

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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

**RESOLUTION T-17823
June 20, 2024**

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION T-17823: Approves up to \$519,260 from the California Advanced Services Fund for the Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account application of CalNeva Broadband, LLC for the Rural Fresno Project.

I. SUMMARY

This Resolution approves grant funding in the amount of up to \$519,260 from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account (Infrastructure Account) for the grant application of CalNeva Broadband, LLC for its Rural Fresno Project. This project consists of a last-mile broadband network with a combination of hybrid fiber-coax (HFC) technology that will enable speeds of up to 1 gigabit per second (Gbps) download and 30 megabits per second (Mbps) upload to 500 unserved locations and fixed wireless access (FWA) technology that will enable speeds of up to 500 Mbps symmetrical to 100 unserved locations in Fresno County. See Table 1 below.

Table 1: Summary of Funding for Rural Fresno’s Project

Project	Project Type	Households	Requested Amount	CASF Approved Amount
Rural Fresno	Last Mile	600	\$519,260	\$519,260

II. BACKGROUND

The CASF Infrastructure Account provides grant funding to Internet service providers (ISP)/eligible entities to build or upgrade broadband infrastructure in areas that are unserved by existing broadband providers. The CASF program was initiated in 2008 after the program was first adopted by the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in Decision (D.) 07-12-054 and enacted into statute pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 1193.

On October 15, 2017, Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill (AB) 1665 (Garcia), which

amended Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code Section 281, the statute governing the CASF program. The Commission issued D.18-12-018 to adopt the programmatic changes; Attachment 1 of D.18-12-018 set forth the rules, application requirements, and guidelines for the CASF Infrastructure Account. On March 10, 2021, the Commission issued D. 21-03-006, modifying data submission requirements, and requiring open access for CASF projects. Revised CASF program guidelines were set forth in Appendix A of D. 21-03-006.

On July 20, 2021, Governor Newsom signed historic broadband legislation to help bridge the digital divide; Senate Bill (SB) 156 changed the definition of “unserved area,” allowing funding for “an area for which there is no facility-based broadband provider offering at least one tier of broadband service at speeds of at least 25 megabits per second (Mbps) downstream, 3 Mbps upstream.”¹ Additionally, SB 156 requires grantees to “deploy infrastructure capable of providing broadband access at speeds of a minimum of 100 Mbps downstream and 20 Mbps upstream² and that any grantees receiving CASF funding must report subcontracted work in excess of \$25,000; this information must be posted by Commission on a monthly basis.³

On November 17, 2022, the Commission issued D.22-11-023, adopting programmatic changes to the CASF Infrastructure Account. Attachment 1 of D.22-11-023 (“CASF Guidelines”) set forth the rules, application requirements, and guidelines for the CASF Infrastructure Account.

Rural Fresno Application

On June 1, 2023, CalNeva submitted a CASF Infrastructure Account application requesting \$519,260 (100 percent funding of total project cost) to deploy an HFC and FWA network capable of providing connectivity up to 1 Gbps download and 30 Mbps upload (HFC) and 500 Mbps symmetrical (FWA) to 600 locations in Fresno County. The applicant will deploy approximately one mile of aerial fiber cable and 3.4 miles of coaxial cable on existing infrastructure and additional HFC and FWA equipment needed to boost the broadband signal.

Applicant

CalNeva Broadband, LLC is a privately held company headquartered in Discovery Bay, California, incorporated in 2008 through the acquisition of broadband assets from the

¹ See Pub. Util. Code § 281(b)(1)(B)(ii)(I).

² See Pub. Util. Code § 281(f)(5)

³ See Pub. Util. Code § 281(l).

dissolution of Rapid Communications. CalNeva currently operates in Huron and Coalinga (Fresno County). CalNeva's mission is to provide rural, underserved areas of California with broadband internet access as well as digital telephony and television/cable services to keep these communities connected. In 2019, CalNeva completed the CASF-funded Rural Fresno County – Coalinga Huron – Gigabit Project (Resolution T-17563) extending broadband access to approximately 5,480 households.

III. NOTICE

On June 1, 2023, the Communications Division (CD) received 74 grant applications⁴ for CASF Infrastructure Account funding.⁵ On June 15, 2023, staff posted the proposed project area map and project summary for the Rural Fresno County Project on the Commission's CASF Infrastructure Project Summaries webpage⁶ and sent notice regarding the project to the CASF Distribution and Service Lists.

IV. CHALLENGES

Pursuant to Pub. Util. Code Section 281(f)(8) and as required by D.22-11-023, the Commission provided an opportunity for entities to challenge the application. Challenges were due on July 6, 2023.

Only one Internet service provider, Cal.net, submitted a timely challenge to CalNeva's CASF Infrastructure Account grant application. Staff's review of Cal.net's challenge revealed that Cal.net did not adequately fulfill the requirements of Section 11 of the CASF Guidelines governing challenges. Discrepancies included lack of subscriber bills, no evidence of current subscribers in the project area, and no agreement to provide service to all challenged locations at served speeds for five years. As a result, staff denied this challenge.

