

**From:** Mark Meyerhofer <mmeyerhofer@ecctec.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 1, 2024 2:25 PM  
**To:** esd.sm.MIP  
**Cc:** Breitbart, Joshua (ESD); Raigosa, John (ESD)  
**Subject:** CNY RPDB CFA # 135293

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On behalf of CNY Regional Planning and Development Board, we wanted to provide an update on Q.14719 and the source of funds.

Since the response to the conditional award letter, David Bottar has had substantive and positive conversations with Cayuga, Cortland, and Oswego Counties to provide a total of \$15 million, thereby providing interim financing for CNY NET. We are hoping this will assist in advancing the CNY RPDB application to the next stage. CNY RPDB is planning to have commitment letters from each county in place by the end of June 2024 and then formally approved legislation and executed agreements with each county immediately following the CAO formal grant award. Final County Legislative approval would occur in the July-September period.

If you require additional information, please let us know.

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**NYS Consolidated Funding Application # 135293**  
**Organization Name:** Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
**Project Name:** CNYNET24  
**City:**      **State:**

Created on  
March 8, 2024 - 04:35 PM  
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## Region

Central New York

## Questionnaire Questions & Answers

### Standard Question

#### ConnectALL – Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP)

Q\_15017    Do you acknowledge that the project(s) you are proposing for grant funding will meet the minimum project requirements as stated in the RFA and any subsequently published updates?

Yes

### Applicant Information

	Applicant
<b>Name of the Primary Applicant Organization</b>	Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board
<b>Applicant Street Address</b>	126 N. Salina Street, Suite 200
<b>Applicant City</b>	Syracuse
<b>Applicant State</b>	NY
<b>Applicant ZIP Code (please use ZIP+4 if known)</b>	13202-1059
<b>Applicant organization website</b>	<a href="https://www.cnyrpdb.org/">https://www.cnyrpdb.org/</a>

Q\_14435    Is the applicant "Doing Business As" (DBA)?

No

### Primary Contact Information

<b>Primary Contact</b>
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<b>Primary Contact First Name</b>	David
<b>Primary Contact Last Name</b>	Bottar
<b>Primary Contact Title</b>	Executive Director
<b>Primary Contact Telephone</b>	315-422-8276
<b>Primary Contact Email Address</b>	dbottar@cnyrpdb.org

Q\_14736 What is the type of entity for the lead applicant?

Eligible Public Applicant

Q\_14693 Please specify the Public entity type for the lead Applicant:

**(This question is associated with your answer selection in question: [Q\\_14736](#))**

Regional planning board formed under the provisions of NYS General Municipal Law

Q\_14443 Select an applicant ID type from the list below that you normally use to identify your organization on application forms.

Employee Identification Number (EIN), Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

Q\_14444 Based on your selection from the previous question, enter the associated ID number.

EIN: 16-0916169, UEI: 998-398-507

Q\_14445 If you are a business, have you been certified as a New York State Minority or Women-owned Business Enterprise (MWBE)?

No

Q\_14695 What is the expected infrastructure ownership structure?

Public

Q\_14696 Based on your selection from the previous question, please specify the entity or entities and entity type that will ultimately own the proposed infrastructure.

The CNY RPDB will form a not-for-profit corporation under Section 102 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law and organize as a 501(c)(3) to own the broadband infrastructure – CNYNET, Inc. CNY RPDB will appoint the members of the non-profit board of directors with representation from the public and private sector from each county in CNY.

Q\_14446 Please indicate if this application is submitted by a partnership or joint venture.

No

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Q\_14766 Please provide brief description of the operating model, specifying whether and how the infrastructure will be used by one or more internet service providers and what will be required of those ISPs.

CNYNET will be a wholesale provider of fiber optic capacity throughout the five-county region. The business model is to lease dark fiber optic capacity to municipalities, enterprise, carriers, and other entities that desire to manage and control their own telecommunications networks. The business model will focus on partnerships with multiple service providers to use the fiber optic backbone to expand competitive services throughout the region particularly in rural unserved areas across the five-county area. The proposed services will consist of dark fiber strand leasing and indefeasible right to use (IRU's) only. The agreed cost to use of the Fiber Network will be \$1200 PFM. Empire Access and Point Broadband have expressed interest in utilizing this network.

#### Fiber Optic Backbone

The desired business model is based on Public Private Partnerships (PPP) between the community and the private organizations in the community who have agreed to support the fiber once it has been built. Once implemented, the fiber infrastructure will establish a world class telecommunications backbone in CNY that will support technology led economic development, last mile broadband investment, improved healthcare, education, workforce training, public safety, and energy delivery services region-wide.

#### Users of the Fiber Optic Backbone

The CNYNET fiber optic backbone will establish a collaborative telecommunications foundation by which all service providers, including Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLECs), can develop and provide services on an equitable and cost-effective basis. The business model will seek to serve three (3) primary customer types: the Service Provider, the Enterprise Customer, and the Individual Counties.

Service Providers - Examples of this class of customer are Frontier, AT& T, Verizon, Empire access and Point Broadband, as well as cellular and 5G providers.

Enterprise Customers - These customers are typically hospitals, schools, corporations, etc. Examples of these customers are Upstate medical, BOCES and National Grid.

Public Safety and County Government – These include police and fire departments as well as the public safety radio network and local government locations.

Utilities – CNY RPDB is engaged in detailed conversations with local electric and gas utilities, including National Grid who has a major presence in Syracuse, to use the network to expedite grid modernization programs. Additionally, in these discussions, the concept of swapping fiber for make ready is being discussed which has the potential to substantially reduce cost to build and expedite construction schedules.

CNYNET will also serve as a bridge to link the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) Open Access Middle Mile Network to the north of the region and the Southern Tier Network to the south providing both with crucial access to international and national colocations in Syracuse. It has also been proposed that CNYNET interconnects to the Madison County FTTH network to the east.

Last mile service providers currently using the Southern Tier Network (STN) have expressed interest in expanding services into the unserved areas of the five-county CNY

region when this fiber network is completed. A connection will be made in and/or near Ithaca, NY. All connections will be made via dark fiber at suitable locations. Letters of support are included in this submission.

The routing of the proposed fiber network was prioritized to provide access to as many of the unserved last mile areas in the region as possible. As a result, it routes through the following counties in Central New York: Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego. The fiber network has been specifically designed to be routed near schools, healthcare facilities, government properties, public safety towers and small businesses who will each be connected as requested.

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Q\_14697 How many years has the Primary Applicant's organization been operating in New York?

58

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Q\_14458 Briefly describe the history of the Applicant or team as well as ownership and legal structure.

The CNY RPDB is a public regional planning organization established in 1966 by Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego Counties under Article 12B of the New York State General Municipal Law. The CNY RPDB is governed by a 35-member Board of Directors appointed by its five member counties. Financial support for the agency is provided by member county contributions, state and federal grants, and contract service revenue. The agency has a \$3.5 million annual operating budget and is staffed by 25 full-time employees.

The CNY RPDB provides a comprehensive range of services associated with the growth and development of communities in CNY focusing on broadband deployment, economic development, energy, land use and transportation planning, grants management, and regional collaboration. As part of its program services, the agency has managed numerous federal and state grants to support and implement major infrastructure and private development projects totaling more than \$200 million.

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Q\_14459 Briefly describe the Applicant's experience in broadband deployment in New York.

CNY RPDB is a public regional planning organization formed in 1966 under the NYS General Municipal Law to serve Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego Counties. The agency has 25 staff with an operating budget of \$3.5 million.

The agency has managed programs including broadband development, economic development, environmental and energy management, land use and transportation planning, and grants management. The agency has served as project manager on public infrastructure and private development projects, totally over \$200 million.

