ensuring Consortium compliance with the grant. The Fiscal Agent must affirmatively agree, on behalf of the Consortium, to comply with the Commission's directives and conditions relating to the review, approval, and administration of any Consortia application grants. The Fiscal Agent must provide assurance that Consortium members or contractors retained by the Consortium are capable and committed to fulfilling the commitments.²⁷

Staff reviewed applications submitted by RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNBCB, NECC, and UCCC, and determined that the applications meet this requirement.

Each Fiscal Agent shall comply with all rules and requirements set forth in D.18-10-032, including, but not limited to, ensuring implementation of the approved Work Plan within the allocated budget (in conjunction with the consortium program manager), and shall be responsible for notifying CD staff of any proposed changes to Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, budget, or designated Fiscal Agent during the course of the grant cycle.

D.18-10-032 further requires each Consortia grantee to:

...maintain books, records, documents and other evidence sufficient to substantiate expenditures covered by the grant, according to generally accepted accounting practices. Each Consortia grantee shall make these records available to the Commission upon request and agrees that these records are subject to a financial audit by the Commission at any time within five years after the grantee incurred the expense being audited. A Consortia grantee shall provide access to the Commission upon 24-hour notice to evaluate work completed or being performed pursuant to the grant.²⁸

D. Distinguishing CASF from other Financial Resources

²⁷ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 9. The Fiscal Agent must submit a letter stating its commitment to act as a Fiscal Agent for the Consortium.

²⁸ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, pp. 15-16.

D.18-10-032 requires that the consortium take steps to ensure that the CASF grant budget does not duplicate funding from other non-Consortia Account funding.²⁹ RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC must ensure that only CASF-approved activities will be billed to the Consortia Account, and activities obligated to other funding resources will not be billed to the CASF Consortia Account.

Prior to the initiation of Work Plan activities, the Fiscal Agents for RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC must communicate to staff how they will ensure that billing to discrete funding sources does not overlap.

E. Annual Audit

AB 1665 requires each consortium to conduct an annual audit of its expenditures for grant programs funded and submit to the Commission an annual report. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC are required to submit annual audits to the Commission that includes: a description of activities completed during the prior year, how each activity promotes the deployment of broadband services, and the cost associated with each activity; and the number of project applications assisted.

F. Reporting

Consortia grantees are required to submit bi-annual progress reports. Any progress payment requests shall be submitted along with bi-annual reports. The bi-annual progress report is required every six months. These reports must be submitted by no later than three months after every six months for the grant period, irrespective of payment requests. In these reports, recipients will report on the status of bi-annual milestones per the Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, as well as request payment for relevant expenses to date.³⁰

RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC must submit bi-annual progress reports on the status of the project irrespective of whether grantees request reimbursement or payment. Bi-annual progress reports must begin the first six months after the Commission approval of the grant proposal.

²⁹ Any proposed consortium budget must expressly exclude any costs for activities or programs within the Consortia region that are separately funded from any other sources in order to ensure that California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) grants do not duplicate funding from any other sources (D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 8.).

³⁰ Id. at Appendix 1, pp. 14-15, 17.

A start-up period report is required if the grantee requests an initial start-up cost payment. This report must be submitted no later than three months after the completion of the start-up activities. In this report, recipients will report on the completion of start-up activities per the Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, as well as milestones met.

RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC must submit a completion report at the end of the grant cycle no later than three months after completion of the project.

G. Payments

D.18-10-032 requires that submission of invoices from and payments to the grantees shall be made at bi-annual intervals. Specifically, D.18-10-032 states:

The disbursement of funds at any time is subject to the Commission discretion, including a review-and-approval process of each grantee through regular site visits, progress reports on a bi-annual basis and supporting invoices and receipts. All requests for progress payments and reimbursements must be supported by documentation, e.g., receipts, invoices, quotes, etc. Consortia grantees may request reimbursement for state-up costs equivalent to a maximum of 25% of the total award and must be supported by documentation. In order to receive a progress payment, the Consortium must first submit the Progress Report to CD, together with all requests for payment and reimbursement supported by relevant invoices receipts, etc.