⁴ See <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-infrastructure-project-summaries> for project summaries and <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-infrastructure-grant/casf-infrastructure-approved-projects> for approved projects.

⁵ The Commission extended the CASF Infrastructure application deadline from April 1 to June 1, 2023, and all subsequent deadlines were moved back by two months.

⁶ See CASF Infrastructure Project Summaries at <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-infrastructure-project-summaries>

V. APPLICATION REVIEW AND EVALUATION

In compliance with D.22-11-023, staff determined that CalNeva’s Rural Fresno County Project is eligible to receive up to \$519,260 in CASF Infrastructure Account grant funding. CalNeva is required to comply with all the guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the grant of CASF Infrastructure Account funds. Payments to CalNeva will be made in accordance with Pub. Util. Code Section 281(f)(10).

Staff reviewed all applications according to the guidelines, requirements, and evaluation adopted in D.22-11-023, as follows:

- A. Project Area Eligibility
- B. Letter of Credit
- C. Minimum Performance Criteria
- D. Funding Determination
- E. Safety and Community Support

Staff evaluation of CalNeva’s application is summarized below. Compliance requirements, payment compliance, key project information, and maps are shown in Appendix A, B, C, and D, respectively.

VI. DISCUSSION

A. Project Area Eligibility

In its project summary, CalNeva identified 600 eligible and priority-eligible locations. The Rural Fresno Project Summary was posted on the Commission’s webpage on June 15, 2023. Staff determined that CalNeva’s Rural Fresno Project is eligible for CASF Infrastructure Account funding.

According to the California Interactive Broadband Map (Broadband Map), all locations CalNeva proposes to serve in the project area are currently unserved by any facilities-based wireline or fixed wireless access (FWA) broadband service providers.

Table 2: CalNeva’s Rural Fresno Project Proposed Project Expenditures

Submission Date	Total Eligible Locations	Funding Requested
June 1, 2023	600	\$519,260 (100%)

B. Letter of Credit

Pursuant to Section 8.10 of D.22-11-023, Attachment 1, an eligible applicant that does not hold a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) is required to provide a letter of credit that must be valid throughout the grantee’s full construction period. CalNeva is not a CPCN holder and did not submit a Letter of Credit with its application but did commit to securing a Letter of Credit upon Commission approval of its application for funding. Staff reviewed the company’s funding sources, financial documentation, its existing relationship with Co-Bank and commitments from the equity owners of CalNeva Broadband to provide additional funding if needed. Based on this diligent research coupled with CalNeva’s success with a previous CASF grant, staff requests a waiver from the Commission for this requirement and to allow CalNeva to submit the Letter of Credit subsequent to grant approval, but before starting construction.

C. Minimum Performance Criteria

Staff reviewed CalNeva’s application and determined that the Rural Fresno Project meets the minimum performance criteria pursuant to CASF Guidelines, Section 6, as summarized in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Minimum Performance Criteria

	CASF Performance Criteria	Proposed Project
Project Completion	CEQA-exempt projects must be completed within 18 months, and all other projects shall be completed within 24 months after receiving authorization to construct	within 18 months of permitting approval (CEQA Exempt)
Pricing	Prices committed for five years after completion of the project	5-year commitment
Speed	At least 100/20 Mbps ⁷	1 Gbps/30 Mbps (HFC) 500 Mbps symmetrical (FWA)
Latency	Maximum of 100 ms of latency	< 50 ms
Data Caps	Minimum of 1 terabyte per month	No data cap
Affordability	Must offer low-income plan	\$15.00/month

⁷ SB 156, enacted on July 20, 2021, and effective immediately, requires the Commission to fund projects that “deploy infrastructure capable of providing broadband access at a minimum of 100 Mbps downstream and 20 Mbps upstream.” See Pub. Util. Code Section 281(f)(5).

Project Completion and CEQA

Commission staff must conduct an environmental review of all CASF projects unless the project is statutorily or categorically exempt pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Commission's Energy Division determined that this project is categorically exempt from CEQA review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines at 14 C.C.R. Section 15301 (Existing Facilities). The proposed project involves a minor alteration to existing utility pole structures, topographical features, and mechanical equipment. The new cables to be installed include approximately one mile of aerial fiber and 0.4 miles of coaxial cable on existing overhead utility pole structures and approximately three miles of underground coaxial in existing conduit/utility easements. Adding above and below-ground cables is considered a negligible expansion of existing or former use.

CalNeva will install wireless equipment for the FWA portion of the project on existing towers. Therefore, CalNeva will require no environmental impact consulting or reporting and is not subject to the National Environmental Policy Act, National Historic Preservation Act, or the Endangered Species Act.

Under CASF Program rules, project construction must be completed, following receipt of permits, within 18 months if the project is categorically exempt from CEQA (and within 24 months for all other projects.)