ECC Technologies, Inc. was incorporated in 1997 as a broadband and technology consulting firm. ECC Technologies office is in Penfield, NY. ECC has considerable experience developing, deploying, and operating broadband infrastructure projects throughout New York and nationally. ECC has more than 26 years of experience and has developed \$3 billion in fiber optic and wireless infrastructure projects.

ECC in-house staff can provide any service related to the development and operations of broadband infrastructure including market analysis, development of business plans, detailed design and construction drawings, ROW development, construction management, regulatory filings as well as short- or long-term operations. The total number of staff is 25.

ECC Technologies has served as project consultants and developers for the Development Authority of the North Country telecommunications network, Access Ontario and the Southern Tier Netw

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Q\_14698 How does the Applicant or team plan to staff for the project?

Applicant or team already have the skilled resources required to staff the project

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Q\_14764 Does the primary applicant have experience in broadband deployment – planning, project managing, delivering and/or operating broadband infrastructure?

Experience in other forms of infrastructure such as power water wastewater roads or other

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Q\_14748 Briefly describe the experience the primary applicant has in other forms of infrastructure deployment.

**(This question is associated with your answer selection in question: [Q\\_14764](#))**

CNY RPDB is a public regional planning agency that has supported the development of many diverse programs in Central New York including broadband service, economic development, energy development, land use and transportation planning, information and research services, grants management, and spearheading regional collaboration on issues important to the quality of life in the region.

Through its project development work, the CNY RPDB has served as project manager on numerous public infrastructure projects and public/private developments projects across the five-county region, whose value totals more than \$200 million.

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Q\_14761 Explain who the primary applicant will partner with or prepared to contract with that has broadband experience?

**(This question is associated with your answer selection in question: [Q\\_14764](#))**

CNY RPDB will contract with ECC to be the technical consultant for this project. ECC has 25 years of experience in developing fiberoptic networks and broadband systems for municipal and private entities. ECC is recognized in the middle mile open access fiber optics arena as a pioneer and national leader, responsible for developing multiple fiber networks across New York State and elsewhere.

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Q\_14751 For aerial construction of the proposed broadband deployment, what is the applicant teams' ability to mitigate cost and timeline risks as it relates to pole make-ready and licensing?

Partial pole ownership and/or control

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Q\_14467 Describe prior experience coordinating with permitting authorities, utility pole owners, and existing utilities.

The CNY RPDB has a significant amount of experience through its economic development program and project development work in working closely with local units of government and permitting authorities to ensure the timely completion of infrastructure and private development projects in CNY. These projects include public road, water, and sewer improvements, business parks, mixed-use developments, and community solar farms – all requiring zoning and site plan approval, environmental permitting, and right-of-way

approvals. This experience provides a valuable foundation for management of the proposed broadband project.

To supplement this experience, the agency will partner with ECC Technologies. ECC has extensive experience working with permitting authorities, including utility pole owners NYSEG and National Grid, NYS Department of Transportation, NYS Thruway Authority and county and local highway departments from all over New York state. ECC will oversee all pole application permits, the make-ready survey and construction process, which also includes bidding for this work and obtaining authorization for ducts for underground work and bridge and railroad crossings. ECC is currently overseeing the construction of the ErieNet middle mile network, which includes over 12,000 poles, and Madison County, a project with over 8,000 poles. ECC has also performed similar services for STN, DANC, Access Ontario, Monroe Net, as well as nationally, for several Broadband providers.

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Q\_14700 For underground construction of the proposed broadband deployment, what is the applicant teams' ability to mitigate cost and timeline risks as it relates to pathway to receive expedited permitting for right-of-way (ROW)?

Can easily get permits and ROW

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Q\_14468 Do you have experience managing state or federal grants or loans for broadband deployment?

Yes

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Q\_14469 Have any of your grants or loans for broadband deployment been suspended, paused, or rescinded at any time due to lack of performance or compliance with program rules or applicable law?

**(This question is associated with your answer selection in question: [Q\\_14468](#))**

No

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Q\_14470 Briefly outline the Applicant's background in overseeing state or federal grants or loans for broadband deployment. If applicable, explain the circumstances that led to any grants or loans that faced suspension, pause, or rescission due to performance issues or non-compliance with program regulations or relevant laws.

**(This question is associated with your answer selection in question: [Q\\_14468](#))**

As regional planning organization, the CNY RPDB has a significant amount of experience in securing and managing a wide range of state and federal grants to support its program operations and managing projects across the region. At the State level this experience includes funding from the NYS Departments of Economic Development, Transportation, Environmental Conservation, Homes and Community Renewal, State, and NYSERDA. At the federal level, the agency has managed planning and capital grants provided by the Economic Development Administration, Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, USDA, HUD, and the Northern Border Regional Commission.

ECC Technologies has overseen many state and federal grants on behalf of their clients over the past 25+ years. ECC Technologies is currently overseeing a USDA ReConnect grant in Madison County, which includes reviewing and submitting all invoices to the USDA for payment to the vendors, as well as overseeing all budget reporting requirements under the ReConnect program. In addition, ECC Technologies' staff is currently overseeing the ARPA grant reporting process for the ErieNet project in Erie County. In addition to these reporting requirements, ErieNet provides annual budget reports to the NYS Authorities

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Q\_14473 Describe past record of responding to information requests to share data with the NYS Department of Public Service concerning broadband mapping initiatives, including the length of time taken to furnish the requested information.

CNY RPDB and ECC have experience with the NYS DPS on broadband mapping initiatives. In 2021 and 2022, ECC led NYS's effort to create a statewide broadband database. ECC worked closely with DPS staff to create this database. All requests by DPS for information were addressed within the required time limit. Complementing this work was the CNY RPDB timely participation in the FCC challenge process.

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Q\_14701 Describe your current or past participation in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) or other public subsidy programs.

Given that CNYNET will be a middle mile dark fiber network, we will not participate in the ACP or other public subsidy program. However, any ISP that utilizes CNYNET to provide residential service will be required to do so.

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Q\_14702 Is the applicant team local to the proposed broadband deployment region in the New York State?

Yes

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### Approach and Scope of Services

Q\_14703 Describe the broadband infrastructure project and the specific geography and locations it would service (the Project Area(s))?

Central New York is geographically located in Upstate NY and includes the Counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego. The region covers an area of 3, 622 square miles which includes the urban Cities of Syracuse, Auburn, Oswego, Oneida, and Cortland all having institutes of higher learning. The CNYNET broadband infrastructure project will cover the rural portions of these counties with over 428 miles of fiber optic cable. For the purposes of this grant application, the Project Area is defined as one mile from the CNYNET backbone.

This project has been designed to provide fiber optic access to many government and community facilities including community/senior centers, fire departments, emergency services, public works, boy's and girl's clubs, civic organizations, multiple dwelling units, public housing, as well as other government/community buildings. In addition, CNYNET has recognized nearly 60, 000 addresses to provide fiber optic service and is prioritizing the opportunity to ISPs to make last mile connections to these residential addresses. Our ISP partners, Point Broadband and Empire Access, plan to build last-mile fiber infrastructure in some unserved and underserved areas as they have recognized the opportunity to provide fiber optic last mile service to areas only served by coaxial cable.

Furthermore, the building of CNYNET includes areas where high-speed, fiber optic cable is needed for economic development opportunities. Our plan clearly aligns with Governor Hochul's and Senate Majority Leader Schumer focuses on strengthening our Federal Tech Hub designation for the Buffalo-Rochester-Region. This OAN (Open Access Network) network can help in the success of New York's Semi-Conductor Manufacturing and Research Technology Innovation Corridor Consortium (NY SMART I-Corridor) plan. The Central New York region is relying on development from the environmentally friendly "Green Chips" semiconductor manufacturing and supply chain projects. These



Q\_14704 What are the wealth and income demographics for the proposed Project Area(s)?