Furthermore, documentation should substantiate RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC's progress in following their proposed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, with the approved budget. Billing should only be for activities related to facilitating the deployment of broadband services by assisting infrastructure applicants in the project development or grant application process.

All activities specified under the terms of the award shall be completed on or before the termination date of the award.³¹ A project completion report is required prior to full payment showing that all activities on the approved Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan have been accomplished. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC,

³¹ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 17.

NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC's final payment reports, including all documentation and receipts, should be submitted no later than three months after project completion.³²

No payments will be made for any payment requests received three months after relevant reports are due (i.e., bi-annual progress reports and/or completion reports.)

H. Project Audit

Staff has the authority to initiate and any necessary audit, verification, and discovery of consortium members relating to grant funding activities to ensure that the CASF fund is spent in accordance with the Commission adopted rules and standards.³³

RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC's invoices and other relevant records will be subject to a financial audit by the Commission or its designee at any time within five years after RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC incurred the expense being audited.

I. Lobbying and Advocacy Efforts

RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC are free to advocate on any legislation of their choosing. However, no work on proposed legislation including meetings, travel, or lobbying may be billed to or reimbursed by the CASF Consortia grant program.³⁴

VIII. SAFETY IMPACT

There are no direct safety implications. Indirectly, funding the CASF Consortia grant applications will enhance communications, including public safety in the Redwood Coast, Gold Country, Pacific Coast Tri-County area, Central Coast, Capital area, Inland Empire region, North Bay/ North Coast, and Northeastern regions of California in the event of fire, flooding, and earthquakes.

IX. COMMENTS

In compliance with Pub. Util. Code section 311(g)(1), a Notice of Availability was e-mailed on September 20, 2019, informing all parties on the CASF Distribution List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution for public comments at the Commission's

³² Id. at 15.

³³ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 15; see also Pub. Util. Code, § 270.

³⁴ Id. at 4.

website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/>. This letter also served to inform parties that the final conformed Resolution the Commission adopts will be posted and available on this same website.

X. FINDINGS

1. On October 15, 2017, Governor Brown signed legislation (AB1665) that established the continuation of the CASF Consortia Account with an additional \$10 million in available funding.
2. Ten prospective grantees filed applications by the May 17, 2019 deadline. Staff posted each applicant's name, contact information, and coverage area by county on the Commission Consortia Account webpage on June 3, 2019. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, UCCC, and LACRBC appear on this list.
3. Staff reviewed RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, UCCC, and LACRBC applications according to the guidelines, requirements, and evaluation criteria adopted in D.18-10-032, which include regional consortium representation and endorsements, regional consortium members' experience, Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, and budget. staff also evaluated the applications based on the merits of each proposal and past performance, including achievements, fiscal responsibility, and cost-effectiveness.
4. Based on the review, staff determined that nine of the ten proposals meet eligibility requirements, including RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC proposals. Staff further determined that these nine proposed projects qualify for funding under D.18-10-032 and recommends approval.
5. Staff recommends CASF Consortia grant approval of total funding of \$3,751,515 for the nine Consortia.
6. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC are required to comply with all guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the granting of CASF funds as specified in D.18-10-032 and this Resolution, including, but not limited to, only billing for activities related to the activities in approved Work Plans.
7. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC are required to expressly exclude any costs for activities or programs from the proposed

consortium budget that are separately funded from any other sources in order to ensure that CASF grants do not duplicate funding from any other sources.