Pricing, Speed, Latency, Data Caps, and Affordability

For customers qualifying for the Affordable Connectivity Plan (ACP), or any successor program the Commission designates,⁸ CalNeva commits to offering a low-income broadband pricing plan for five years starting from the completion of the project. CalNeva will waive standard installation and service connection fees for all broadband service customers in the project area during this five-year period. See CalNeva's pricing commitment in Table 4, below.

⁸ See CASF Guidelines, Section 8.11 Application Item 11 – Pricing Commitment.

Table 4: CalNeva’s Rural Fresno County Broadband Pricing Plan

Name of Tier	Advertised Speeds ⁹		Pricing Plan (\$ / per Month)
	Downstream (Mbps)	Upstream (Mbps)	
Low Income	100	20	\$15.00
Residential 1	100	5	\$29.95
Residential 2	250	10	\$39.95
Residential 3	500	15	\$49.95
Residential 4	750	20	\$59.95
Business Service	1000	30	\$99.95
Options			
Setup Fees	N/A	N/A	\$0.00
Home Wi-Fi Hardware	N/A	N/A	\$100 deposit/unit ¹⁰

The proposed maximum potential speed of 1 Gbps download and 30 Mbps upload meet the 100/20 Mbps minimum performance requirement.

D. Funding Determination

CalNeva is eligible to receive 100 percent funding to cover the cost of its Rural Fresno Project. Staff considered the statutory factors to determine the grant funding level, as described by Pub. Util. Code Section 281(f)(11) and CASF Guidelines. Table 5, below, details Staff’s funding level determination for the project.

Table 5: Criteria for Project Funding Level for CalNeva’s Rural Fresno Project

Funding Criteria	Proposed Project
Baseline for Eligible Projects in areas with Internet connectivity (60% of total construction costs)	60%
Low-Income Service (up to 40%):	
• Low-income area (30%)	30%
• Offers a low-income broadband plan for no more than \$15/month co-pay for a guaranteed minimum of five (5) years (10%)	10%

⁹ CalNeva states that all download and upload speeds except for the low-income plan will increase significantly from current capacity in 2024 for both HFC and FWA.

¹⁰ A \$100 deposit required from customers unable to pay via an ACH bank draft or a credit/debit card.

Others: PU Code Section 281(f)(11) Criteria – (up to 20%)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inaccessible Location (10%) • Uses Existing Infrastructure (10%) • Makes a Significant Contribution to the Program Goal (10%) 	<p>0%</p> <p>10%</p> <p>10%</p>
Total Funding Level	100%¹¹

Baseline for an Eligible Project qualifies for 60 percent funding.

The CASF program is intended to finance capital costs of projects deploying broadband facilities in unserved areas of California. The Rural Fresno Project area meets all the eligibility criteria, as previously described in the Project Area Eligibility section.

Low-Income Service Consideration for an additional 40 percent funding

According to the California Interactive Broadband Map,¹² the median household income (MHI) of the project area is \$43,001. This figure is significantly lower than the \$65,950 low-income threshold for a family of four in Fresno County according to the Department of Housing and Community Development’s (HCD) list of state income limits.¹³ Therefore, the project meets the CASF criteria as “low-income area” and qualifies the Rural Fresno Project for an additional 30 percent funding.

CalNeva will offer service to low-income customers who qualify for its Low-Income plan for \$15.00 per month for at least 5 years post-approval. This meets CASF criteria for affordable, low-income pricing and qualifies the Rural Fresno Project for an additional 10 percent funding.

Other Factor Considerations qualify for an additional 20 percent funding

The Rural Fresno Project meets two of the criteria defined in Pub. Util. Code Section 281(f)(11) and qualifies for an additional 20 percent funding.

The Rural Fresno Project uses existing infrastructure. CalNeva will install wireless access points on existing towers and both fiber and coaxial cables on existing poles and in existing conduit. This qualifies the Rural Fresno Project for an additional 10 percent funding.

¹¹ Per CASF Guidelines, Sec. 2.2, maximum funding level is 100 percent.

¹² The California Broadband Map shows MHI by Census Block Groups; data is sourced from the American Community Survey (ACS) which is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. For more information, see:

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>

¹³ <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/sites/default/files/docs/grants-and-funding/income-limits-2023.pdf>

The Rural Fresno Project makes a significant contribution to the CASF program goal to provide broadband Internet access to 98 percent of California households in each CASF Broadband Consortia region. The Rural Fresno Project area is located within the San Joaquin Valley Regional Broadband Consortium which is currently at 97 percent served and is therefore below the program goal of achieving 98 percent served within each CASF Broadband Consortia region.¹⁴ This qualifies the Rural Fresno Project for an additional 10 percent funding.

E. Safety and Community Support

The CASF program encourages the deployment of broadband throughout the State to enable the public to access Internet-based safety applications, telehealth services, emergency services, and to allow first responders to communicate and collaborate during emergencies.

CalNeva received multiple letters of support for the Rural Fresno Project from local government and community representatives, including the Central Valley Women's Entrepreneur Center, the City of Coalinga, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, the San Joaquin Valley Rural Development Center, the San Joaquin Valley Regional Broadband Consortium, and the Fresno State Community and Regional Planning Center. See Appendix E.