Predominantly mid-income mixed investment area

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Q\_14705 Provide a list of the existing Internet Service Provider(s) in the Project Area(s) along with their advertised range of speed (download and upload) in Mbps and any other services offered.

Verizon 940/880

New Visions 1000/1000

Charter Communications Inc (FTTH) 1000/1000

Charter Communications Inc (Coax) 1000/35

Northland Networks 1000/1000

Point Broadband Fiber Holding, LLC 1000/1000

Windstream New York, Inc. 2000/2000

Zito Media 1000/1000

FRONTIER 1000/1000

TDS Telecom 1000/1000

FirstLight Fiber 100000/100000

Dryden Fiber 1000/1000

Haefele Connect 250/25

Pavlov Media 1000/1000

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Q\_14706 Describe any patterns of non-investment or past challenges preventing Internet Service Provider(s) to provide services in the Project Area(s).

Much of the CNY region is rural America, having the same problems and found around the country with lack of economic development, job opportunity and decreasing tax base. Capital doesn't flow without opportunity. This rural region, like so many others around the country, lacks the capacity to attract wealth to create jobs and build a healthy sustainable community. In the rural areas of the five-county CNY region, while investments by ISPs have occurred over the past 5 years, there are still several pockets of unserved areas and lack of fiber as well as capital investment. These include rural areas in western and eastern edges of Oswego County, the northern and southern parts of Cayuga County, and the northeastern parts of Cortland County. Additionally, in many areas of CNY, residents and businesses are served by coaxial cable, rather than fiber to the premises (FTTP) broadband technology which severely limits the opportunity for investment and growth.

With the emphasis of the New York State's ConnectAll office, this MIP grant and the state's continued economic development efforts CNYNET will be poised to lower the cost of market entry for ISPs to provide FTTP technology and in turn be the key for fiber connectivity and community investment. This connectivity will be a vital component for our state's infrastructure providing consumers with high-speed broadband connections,

supporting the growth of technology, research, education and driving economic development, while also leading to improvement in electric service in these rural areas.

Four of our rural counties in the CNY region have experienced widespread population declines since 2000, with urban Onondaga County the only county having a very slight increase of population. Fiber connectivity plays a crucial role in technology and rural economic growth for agriculture, home based and small business. The need grows for broadband for several reasons:

Speed and capacity are required for education, work force development and our ever-increasing work at home job force. The requirements continue to grow necessitating the greater need for fiber optic networks providing high-speed internet access, which is essential for the functioning of modern technology and digital services. Job recruitment and retention in the 21st century relies on providing employees that wish to work from home with an increasing demand for reliability and speed for data transmission.

The success of 5G wireless, which is expected to revolutionize various sectors, hinges on deep fiber. Without deeper fiber, carriers will be unable to support the projected increase in mobile data traffic. CNYNET will be able to assist with these efforts.

Access to high-speed internet will attract investment and spur economic growth and rural development. It enables businesses to compete globally and provides opportunities for entrepreneurship and innovation on the farm and local small business. Jobs will also be created in these rural areas on the deployment of statewide last-mile fiber infrastructure.

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**For the proposed Project Area(s), please provide the numbers of broadband serviceable locations (unserved, underserved, & served locations).**

**Note: Total is auto-populated after saving & moving to next page.**

***Broadband Serviceable Locations***

	<b>Number of Locations</b>
<b>Unserved Locations</b>	12341
<b>Underserved Locations</b>	1627
<b>Served Locations</b>	396255
<b>Total</b>	410,223

**For the proposed Project Area(s), please provide the numbers of broadband serviceable locations (residential, business, & community anchor institutions).**

**Note: Total is auto-populated after saving & moving to next page.**

***Broadband Serviceable Locations Type***

	<b>Number of Locations</b>
<b>Residential Locations</b>	371656

<b>Business Locations</b>	38095
<b>Community Anchor Institutions</b>	472
<b>Total</b>	410,223

For the proposed Project Area(s), please provide the total miles of new fiber construction being proposed (aerial fiber construction, underground fiber construction, & drop fiber (aerial and underground) for the last-mile).

Note: Total is auto-populated after saving & moving to next page.

***Miles of New Fiber Construction Proposed***

	<b>Total Miles</b>
<b>Aerial Fiber Construction</b>	377
<b>Underground Fiber Construction</b>	51
<b>Drop Fiber (Aerial &amp; Underground) For the Last-Mile</b>	0
<b>Total</b>	428

For the proposed Project Area(s), please provide the financial details (MIP grant requested, available or earmarked public funds, & available private funds). The "Total" should represent the Total Project Cost.

Note: Total is auto-populated after saving & moving to next page.

***Financial Details***

	<b>Total Dollars</b>
<b>MIP Grant Requested</b>	\$28,846,550
<b>Available or Earmarked Public Funds</b>	\$0
<b>Available Private Funds</b>	\$0
<b>Total</b>	28,846,550

Q\_14707 Briefly provide the information about the available or earmarked public funds and/or the available private funds.

CNY RPDB will work with its five member counties to secure a commitment of \$5, 000, 000 for an operating reserve fund to support operations of the network until it becomes sustainable. In addition, to reduce capital costs, CNY RPDB will negotiate fiber swaps with carriers of existing networks such as DANC, and Madison County. Furthermore, the

agency has conducted preliminary discussions with National Grid and NYSEG to secure favorable broadband service agreements with the utilities in exchange for significant discounts in the capital costs associated with utility pole “make-ready” accommodations.

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Q\_14708 Describe Applicant or teams’ access to capital to address any potential debt or operating revenue shortfalls.

The CNY RPDB is planning to submit grant applications to the federal Economic Development Administration and the Northern Border Regional Commission to secure additional capital resources to support the complete build-out of the fiber optic network in Central New York.

In addition, the CNY RPDB and CNYNET, Inc. have the legal capacity and commitment to secure short term mezzanine debt financing that would be secured by the project assets and operating cash flow to address any financing gaps incurred during construction and initial operations. It is anticipated that additional gap financing can be secured through partnership arrangements with ISPs.

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Q\_14709 Describe the methodology and any assumptions made to determine the cost estimates.

Cost estimates and assumptions are based on actual construction bid numbers and invoicing experienced in recent fiber optic construction projects similar in size and location.

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Q\_14710 What is the projected take-rate % in the first five years of broadband service?

25

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Q\_14711 What is the take-rate % to break-even the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) expenses?

12

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Q\_14712 Describe efforts that will be made by the Applicant or team to keep costs reasonable and competitive.

Any costs incurred will be put through a competitive bid process. This process ensures that expenditures are reasonable and competitive. The network will be designed using value engineering techniques for the most cost-efficient investment in the network. An example would include route adjustment or using underground fiber optic placement where make ready costs are exorbitant.

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Q\_14753 Please describe the revenue sharing model between the Applicant and partner(s), including but not limited to the Internet Service Provider (ISP).

The applicant will own the network and will competitively bid for operations of the network. The applicant will provide fibers to carriers via an IRU in exchange for a revenue share agreement. The revenue share is based upon the applicant receiving \$10/month for each residential customer connected or 15% of the revenue generated, whichever is greater. This model is based upon one similarly deployed in Madison County.

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Q\_14713 For any proposed public-private partnership, what is the minimum duration in years of shared

public ownership?

10

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Q\_14714 For any proposed acquisitions as a part of the project (e.g. fiber leases), describe the age and remaining useful life of the infrastructure.

