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Carolyn Dunn
Federal Program Officer
State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP)
Office of Public Safety Communications
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
Department of Commerce

Carolyn:

Nebraska is requesting a waiver for the proportionality requirement of the 20% match for the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) funds. During the application process Nebraska had planned to utilize the salaries of state employees to meet that obligation.

In the first two quarterly reports for the quarters ending 9/30/2013 and 12/30/2013 Nebraska's match contributions of 41% and 40%, respectively, exceeded the match requirement. This excess was due to state employee efforts necessary for the grant application process and attendance at a SLIGP related conference to learn about FirstNet and the grant process.

Since that time the involvement of Nebraska's state employee activities have temporarily diminished. For the SLIGP Grant quarters ending 4/30/2014 and 6/30/2014 Nebraska's match contributions have been 1% to 2% short of meeting the match proportionality requirement of the grant program.

As FirstNet begins to move forward at a faster pace Nebraska expects the involvement of our state employees will increase and that it will meet and exceed the 20% match requirements by the end of the grant period of performance. In addition we have decided to track and use the salary dollar value of time spent on FirstNet activities by other Nebraska stakeholders. Nebraska will track stakeholder time spent on the activity and capture the necessary supporting information. We will then use the stakeholder salary information, if available, or obtain the appropriate salary information from the Independent Sector or Labor Department website and track these amounts for reporting purposes based on their volunteer status or job description whichever is applicable to their involvement.

Nebraska also plans to use state funds for grant related costs for office space and other expenses for the SLIGP Program Manager that were previously supported with SLIGP funding. These changes have been discussed with Nebraska's Federal Program Officer who is supportive of the changes.

Making these change will insure that Nebraska meets its 20% match responsibilities but at this point in the grants period of performance we are requesting a waiver for the proportionality requirement of the match.

Respectfully submitted,


Bob Wilhelm

Nebraska SLIGP Program Manager