VII. COMMENTS

In compliance with Public Utilities Code Section 311(g), a notice letter was emailed on May 15, 2024, informing all parties on the CASF Distribution List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution for public comments at the Commission's documents website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/documents/>. This letter also informed parties that the final conformed Resolution adopted by the Commission will be posted and available on the same website.

Formal comments were submitted by The Utility Reform Network (TURN) on June 4, 2024. Reply comments were submitted by CalNeva and the California Broadband & Video Association (CalBroadband) on June 10, 2024.

¹⁴ See [CASF 2022 Annual Report](#)

TURN's Comments

TURN generally supports the Draft Resolution and submitted comments to address a narrow issue regarding the end of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). TURN requests modifications to the Draft Resolution because it appears to approve the project based, in part, on the grantee participating in the ACP. TURN states that since the Draft Resolution was issued, the ACP has ended and that it is unclear whether the reference to the ACP would mean that only customers who had previously participated in the ACP would qualify for the CalNeva affordable offering or whether any customer who would have qualified for the ACP would qualify for the CalNeva affordable offering.

CalNeva's Reply Comments to TURN

CalNeva responds that it commits to offering a low-income broadband plan to any and all qualifying households or individuals, irrespective of their prior ACP participation or an extension of the ACP or similar program.

CalBroadband's Reply Comments to TURN

CalBroadband responds that they take no position on the Draft Resolution however, they note that the proposed revisions in TURN's opening comments are moot considering CalNeva's reply comments and therefore TURN's proposed changes should not be incorporated into the final version of the resolution.

Staff's Response to Comments and Reply Comments

Staff agree with CalNeva as they offer a low-income broadband plan regardless of whether the ACP program, or a successor to the program, is available. In its comments, TURN recommends changes in the Resolution regarding the ACP program and CalNeva's low-income pricing plan. As TURN notes, the ACP program subsidy is no longer available, and a successor program to the ACP has not been identified. CalNeva commits to offering a broadband plan for \$15 per month, regardless of whether the ACP subsidy program, or a successor to the program, is available. Thus, CalNeva is eligible for an additional 10% of funding, as discussed in Section VI.D. above.

VIII. FINDINGS

1. CalNeva submitted an application for CASF funding for its Rural Fresno Project on June 1, 2023. The project will deploy a combination of hybrid fiber coaxial (HFC) at speeds up to 1 Gbps download and 30 Mbps upload to an estimated 500 unserved households and fixed wireless access (FWA) at speeds up to 500 Mbps symmetrical to an estimated 100 unserved households (600 total unserved households) in Fresno County.

2. On June 15, 2023, Staff posted a project summary of the Rural Fresno Project, including a proposed project area map and project summary. The summary was posted on the “CASF Applications Project Summaries” webpage, which may be found on the Commission’s CASF webpage.
3. Staff received one challenge to the CalNeva Project from Cal.net. Staff denied the challenge because Cal.net did not adequately fulfill the requirements of Section 11 of the CASF Guidelines.
4. Based on its review, staff determined that the Rural Fresno Project qualifies for an Infrastructure Account grant pursuant to D.22-11-023 and its Attachment 1 and recommends Commission approval of CASF funding up to \$519,260.
5. CalNeva proposes to offer broadband internet access to last-mile consumers using hybrid fiber-coaxial (HFC) technology at speeds up to 1 Gbps download and 30 Mbps upload and fixed wireless access (FWA) technology at speeds up to 500 Mbps symmetrical.
6. CalNeva proposes that new hybrid fiber-coaxial cable will be installed on existing infrastructure and new wireless equipment will be installed on existing towers.
7. The Commission has determined that the Rural Fresno Project is categorically exempt from CEQA review pursuant to CEQA guidelines, 14 C.C.R, Section 15301 – Existing Facilities (Class 1), involving minor alteration of existing public or private structures.
8. The Commission requirement, pursuant to CASF Guidelines, Section 8.10, that an applicant that does not have a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity must submit a Letter of Credit covering the project is waived for this application, as CalNeva has committed to securing a Letter of Credit upon Commission approval of its application for funding.
9. A notice letter was emailed on May 15, 2024, informing all parties on the CASF Distribution List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution for public comments at the Commission’s documents website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/documents/>. Formal comments were submitted by The Utility Reform Network (TURN) on June 4, 2024. Reply comments were submitted by CalNeva and the California Broadband & Video Association (CalBroadband) on June 10, 2024.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Commission shall award up to \$519,260 to CalNeva Broadband, LLC (CalNeva) for the Rural Fresno Project as described herein and summarized in Appendix C of this Resolution, which shall be paid out of the CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account in accordance with the guidelines adopted in D.22-11-023 and its Attachment 1 and with the process defined in Appendix B "Payments to CASF Recipients" of this Resolution.
2. CalNeva shall comply with all guidelines, requirements and conditions associated with a CASF award, as specified in D.22-11-032 and its Attachment 1, and all requirements for this project included in this Resolution, including Appendices A and B.
3. If CalNeva fails to complete the project in accordance with the CASF Guidelines and requirements outlined in D.22-11-023 and its Attachment 1, and the terms outlined in this Resolution, CalNeva must reimburse some or all the CASF funds that it has received.
4. CalNeva must complete and execute the consent forms (to be sent to the grantee after this Resolution is adopted) agreeing to the conditions set forth in this Resolution and return them to CASF Staff within 30 calendar days from the date of the adoption of this Resolution. Failure to submit the consent forms within 30 calendar days from the adoption date of this Resolution may result in the Commission voiding the grant award.
5. CalNeva must submit a Letter of Credit, as described in Appendix A, Section C, subsequent to grant approval, but before starting construction. Failure to submit a Letter of Credit may result in the Commission voiding the grant award.