The Applicant plans to negotiate fiber swaps or to IRU fiber to connect with other carriers. The age of the fiber optic cable has not been determined.

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Q\_14715 Within how many months of the project kick-off are the first connections expected?

22

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Q\_14716 Within how many months of the project kick-off will the project complete?

30

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Q\_14717 Describe the work that has been done to date in developing the project and explain why this grant is necessary to advance the Applicant's project to implementation.

To date, an inventory of the telecommunications infrastructure in each of the Counties has been carried out. A preliminary route design has been developed along with a costing model and high-level business plan. The route was designed to provide access to as many un-served and underserved locations as possible and the connection of Community Anchor Institutions in the region. Letters of support have been collected.

The funding of this project is also critical to the economic development of the region, to enable competition in the region for fiber optic based broadband services, and to help carriers expand their networks' affordably to reach unserved and underserved households. In addition, the robust regional fiber optic network will help companies such as Micron and other major employers in the region with their business recruitment and retention efforts.

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Q\_14718 How does the Applicant plan to share the newly built network infrastructure?

Open-access network with transparent pricing and unbiased availability for multiple ISP(s)

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Q\_14719 Describe the identified risks for the proposed project and plans to mitigate those (if identified).

The major risks identified include keeping the project on time and budget, given the multiple contracts that need to be scheduled to ensure project completion. Make Ready, as with any broadband infrastructure project, is very lengthy and dependent on pole owners to ensure the project advances and meets all deadlines. The project team is experienced in working with pole owners and will closely monitor this process with weekly updates from make ready contractors where any delays are addressed to quickly resolve issues. The project team will also contract with multiple make ready contractors to mitigate risk from any one contractor.

An additional risk is any state or federal funding guidelines that could delay the payment

process for contractors and vendors. If awarded this grant, the fiber construction will be prioritized to meet the completion goals set forth by the MIP grant. Another risk is that revenues will not keep pace with operating expenses. CNY RPDB will create a sales and marketing plan and establish a sales team to market and promote our service offerings and secure contracts. Our sales program will be funded via commissions to mitigate operating budget impacts. In addition, the agency will seek to capitalize an operating cash reserve fund totaling \$5 million through financial commitments from its member counties.

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## Network Design

Q\_14720 Is the network design of the proposed Project Area(s) complete or close to complete? Please ensure to upload the network design in whatever stage it is at in the Documents tab.

Close to complete network design

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Q\_14755 Is the proposed network design completely fiber?

Yes

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Q\_14721 Are there any interconnection plans with the existing publicly controlled middle mile and/or last mile infrastructure assets?

Connects to a publicly accessible Point-Of-Presence or Data Center

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Q\_14722 Describe whether any existing infrastructure would or has been integrated into the design.

CNYNET will connect to DANC in Oswego County and STN in Tompkins County. In addition to connections to these OANs, CNYNET will also connect into the Madison County network that is currently being constructed through a USDA ReConnect grant.

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Q\_14723 Describe performance metrics of your proposed network, including the speeds, latency, average outage, network uptime, and existence of data caps or throttling.

CNYNET offers dark fiber, and the customer/subscriber sets the bandwidth speed. The fiber optic infrastructure is being built to carrier industry specifications and will support industry standards for level of service for latency and network uptime. The network topology is a series of interconnecting and overlapping rings for network redundancy, diversity, and resiliency.

The network plan will include CPE equipment, carrier grade switch/routers with optical lasers, for municipal endpoints (facilities) that will light the fiber for 1G or 10G of backbone bandwidth/speed (WAN). Each router will also have 1G/10G internal LAN ports that interconnect to the subscriber's local network (LAN). The customer can impose data caps or throttling if it is to their advantage, and/or to manage throughput across their ring topology to minimize contention or oversubscription.

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## Service Quality

Q\_14760 In addition to completing the Service Tiers and Pricing template under the Documents tab of this application, please also describe the service speeds and means of delivery of any free service tiers or free introductory periods available to end-users. Specify if such options will be

generally available without ACP utilization or will require additional qualification.

Given the nature of a dark fiber, open access network, download and upload speeds are dependent upon the customer switch/router. The Customer Premises Equipment demarcation equipment from the CNYNET fiber supports multiple 1G and 10G ports to interface with the customer network. All customers of the CNYNET network will have access to multi-gigabit, symmetrical speeds, which our ISP partners would be able to offer as well for last-mile connections. Free service tiers and free introductory periods, as well as whether this is available without ACP utilization, will be determined by our ISP partners.

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Q\_14724 Describe plans to market the service to customers and plans to work with customers to enroll.

To effectively market CNYNET and enroll customers a comprehensive strategy is essential. Our plan includes:

**Strategic Positioning:** Our intention is to position CNYNET as a reliable, high-speed broadband network with a focus on affordability and accessibility. Emphasis will be placed on the benefits of reliable internet for education, remote work, telehealth, work force and economic development.

**Multichannel Marketing:** We will implement a multichannel marketing approach to reach a wide range of potential customers. This includes digital channels such as social media advertising, search engine optimization, and email campaigns, as well as traditional channels such as yard signs, local newspapers, radio, community events, and incentivized discounts to encourage early adoption.

**Partnerships and Collaborations:** Collaborate with local businesses, schools, libraries, and community organizations to raise awareness about CNYNET's broadband network. This will include the CNY Regional Transportation Center/Centro bus advertisement displays, partnership with National Grid for information in utility bills, marketing on Syracuse.com platform and WCNY public television advertising.

**Education and Outreach:** It will be essential to conduct informational sessions, community open houses and workshops in community centers, schools, JMA Dome at Syracuse University, libraries and civic groups to educate residents about the benefits of broadband internet and how to enroll in CNYNET's service. Outreach will also take place at the NYS Fair, CNY Regional Market and County Fairs.

**Customer Support and Assistance:** We will develop and utilize a dedicated customer support team to assist potential customers with the enrollment process.

By implementing these strategies, CNYNET can effectively market its broadband service to customers and streamline the enrollment process, ultimately expanding access to high-speed internet connectivity and driving economic growth in the community.

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Q\_14480 Specify the type and daily operating hours for all types of customer service provided for broadband subscribers including phone, email, SMS, and/or in person customer assistance (if provided). How is customer support provided outside of regular working hours and on weekends?

CNYNET will have an Operations Center that provides customer support 24/7 through a 1-800 number to report service problems. Our ISP partners will have a similar system, as well as email and SMS options for customers to utilize. Given the nature of internet service, where CNYNET customers need access 24/7, customer support will be available outside of regular working hours and on weekends.

Q\_14481 What aspects of the customer service experience are automated and which are provided through live customer support?

The CNYNET Operations Center will utilize live agents only and will not have an automated system. After CNYNET customers speak to the live agent, the information regarding the customer service issue will be forwarded to an On Call Technician for follow-up. There will be a backup system for On Call Technicians that will be escalated until the live agent speaks directly with an individual in the Operations Center.

Q\_14482 What is the scope of any subcontractors providing customer support?

CNYNET will utilize a “pool” of live agents as subcontractors for customer support. This system ensures that CNYNET customers will always speak with an agent, rather than an automated system.

Q\_14725 Describe how Applicant will ensure long-term, high-quality connectivity and support for residents, including a proposed Service-Level Agreement.

All CNYNET customers will receive a Service Level Agreement (SLA) as part of their contract. The SLA outlines the details of fiber provisioning, maintenance of the fiber, service level commitments and repair time, among other items. The fiber service availability commitment in SLAs is 99.999% for the total applicable time for each month. Service credits, based on the number of hours the customer was out of service, will be provided to the customer if they were out of service for more than four hours in one month.