8. D.18-10-032 directs CD to consult with regional Consortia, stakeholders, local governments, existing facility-based broadband providers, and consumers regarding priority areas and cost-effective strategies to achieve the broadband access goal, through public workshops conducted at least annually no later than April 30 of each year, and authorizes \$2,000 per person for up to five delegates annually for each approved consortium.
9. A notice was emailed on September 20, 2019, informing the parties on the CASF Distribution List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution for public comments at the Commission's website <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/documents/>. This letter also informed parties that the final conformed Resolution adopted by the Commission will be posted and available on this same website.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Commission shall award \$416,025 to the Redwood Coast Connect Broadband Consortium (RCCBC), \$423,010 to the Gold Country Broadband Consortium (GCBC), \$450,000 to the Broadband Consortium of the Pacific Coast (BCPC), \$450,000 to the Central Coast Broadband Consortium (CCBC), \$438,560 to the Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium (CCABC), \$450,000 to the Inland Empire Regional Broadband Consortium (IERBC), \$450,000 to the North Bay/North Coast Broadband Consortium (NBNCBC), \$355,390 to the Northeastern California Connect Consortium (NECC), and \$318,530 to the Upstate California Connect Consortium (UCCC). All awards are based on the descriptions of the projects as described herein. Work Plans are available at the Commission's website.
2. Payments to the CASF recipients shall be in accordance with guidelines adopted in D.18-10-032 and in accordance with the process defined in the "Payments" section of this Resolution.
3. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC each must retain at least one Fiscal Agent with lead responsibility and legal authority to represent the Consortium for purposes of sponsoring the application and administration of Consortium activities, including receipt and disbursement of Consortium grant funds.
4. Each Fiscal Agent must affirmatively agree, on behalf of RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC, to comply with the

Commission's directives and conditions relating to the review, approval, and administration of any Consortia application grants.

5. Prior to commencement of RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC projects, each Fiscal Agent must provide CD staff with the method chosen to distinguish funding sources and billing practices, to ensure that CASF payments are not duplicated by other sources, and that only CASF-approved activities are billed to the Consortia Account.
6. The disbursement of funds shall be subject to the requirements set forth in D.18-10-032 including the submission of bi-annual progress reports and supporting documentation for payment reimbursement, yearly status reports for informing the legislature and a Completion Report to be submitted before the final payment reimbursement will be made.
7. By receiving a CASF grant from the Commission, RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC agree to comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of the grant and thus submit to the jurisdiction of the Commission with regard to disbursement and administration of the grant.
8. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC shall complete activities in accordance with and within the performance period set forth in the Commission-approved Work Plans.
9. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC must use the grant funding solely for the approved projects/activities as described in the Consortia Commission-approved Work Plans and Budget Plans, (or approved revisions to such Plans and budgets).
10. Each Consortia grantee shall make records available to the Commission upon request and shall agree that these records are subject to a financial audit by the Commission at any time within three years after the Grantee incurred the expense being audited. A Consortia grantee shall provide access to the Commission upon 24-hour notice to evaluate work completed or being performed pursuant to the grant.
11. RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC shall comply with all guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the CASF grant award as specified in D.18-10-032 and this Resolution.
12. The Commission may withhold or terminate grant payments to RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC if the consortium

does not comply with any of the requirements set forth in D.18-10-032 and this Resolution.

13. In the event that RCCBC, GCBC, BCPC, CCBC, CCABC, IERBC, NBNCBC, NECC, and UCCC fails to complete the project/activities in accordance with the terms of approval granted by the Commission and this Resolution, the consortium, represented by the Fiscal Agent, will be required to reimburse some or all of the CASF fund that it has received.
14. The commencement of the grant cycle will be November 1, 2019.
15. Any changes to the substantive terms and conditions underlying Commission approval of the grant (e.g., changes to Work Plan, budget or designated Fiscal Agent, etc.) must be communicated in writing to CD Director at least 30 days before the anticipated change, and may be subject to approval by either the Director or by Commission resolution before becoming effective.
16. Grantees must complete and execute the consent form (to be sent to the grantee after this Resolution is adopted) agreeing to the conditions set forth in this Resolution and email it to [CASF Consortia Grant Administrator@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:CASF_Consortia_Grant_Administrator@cpuc.ca.gov) within 30 calendar days from the date of the adoption of this Resolution. Failure to submit the consent form within 30 calendar days from the adoption date of this Resolution will deem the grant null and void.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on October 24, 2019. The following Commissioners approved it:

ALICE STEBBINS
Executive Director