This Resolution is effective today.

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

Rachel Peterson
Executive Director

APPENDIX A Compliance Requirements

A. Deployment Schedule

The Commission requires CalNeva to complete the Rural Fresno Project within 18 months. If the applicant is unable to complete the proposed project within the 18-month timeframe requirements, CalNeva must notify the Director of the Communications Division as soon as CalNeva becomes aware of this possibility. If such notice is not provided, the Commission may reduce payment for failure to satisfy this requirement of timely notification to the Director.

B. Execution and Performance

Staff and CalNeva shall determine a project start date after the CASF grant recipient has obtained all approvals, including permits. Should CalNeva or any contractor it retains fail to commence work by the designated date, upon five days' written notice the Commission may terminate the grant. If CalNeva fails to complete the project in accordance with the terms of Commission approval as set forth in this resolution, CalNeva shall reimburse some or all of the CASF funds that it has received. CalNeva must complete all construction covered by the grant on or before the grant's termination date.

C. Letter of Credit

Pursuant to Section 8.10 of D.22-11-023, Attachment 1, an eligible applicant that does not hold a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) is required to provide a letter of credit that must be valid throughout the grantee's full construction period. CalNeva is not a CPCN holder and did not submit a Letter of Credit with its application but did commit to securing a Letter of Credit upon Commission approval of its application for funding. Staff reviewed the company's funding sources, financial documentation, its existing relationship with Co-Bank and commitments from the equity owners of CalNeva Broadband to provide additional funding if needed. Based on this diligent research coupled with CalNeva's success with a previous CASF grant, staff requests a waiver from the Commission for this requirement and to allow CalNeva to submit the Letter of Credit subsequent to grant approval, but before starting construction.

D. Project Audit

The Commission has the right to conduct any necessary audit, verification, and discovery during project implementation/construction to ensure that CASF funds are spent in accordance with Commission approval.

CalNeva's invoices will be subject to a financial audit by the Commission at any time within three years of completion of the work.

E. Providing Voice Service

CalNeva has certified that its Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) meets the FCC standards for E-911 service and battery backup.

F. Reporting

All grantees must submit biannual progress reports on the status of the project, irrespective of whether grantees request reimbursement or payment. These reports are due semi-annually, in March and September, until the project is completely built and operational. Progress reports shall describe the schedule for deployment, major construction milestones and costs submitted in the proposal; indicate the actual date of completion of each task/milestone as well as problems and issues encountered, and the actions taken to resolve these problems and issues during project implementation and construction; and identify future risks to the project.

Before full payment of the project is made, CalNeva must submit a project completion report. CalNeva shall also include test results on the download and upload speeds at a representative sample of locations in the final completion report per CASF Guidelines, Section 13 Reporting Requirements.¹⁵ CalNeva must certify that each progress report is true and correct under penalty of perjury.

G. Prevailing Wage

Section 1720 of the California Labor Code specifies that CASF-subsidized projects are subject to prevailing wage requirements. CalNeva has committed to following state prevailing wage requirements with regards to these projects.

H. Contractor Reporting

CalNeva must comply with the contractor reporting requirements of Section 281(l)(1) of the California Public Utilities Code, which requires reporting of certain information for all contractors and subcontractors undertaking a contract or subcontract in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars on CASF-subsidized projects.

¹⁵ See [D. 22-11-023, Attachment 1](#).

APPENDIX B Payments to CASF Recipients

Pub. Util. Code § 281(f)(10) defines the costs the Commission may reimburse as follows:

- Costs directly related to the deployment of infrastructure.
- Costs to lease access to property or for Internet backhaul services for a period not to exceed five years; and
- Costs incurred by an existing facility-based broadband provider to upgrade its existing facilities to provide for interconnection.

Additionally, D.22-11-023, Attachment 1, Section 7 caps administrative expenses directly related to the project at 10 percent of the grant amount.¹⁶

The grantee may submit reimbursement requests at the following intervals:

- 10 percent completion.
- 35 percent completion.
- 60 percent completion.
- 85 percent completion; and
- 100 percent completion.

The final 15 percent payment request (from 85 to 100 percent) will not be paid without an approved completion report. Payments are based on submitted receipts, invoices and other supporting documentation showing expenditures incurred for the project in accordance with the approved CASF funding budget included in the CASF grantee's application.