Q\_14484 How will the Applicant adhere to net neutrality principles, including commitments to no blocking, no throttling, no unreasonable discrimination in the transmittal of lawful internet traffic, and no paid prioritization?

CNYNET will abide by all net neutrality principles, including all of those listed in the question.

Q\_14485 What measures and strategies will the Applicant take to safeguard the privacy and cybersecurity of residents and other end-users?

As a dark fiber provider, cyber security is the responsibility of the dark fiber subscriber. That said, the CPE routers would provide for end-to-end encryption.

## **Digital Equity Impact, Workforce Development and Diversity Practices**

Q\_14726 Describe Applicant or teams’ outreach targets, including any plans to engage the community with any non-English-speaking residents.

CNY RPDB outreach targets will be elected municipal leaders (mayors, supervisors, and their staff), BOCES and school superintendents, higher education, public safety, and municipal housing authorities. The outreach will also include developing public private partnerships with broadband providers, ISPs, network service providers, and major data centers to light CNYNET’s dark fiber infrastructure. CNY RPDB is also engaging with “Last Mile” broadband service providers to leverage our open access fiber so that these providers can offer competitive broadband access and services to our communities, serving all income levels.



Q\_14727 Describe Applicant or teams' prior experiences adopting community support programs and the outcomes of such programs.

CNY RPDB's partner, ECC Technologies, has considerable experience in gaining community support and engagement of open access network infrastructure. Examples of successful programs throughout NYS are ErieNet, MonroeNet, Axxess Ontario, Southern Tier Network, and DANC.

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Q\_14728 Describe any plans to provide devices, skills and safety trainings, or provide other support to the community.

CNYNET intends to provide local libraries, community centers, K-12 schools, community colleges and universities connected by this grant with customer premise equipment (CPE) with routers to light the fiber for data (IP) communications. CNYNET will consult with each entity's IT support team for network requirements. If these customers elect to include CNYNET management of the network, then CNYNET will have managed network service providers under contract for such services.

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Q\_14729 Describe any accessibility plans to the community residents with disabilities.

The CNY RPDB strongly supports the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) facilitating equity in all areas including internet accessibility through this new fiber network. The agency will work with civic and disabled groups that inquire about ways to navigate the web. People who are blind may use screen readers, which are devices that speak the text onto the screen, the deaf may use captioning. In our marketing efforts we will look to educate our partners and the community at large about this issue when we engage and encourage last mile providers to offer both residential and business/institutional services.

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Q\_14730 Describe the projected economic development and job creation impacts from the proposed project.

The return on investment for business and communities that invest in fiber is well documented. For communities that invest in a robust fiber infrastructure they are more attractive to businesses looking to relocate or establish new branches. This leads to job creation, increased tax revenues and a robust quality of life. Fiber leads to better and more reliable health care, which is a critical economic development component. Telemedicine relies on high-speed internet. Enhanced fiber connectivity enables remote medical consultations and health care services in underserved areas ensuring that rural residents have access to quality healthcare. This new fiber network would help support modern education and work force training methods ensuring the region's Trade Schools, Training Programs, Community Colleges, and Universities have access and reliability to online resources allowing remote learning. Working on training programs with local businesses and industries can improve educational outcomes and prepare graduates for future job opportunities in those businesses. Quality of life has steadily grown in importance in developing local economies. The most successful local or regional economies also score very highly in the quality-of-life category. Fiber enhances the overall quality of life for residents. It saves money, enabling smart city initiatives and supports public services like online government transactions, traffic engineering, and simply making life easier for those in the community.

From the business perspective, fiber increases productivity. It can prevent costly business interruptions to operations as well as its scalability of adapting to bandwidth demands can be adjusted without incurring substantial infrastructure costs. Fiber is a competitive advantage as businesses can deliver better online experiences, support remote work, and adopt emerging technology advancements without network constraints. Fiber also aids in

recruiting and retaining talent.

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Q\_14731 Describe Applicant or teams' current practices aligning with NYS "good job" definitions and safety standards by committing to appropriate policies and investments to recruit, train, hire, retrain, and upskill a diverse workforce, particularly local workers and/or workers from historically disadvantaged communities, into good jobs that pay the prevailing wage.

Current human resource practices of CNY RDPB, its' partners, vendors, and consultants in their job hiring efforts align with the following principles. The project team is committed to finding qualified applicants through active recruitment when opportunities become available. We understand that the digital revolution is driving automation in the workforce and in turn driving some workers out of jobs. We will encourage our partners to focus on this group, find candidates from underserved communities and base hiring decisions on nondiscriminatory and relevant skills-based requirements.

The project team will encourage each job opportunity to include both full-time and part-time workers to be provided family-sustaining benefits, availing each worker with economic security and mobility. All participants in this project will be required to promote the principles of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) making sure that all workers have equal opportunity and are respected, empowered, and treated fairly.

All participants will be required to provide for empowerment and representation enabling workers to form and join unions and contribute to decisions about their work. This commitment will afford each employee the opportunity for their job security and healthy working conditions, while providing a safe, healthy, and accessible workplace, built on input from workers and their representatives.

All project participants will be required to provide employees with economic mobility and a clear pathway and an equitable chance at not only being hired but having internal mobility while providing opportunities to learn, advance to new positions, and be recognized for their accomplishments through workforce training efforts.

Working with community-based partners, the agency will support Governor Hochul's Comprehensive Plan to strengthen New York's workforce and help grow Central New York and adjacent regional economy. The CNY RDPB and its' partners will continue to work to promote the seven-pronged initiative overhauling New York's approach to workforce development. The CNY regional needs are prioritized in working with business and industry, unions, underrepresented groups through minority focused nonprofits creating and expanding access to career services and the jobs of tomorrow.

All project participants will be asked to identify innovative ways to build the workforce of the future. Working with our partners CNY Works, Center State CEO, local Community Colleges and Universities, local Trade and Labor Unions, and ethnic nonprofits in conjunction with the Office of Strategic Workforce Development (OSWD). The agency will continually look to utilize the States' new investment of \$350 million for workforce development and the creation of new projects that focus on preparing Central New Yorkers for careers in high-growth industries including:

Advanced Manufacturing and Materials

Biotech and Life Sciences

Cleantech and Renewable Energy

Construction

Electronics and Optics, Photonics, and Imaging (OPI)

Film and TV Production and Post-Production

Software and Digital Media

The CNY RPDB will continue to rely on partners working through the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals (NYATEP) to provide more jobs to Central New Yorkers with good or better jobs through job training, education, economic and workforce development.

All contractors and subcontractors will follow safety standards in New York State enforced by the Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH), which was created to give occupational safety and health protection to all public sector employees. It will be the objective to have all staff, consultants and vendors follow NYS PESH promulgated under the United States Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) and several state standards including the installation and maintenance of fiber conductors. The National Electrical Safety Code (NESCA), specifies safe practices for installing, operating, and maintaining electric supply and communications lines and equipment. The National Electrical Code (NEC) governs electrical design, installation, and inspection in all 50 states of the U.S. Training and guidance are also provided to understand the types of cables, their flammability ratings, color codes, and installation procedures.

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Q\_14496 Describe current and planned future workforce training, certification, and licensure (e.g., in-house training, safety training, industry-recognized certifications, and offer of vocational training, apprenticeships, pre-apprenticeships, or other “earn and learn” opportunities) that are part of the Applicant’s workforce development strategies.

The CNY RPDB expects all respective contractors or subcontractors in the cable/fiber installation industry to have appropriate certifications, insurance and training for the staff they are providing for the project. The agency’s expectation is that the contracting company and their employees take reoccurring and on-going training to stay up to date on all applicable and industry trends to include new skills and techniques needed to ensure all OSHA and safety compliances are achieved. This could include training acquired from more senior employees in a mentor/mentee format, formal industry-recognized certification training, local community or accredited colleges.

The agency acknowledges that formalized program training and certification can come from differing programs including Corning’s Fiber Broadband Training Program. This program equips technicians and network specialists with skills crucial to design, deploy, and maintain an expanding fiber broadband network across the United States. The Corning Fiber Broadband Technician (CFBT) training is a five-day course that includes intensive hands-on training on optical fiber and networking, network design, hands-on splicing, connectorization, field construction for cable deployment, testing, and system

turn-up. Other training programs are listed below.

Corning and AT& T's Fiber Optic Training Program: This program equips technicians and network specialists with the skills to design, engineer, install, and manage a fiber broadband network.

Certified Network Cable Installer (CNCI): CNCI certification demonstrates practical knowledge of fiber optic theory, standards, codes, and widely accepted practices in the industry.

Fiber Optic Association (FOA) Certification: The FOA CFOT® is the certification for most fiber optic technicians. It is based on the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) deemed necessary for all technicians involved in the design, installation, testing, and operation of fiber optic ne

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Q\_14732 Explain current and planned future efforts to diversify the talent pipeline by engaging underrepresented and/or underserved individuals, including any statewide, regional, or local partnerships in place to support recruitment and hiring.

All project participants will be required to support the cable and fiber industry's efforts to diversify the talent pipeline in the installation sector. Diversification is crucial for creating an inclusive workforce and the industry's growth. Each party will be required to follow and support the Talent Pipeline Challenge, launched by the Biden-Harris Administration. This initiative encourages businesses to partner with training providers in each region where they operate, such as registered apprenticeship programs or community colleges with diverse student populations. The challenge focuses on equitable Workforce Development in three critical infrastructure sectors: Broadband, Construction, and Electrification. The agency will encourage Pre-Apprenticeship Programs for all employers already partnered with a registered apprenticeship program may consider investing in a quality pre-apprenticeship program that sends its graduates directly into a registered apprenticeship program. Working with NYS Office of Strategic Workforce Initiatives and our local NY labor unions, CNY Works, Center State CEO doing outreach in our community and with business such as National Grid, Empire, Point Broadband and ECC Technologies we will continue to reach out and educate interested individuals about the opportunities and advantages of working in this industry.

The agency will also encourage support in national partnerships like Field Nation. This platform connects businesses with skilled contract workers across the U.S., including low-voltage cabling, fiber cabling, and structured cabling technicians and CABL. CABL serves the entire cable/telecom/satellite broadband industry, providing employment listings, classified ads, discussion forums, and training opportunities, with specific aims to engage underrepresented and/or underserved individuals, ensuring a diverse and inclusive workforce in the cable fiber installation industry.

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## Workforce Development

Q\_14486 Describe the Applicant's current employee engagement strategy as it relates to ensuring good jobs for the Applicant's employees. Include an overview of compensation and benefits, job security, working conditions, worker engagement, and the organizational culture.

The CNY RPDB will work to ensure that all participants in this project meet the technical and operational capacity to successfully complete this project. Each worker will be required to demonstrate they have the appropriate skills and credentials to meet requirements for each aspect of this project. This project will have access to members of

the International Brotherhood of Electric Workers and telecommunications workers represented by IBEW 43, IBEW 241 and IBEW 2213.

More than 1500 highly trained staff from 40 contractors are available to support this initiative. The IBEW spends greater than \$1, 000, 000 per year on the development of training programs for established members and apprentice members. Members must attend training and achieve certifications as a requirement to maintain membership. The installation of the fiber will

adhere strictly to the National Electric Safety code, Utility regulations and Right of Way requirements.

New members must meet minimum educational requirements before entering the IBEW and must perform the same training and apprenticeship programs before entering the job site. Live line training by supervision will be a requirement. Furthermore, any work conducted within existing utility rights-of-way will be supervised by the local utilities accountable for these rights-of-way. Work done on State Department of Transportation rights of ways will require an onsite independent inspector.

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Q\_14733 Describe the interest of one or more eligible partners and vendors to support the project. Detail any specific commitments that have been made.

CNYNET's partners include DANC, STN, Madison County, National Grid, Micron, as well as ISPs who have expressed interest in building to last mile on this network, including Point Broadband, Empire Access and Fiberspark.

Pavlov Media, a company that provides internet, video, phone and software solutions to apartments, homes and businesses across 44 states, has expressed interest in utilizing OANs for access to public housing. Pavlov serves MDUs and has in-house construction crews that install fiber optic infrastructure and has a Network Operations Center that provides 24/7 service to ensure reliability, stability and technical support.

As noted throughout this proposal, ECC Technologies is technical Project Managing Consultant, overseeing all Design, Make Ready and Construction, as well as Sales, Maintenance and Operations.

The proposed fiber network's design, development, project management and long-term operations will be performed by ECC Technologies Inc. ECC Technologies has over 25 years' experience in designing, developing and operating fiber infrastructure networks. ECC Technologies is recognized in the middle mile open access fiber optics arena as a pioneer and national leader, responsible for developing multiple fiber networks across New York State and elsewhere. Each network developed by ECC Technologies is still operational and sustainable today, some as long as 20 years. ECC Technologies provides support for the development of business plans, project development and implementation oversight as well as long term operational support as needed for each network. Additional information can be found at [www.ecctec.com](http://www.ecctec.com).

Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that intend to use CNYNET's fiber to provide last mile connections to unserved and underserved addresses include Point Broadband, Empire Access and Fiberspark. CNYNET will continue to seek and include other providers as our project continues development.

Point Broadband was formed in 2017 with a mission to improve lives by delivering 100% fiber networks and best-in-class customer service to underserved areas of rural America. Through their partnerships with communities and local utility companies, they have

enabled economic development projects and allowed small-town businesses and families to enjoy a level of connectivity normally only found in big cities. Point Broadband is focused on partnering with municipalities and utilities to deliver a complete broadband solution. They have the ability to finance, design, build, and operate these fiber networks.

Empire Access is a 100% local company, headquartered in Plattsburgh, New York, delivering 100% fiber optic infrastructure and is one of the leading telecommunications companies serving residential and business customers in Upstate New York. Empire Access offers a wide range of products and services from scalable high-speed fiber optic internet, TV, phone, and advanced security solutions. In 2017, 2018, and 2021, Empire Access was awarded for Best Internet Service Provider in the Southern Tier region of New York, the Southern Tier Award as well as the best FLX Award.

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Q\_14734 Please specify the level of commitment from the Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to operate on the proposed network build. For open-access network, the Applicant must have commitment from one or more ISPs to operate on the network.

Committed one or more ISPs for last-mile

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## Certification

Q\_1038 By entering your name in the box below, you certify that you are authorized on behalf of the applicant and its governing body to submit this application. You further certify that all of the information contained in this Application and in all statements, data and supporting documents which have been made or furnished for the purpose of receiving assistance for the project described in this application, are true, correct and complete to the best of your knowledge and belief. You acknowledge that offering a written instrument knowing that the written instrument contains a false statement or false information, with the intent to defraud the State or any political subdivision, public authority or public benefit corporation of the State, with the knowledge or belief that it will be filed with or recorded by the State or any political subdivision, public authority or public benefit corporation of the State, constitutes a crime under New York State Law.