Payment to grantees shall follow the process adopted for funds created under Public Utilities Code § 270. The Commission generally processes payments within 20-25 business days, including Communications Division and Administrative Services review time. The State Controller's Office (SCO) requires an additional 14-21 days to issue payment from the day that requests are received by SCO from Administrative Services. The project is funded at 100%, CASF will not accept invoices that include a handling fee.

¹⁶ Administrative costs are defined as "indirect overhead costs attributable to a project, per generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and the direct cost of complying with Commission administrative and regulatory requirements related to the grant itself." Applicants seeking additional funds will require a Commission exemption included in a draft resolution.

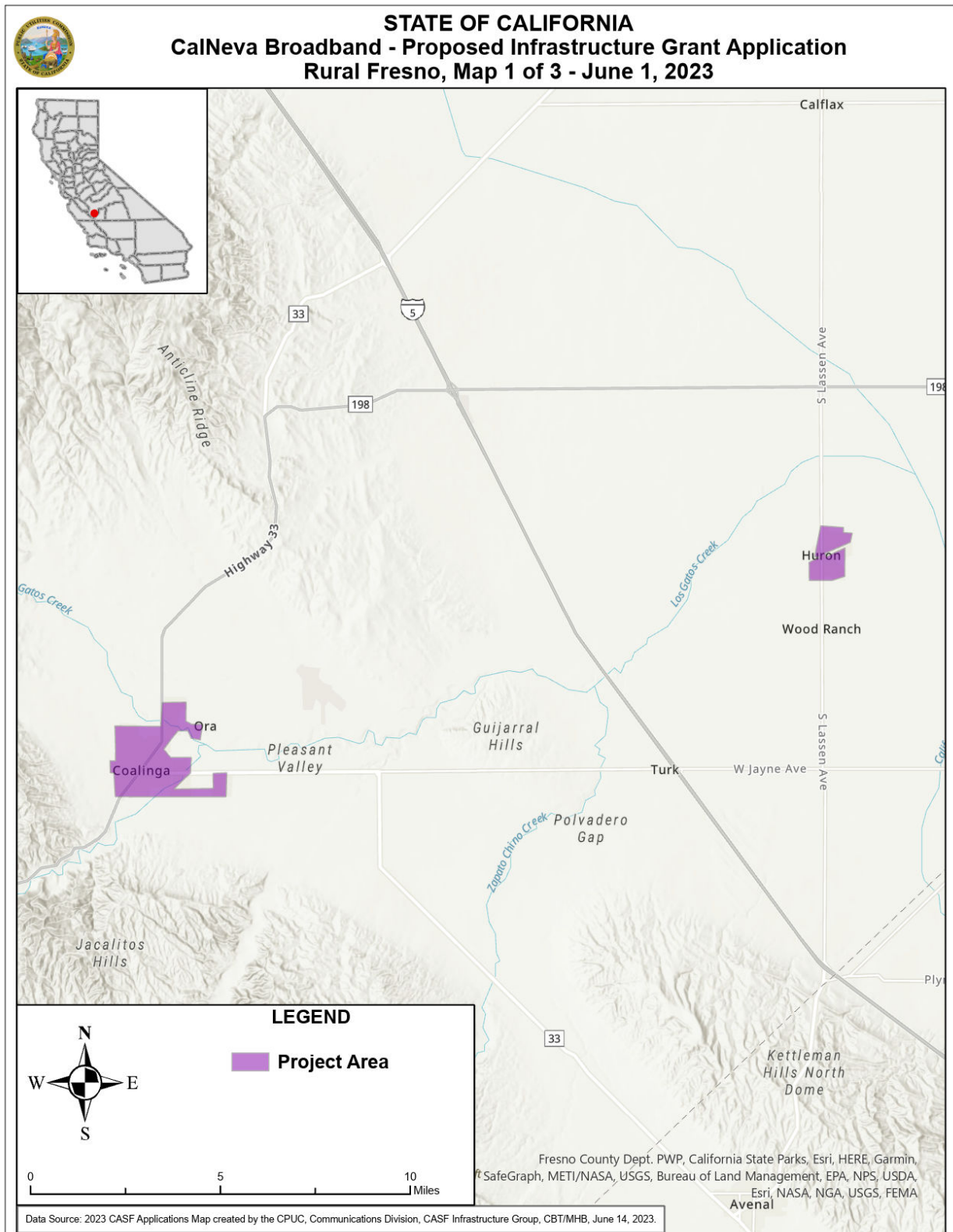
APPENDIX C
CalNeva - Rural Fresno
Key Information

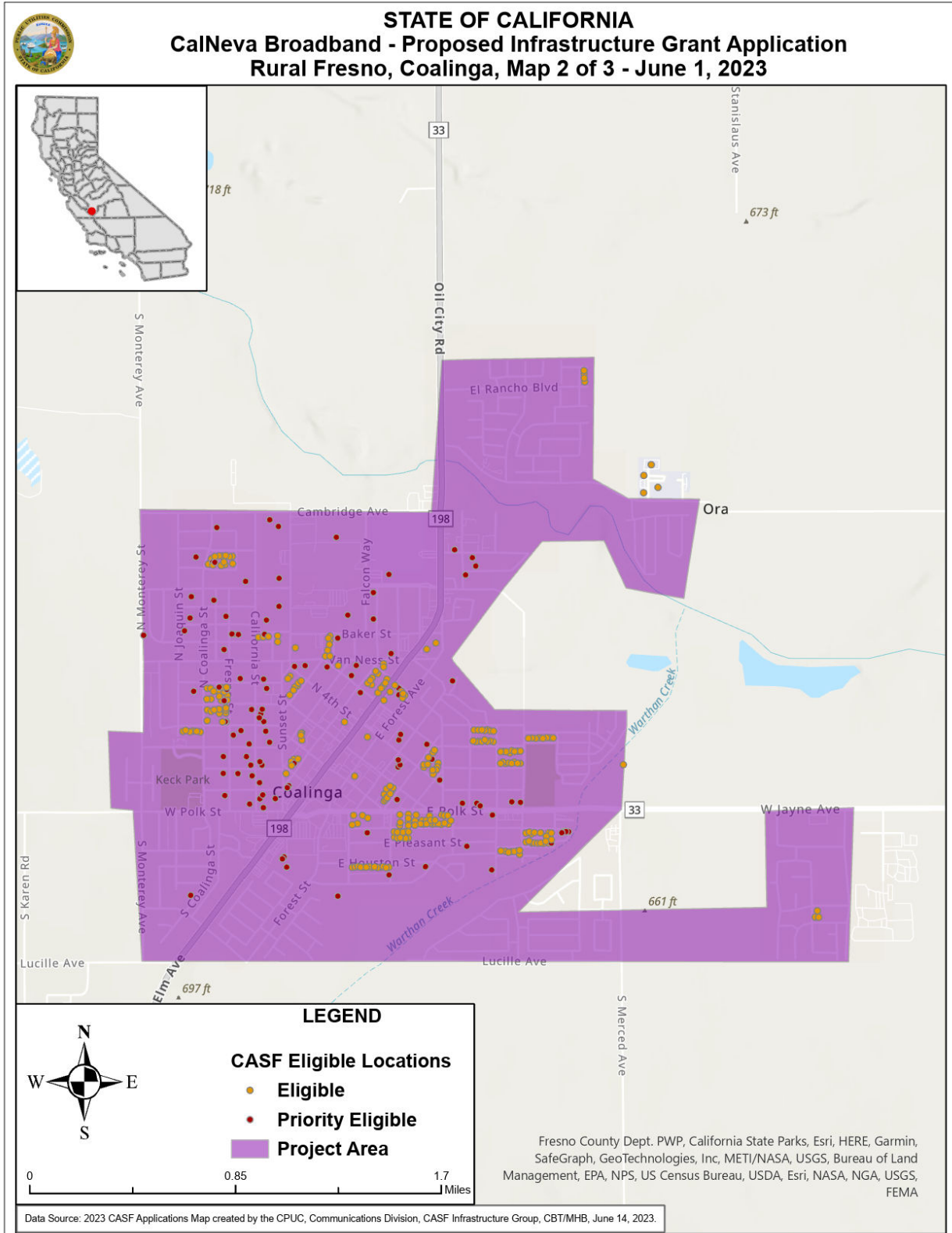
Project Name	Rural Fresno		
<i>Project Plan</i>	The project proposes to deploy hybrid fiber coaxial and fixed wireless to 600 unserved locations.		
<i>Project Size</i>	3.4 square miles		
<i>Download/Upload speed</i>	1 Gbps / 30 Mbps (HFC) 500 Mbps symmetrical (FWA)		
<i>Location</i>	County of Fresno		
<i>Median Household Income</i>	\$43,001		
<i>Estimated Potential Subscriber Size</i>	600 Households		
<i>Pricing Plan (Monthly) Residential</i>	Low Income 100/20 Mbps for \$15.00 Residential 1 100/5 Mbps for \$29.95 Residential 2 250/10 Mbps for \$39.95 Residential 3 500/15 Mbps for \$49.94 Residential 4 750/20 Mbps for \$59.95 Business Service 1 Gbps/30 Mbps for \$99.95		
<i>Subscriber take rate</i>	35 percent		
<i>Deployment Schedule (from permit approval date)</i>	18 Months		
<i>Proposed Project Budget (Total)</i>	\$519,260		
<i>Grant Requested Amount</i>	\$519,260		
<i>CASF Grant Amount (100 percent)</i>	\$519,260		
<i>Cost per household</i>	\$865.43		
<i>Census Blocks</i>	060190078011034 060190078011035 060190078011036 060190078011037 060190078011038 060190078011040 060190078011041 060190078011042 060190078011043 060190078011044 060190078011045 060190078011048 060190078011049	06019008002023 06019008002024 06019008002025 06019008002026 06019008002027 06019008002028 06019008002029 06019008002030 06019008002031 06019008002032 06019008002033 06019008002034 06019008002035	06019008005033 06019008101002 06019008101004 06019008101005 06019008101007 06019008101008 06019008101009 06019008101010 06019008101011 06019008101012 06019008101013 06019008101014 06019008101015