David Bottar

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Q\_14767 By entering your name in the box below, you the Applicant acknowledges the following:

- Applicant will meet all Project Requirements and Applicant Requirements per the RFA.
- Application is not receiving funding from other federal or state sources for the same activities proposed for MIP funding.
- Applicant will provide additional cost estimates, if requested, for Properties in the portfolio agreed upon with CAO, including total grant amount requested and matching funds.
- Application will work with all appropriate agencies to obtain all required right of way approvals.
- Application will obtain all required permits and private easement approvals.
- Application will coordinate project deployment with all utilities.
- Application will obtain any necessary subcontractors.
- Application will provide on-site construction inspections to ensure proper design and execution.
- Application will coordinate and resolve third-party or private claims.
- Application will repair any and all damage to private and government property.
- Application will at all times, maintain an adequate staff of experienced and qualified employees for efficient performance.
- Application will at all times, furnish or perform any services in a safe, proper, and professional manner.
- Application will comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- Application must submit a performance report to the State that includes the following key performance indicators, if selected to be a Grantee:
  - Project milestones and percentage of project/site completion, including construction milestones, quantity of fiber deployed, problems/issues encountered, and actions taken to resolve construction issues

- Description of changes, challenges, or risks to project timeline, including environmental compliance and permitting challenges
  - Detailed reporting of actual construction costs, as compared to approved construction costs
  - Speed and latency test data at the address level for all locations served in the project area--including maximum download speed offered, maximum download speed delivered, maximum upload speed offered, maximum upload speed delivered, and latency.
  - Maps and associated data for all locations served, including all buildings/sites where service was installed.
  - Compliance with Prevailing Wage requirements, as determined during negotiations
  - Implementation progress of Digital Equity, Workforce Development, and Diversity Practices plans
  - Other reporting as required by grantor agencies or as mutually agreed upon by the Applicant and State.
  - Subscription information including the number of paying subscribers enrolled in the service, the number of low-income subscribers enrolled in ACP, and the number of subscribers enrolled in a low-cost service plan
  - Information about customers' Internet access prior to enrolling in the service including whether or not the customer had a previous fixed Internet subscription and the speed of that previous subscription
- Applicant acknowledges receipt of and compliance with addenda to this RFA.

David Bottar

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Q\_2365 By entering your name in the box below, you are acknowledging that ESD's Contractor & Supplier Diversity policy will apply to this project. You are further acknowledging that you are aware of ESD's agency-wide Minority and Women Business Enterprise ('MWBE') utilization goal of 30%. Please note that each project will be assigned an individual contract-specific goal, which may be higher or lower than 30%. Furthermore, you understand that, should this project receive a funding award, the Applicant shall be required to use good faith efforts to achieve the prescribed MWBE goals assigned to this project and failure to attain MWBE goal could result in grant amount being reduced.

David Bottar

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Q\_4182 By entering your name in the box below, you certify and agree that you are aware that your award will be reduced in proportion to the reduction of jobs and/or total project costs. Furthermore, you understand that, should this project receive a funding award, the Applicant will maintain such records and take such actions necessary to demonstrate such compliance throughout the completion of the project.

David Bottar

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Q\_7341 By entering your name in the box below, you certify, under penalty of perjury, that the information given herein is true and correct in all respects for the company or organization applying for funding (the "Company"), presently and for the past five years: -the Company is not a party to any litigation or any litigation is not pending or anticipated that could have an adverse material effect on the company's financial condition;

-the Company does not have any contingent liabilities that could have a material effect on its solvency;

-the Company, its affiliates or any member of its management or any other concern with which such members of management have been officers or directors, have never been involved in bankruptcy, creditor's rights, or receivership proceedings or sought protection from creditors;

-the Company is not delinquent on any of its state, federal or local tax obligations;

-No principal, officer of the Company, owner or majority stockholder of any firm or corporation, or member of the management has been charged or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony, indicted, granted immunity, convicted of a crime or subject to a judgment, or the subject of an investigation, whether open or closed, by any government entity for a civil or criminal violation for: (i) any business-related activity including, but not limited to, fraud, coercion, extortion, bribe or bribe receiving, giving or accepting unlawful gratuities, immigration or tax fraud, racketeering, mail fraud, wire fraud, price fixing or collusive

bidding; or (ii) any crime, whether or not business related, where the underlying conduct relates to truthfulness, including but not limited to, the filing of false documents or false sworn statements, perjury or larceny;

-the Company or any of the Company's affiliates, principal owners or Officers has not received a violation of State Labor Law deemed "willful";

-the Company or any of its affiliates has never been cited for a violation of State, Federal, or local laws or regulations with respect to labor practices, hazardous wastes, environmental pollution or other operating practices;

-there are not any outstanding judgments or liens pending against the Company other than liens in the normal course of business.

-the Company or any of its affiliates, principal owners or officers the company has not been the subject of any judgments, injunctions, or liens including, but not limited to, judgments based on taxes owed, fines and penalties assessed by any governmental agency, or elected official against the Company.

- the Company or any of its affiliates, principal owners or officers the company has not been investigated by any governmental agency, including, but not limited to, federal, state and local regulatory agencies

-the Company or any of its affiliates, principal owners or officers the company has not been debarred from entering into any government contract; been found non-responsible on any government contract; been declared in default ore terminated for cause on any government contract; been determined to be ineligible to bid or propose on any contract; been suspended from bidding on any government contract; received an overall unsatisfactory performance rating from any government agency on any contract; agree to a voluntary exclusion from bidding or contracting on a government contract.

- the Company or any of its affiliates, principal owners or officers the company has not failed to file any of the required forms with any government entity regulating the Company. By entering your name in the box below, you agree to allow the Department of Taxation to share the Company tax information with ESD. By entering your name in the box below, you agree to allow the Department of Labor to share tax and employer information with ESD. Note: If any of the statements above are not true, in addition to entering your name, also include an explanation in the box below, indicating which issue you are addressing.

David Bottar

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## ***Net New Jobs***

No job answers necessary due to your associated programs.

## ***Qualified Investments***

No investment answers necessary due to your associated programs.

## ***Total Project Cost***

Total project cost: \$ 28,846,550

## ***Funding Requested from Program***

<b>Program</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
ConnectALL – Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP)	\$ 28846550



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## Attachment Questions & Answers

### ConnectALL – Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP)

#### Project Summary

Q\_14740 Provide a summary of the following key points of the project [Not to exceed two pages]:

- List of applicants and any eligible partners
- List of the proposed project areas with a percentage of unserved and underserved locations
- Total miles of proposed new fiber construction
- Brief overview of the proposed project approach
- Proposed infrastructure ownership model
- Approach for sharing the newly built infrastructure as open-access or reserved for exclusive use
- Total project budget with the amount requested from MIP grant funds

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName\_Project-Summary\_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

Central New York Regional Planning and Development  
Board\_Project-Summary\_03.06.24.pdf  
[Download](#)

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#### Financial Capability

Q\_14686 Upload the Applicant's most recent financial statements prepared in accordance with standard accounting procedures of the Applicant and all principals of the organization. Eligible Private Applicants should provide three years of audited financial statements.

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName\_Finances\_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board\_Finances\_03.07.24.pdf  
[Download](#)

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#### Experience and Relevant Qualifications

Q\_14687 Please provide two case studies of relevant past work done by the Applicant or team, with preference to work conducted in New York State. Include reference to adhering to relevant state and federal regulations.

Case studies shall be brief and include the following for each:

- Number of addresses served
- Number of businesses subcontracted
- Route miles constructed, and costs incurred by category (e.g., make-ready, permitting, engineering/design, labor, construction)
- Description of the technology deployed and why it was the appropriate choice for the project
- Service level commitment offered
- Advertised download speed in megabits per second
- Advertised upload speed in megabits per second
- Monthly, non-promotional price for each service offered over the funded infrastructure

- Specifications of signal latency and service reliability parameters
- Descriptions of any delays or changes made to project timeline

Name your file using the following naming convention: “ApplicantName\_Experiences\_MM.DD.YY”

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

[Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board\\_Experiences\\_03.06.24.pdf](#)  
[Download](#)

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## Deployment Timelines

Q\_14688 Please provide a project management plan with timelines clearly identifying the time to first connections and the time to project completion.