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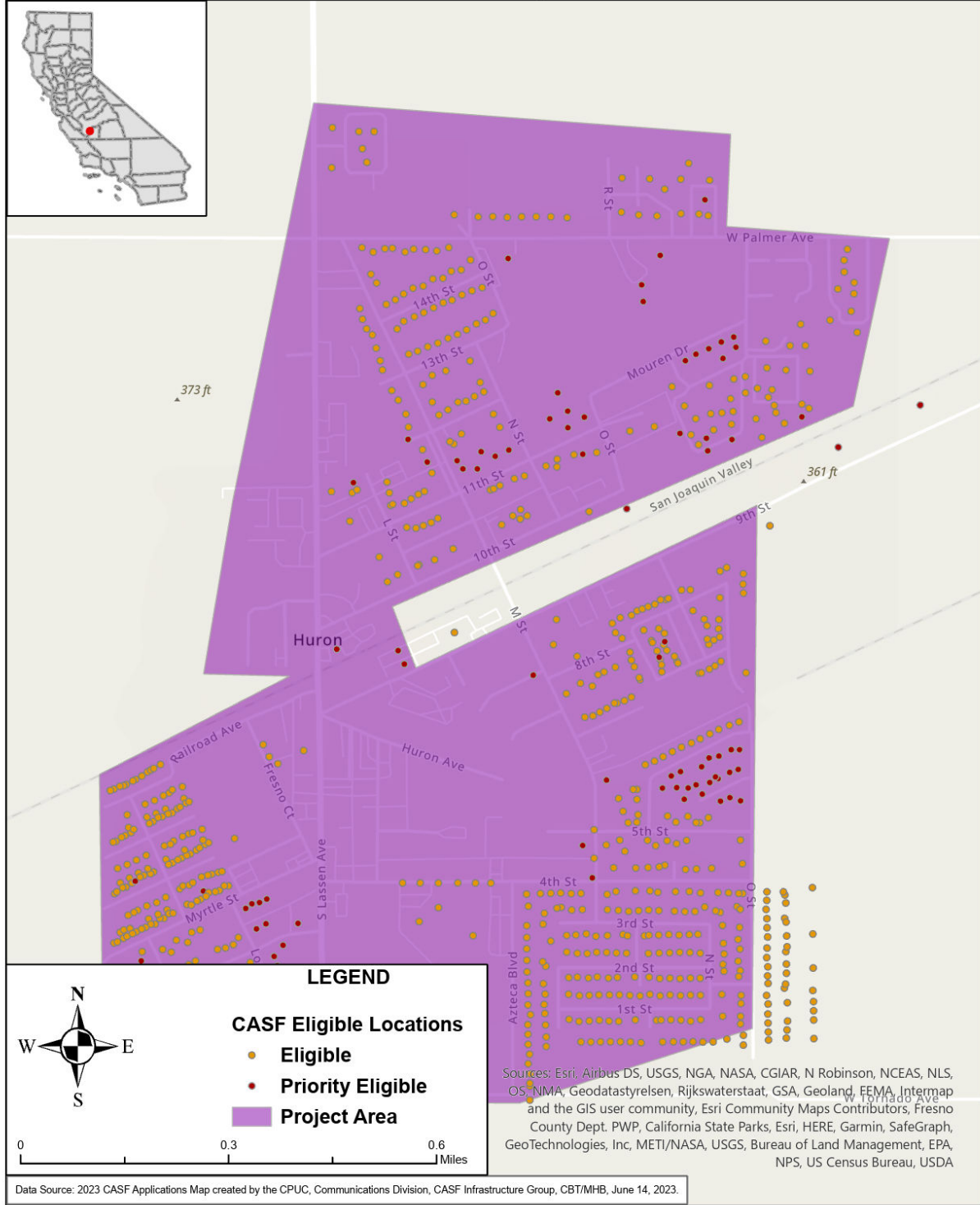
APPENDIX D
CalNeva – Rural Fresno Project Location Map







STATE OF CALIFORNIA CalNeva Broadband - Proposed Infrastructure Grant Application Rural Fresno, Huron, Map 3 of 3 - June 1, 2023



APPENDIX E

CalNeva – Rural Fresno Community Supporters

1. Ana Alfaro, Director, Central Valley Women’s Entrepreneur Center
2. Sean Brewer, Assistant City Manager, City of Coalinga
3. Vito Chiesa, Board Chair, California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
4. Shelby Gonzalez, Project Coordinator, San Joaquin Valley Rural Development Center
5. Frank Gornick, Program Manager, San Joaquin Valley Regional Broadband Consortium
6. Lizette Diaz, Program Coordinator, Fresno State Community and Regional Planning Center