Name your file using the following naming convention:  
“ApplicantName\_Deployment-Timelines\_MM.DD.YY”

Please note that the accepted file types for this question are PDF and XLSX. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

[Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board\\_Deployment-Timelines\\_03-06-24.xlsx](#)  
[Download](#)

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## MIP RFA Templates

Q\_14765 Please provide the following information by filling out all four tabs of the MIP RFA Templates file (link to download below).

1. Project budget with a breakdown of costs using the “MIP Budget Templates” tab
2. Services and products that will be offered to the end-users, and pricing of those by completing the “MIP Service Tiers and Pricing” tab:
  - a) Include description of service tiers, speeds, and pricing, inclusive of all taxes and fees.
  - b) Indicate price, upload speed, and download speed for a product at or below \$30 per month, if such a price point is planned
  - c) Include description, including service speeds and means of delivery, of any free service tiers or free introductory periods, if available
3. Details on the intent to hire additional employees if the Applicant is selected to be a Grantee by filling out the “MIP Workforce Development” tab
4. A list of locations the project will serve by filling out the “MIP Location Data” tab. Provide all available location data such as FCC Location ID, address, and latitude/longitude for each location
  - a) Indicate which locations are Unserved, Underserved or Served
  - b) Business, Residential or Mixed
  - c) Community Anchor Institutions

Name your file using the following naming convention:  
“ApplicantName\_MIP-RFA-Filled-Templates\_MM.DD.YY”

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is XLSX. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

Please use the link below to download the templates file.

## [MIP RFA Templates](#)

Central New York Regional Planning and Development  
Board\_MIP-RFA-Filled-Templates\_03.07.24.xlsx  
[Download](#)

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### Network Design

Q\_14689 Please provide a complete or close to complete network design and architecture, including:

- Network elements (both active and passive)
- Connectivity to the internet backbone
- Delivery to each served address with the required throughput and capacity
- Engineering decisions required to achieve service speeds and latency, such as:
  - Backhaul connectivity
  - Head end deployment
  - Core network electronics
  - Fiber capacity and strand counts on each segment of the network
  - Maximum line speed at the premises
  - Oversubscription ratio
  - Split ratios
  - Splice points
  - Drop installation
  - In-unit termination specification
  - CPE or router model and capabilities (including Wi-Fi interface)

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName\_Network-Design\_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

Central New York Regional Planning and Development  
Board\_Network-Design\_03.08.24.pdf  
[Download](#)

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### Maps and Addresses

Q\_14690 Please provide Maps and address lists indicating the fiber routes and accompanying infrastructure (e.g., poles and huts) that the MIP grants would fund. Include a list of publicly controlled assets the project may use to support deployment. Include a .kmz or shapefile of the proposed routing with clearly defined layers for the various types of infrastructure and any other information relevant to the design, including:

- Fiber routes and segment types (backbone, distribution, etc.)
- Installation method (direction bore, micro-trenching, etc.)

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName\_Maps-Addresses\_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file types for this question are kmz, kml, shp, and shx. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

Central New York Regional Planning and Development  
Board\_Maps-Addresses\_03.08.24.kmz  
[Download](#)

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### ISP Letters Of Commitment

Q\_14691 For an open-access infrastructure, please provide Letters of Commitment to operate on the network from one or more ISP, indicating details of the ISP's planned technology approach and demonstration of a currently functional network meeting CAO requirements elsewhere. Other supporting documentation may include letters of endorsement from ISP(s) currently operating on infrastructure built by the applicant elsewhere, and documentation from an operator using infrastructure built by the Applicant to host ISPs that meet CAO's service requirements.

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName\_ISP-LOC\_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

[Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board\\_ISP-LOC\\_03.08.24.pdf](#)  
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## Workforce Development

Q\_15016 Attach letter(s) of commitment, if available, from partner organization(s) that demonstrate(s) Applicant's current engagement, or future intent to engage, with partner(s) through advising on curriculum or program design, providing program funding, interviewing talent, hiring talent, building an apprenticeship or other program, or upskilling existing workers. Letters can be from labor unions, workforce development organizations, state and local workforce boards, educational institutions, community-based organizations, or others relevant organizations.

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName\_WorkforceLOCs\_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

[No attachment, cannot upload](#)

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## Additional Document(s)

Q\_15018 Provide any additional document(s) to strengthen your application (e.g. letters of endorsement from the proposed area municipality).

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName\_AdditionalDocs\_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file types for this question are PDF and ZIP. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to [cfa-programs@ny.gov](mailto:cfa-programs@ny.gov) and [MIP@esd.ny.gov](mailto:MIP@esd.ny.gov).

[Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board\\_AdditionalDocs\\_03.08.24.pdf](#)  
[Download](#)

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## Legend

[x] = Expired Program

**CENTRAL NEW YORK REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Balance Sheet**

**December 31, 2021**

<b>ASSETS</b>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>SMTC Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>			
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 590,519	\$ 169,717	\$ 760,236
Cash & cash equivalents - restricted	\$ 668,757	\$ 43,131	\$ 711,888
Due from federal, state, counties and other agencies	\$ 167,609		\$ 167,609
Due from related parties	\$ 108,000	\$ 1,593	\$ 109,593
Due from other funds	\$ 3,895		\$ 3,895
Accounts Receivable	\$ 1,500		\$ 1,500
Prepaid expenditures	\$ 15,261	\$ 11,101	\$ 26,362
	<u>\$ 1,555,541</u>	<u>\$ 225,542</u>	<u>\$ 1,781,083</u>
Total Assets			
	<u>\$ 1,555,541</u>	<u>\$ 225,542</u>	<u>\$ 1,781,083</u>
 <b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 185,255	\$ 45,124	\$ 230,379
Accrued liabilities	\$ 28,723	\$ 29,233	\$ 57,956
Due to other funds	\$ 1,593	\$ -	\$ 1,593
Accrued retirement payable	\$ 179,436	\$ 151,185	\$ 330,621
Deferred Revenue	\$ 668,757	\$ -	\$ 668,757
	<u>\$ 1,063,764</u>	<u>\$ 225,542</u>	<u>\$ 1,289,306</u>
Total Liabilities			
	<u>\$ 1,063,764</u>	<u>\$ 225,542</u>	<u>\$ 1,289,306</u>
Fund balance beginning of the year	\$ 36,362	\$ -	\$ 36,362
Operating Income	\$ 462,051	\$ -	\$ 462,051
Total Fund balance year end	<u>\$ 498,413</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 498,413</u>

**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Change in Fund Balances**  
**For the Year Ended 12/31/2021**

	General Fund	SMTC Fund	Total
<b>REVENUES:</b>			
Federal	\$ 841,633	\$ 1,417,178	\$ 2,258,811
State	\$ 972,750	\$ -	\$ 972,750
County membership contributions	\$ 286,856	\$ -	\$ 286,856
Interest income	\$ 17	\$ -	\$ 17
Contract Services	\$ 231,396	\$ -	\$ 231,396
	<u>\$ 2,332,652</u>	<u>\$ 1,417,178</u>	<u>\$ 3,749,830</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Salaries & Wages	\$ 462,956	\$ 744,561	\$ 1,207,518
Fringe Benefits	\$ 175,366	\$ 194,717	\$ 370,083
Consultants & Subcontractors	\$ 946,981	\$ 310,119	\$ 1,257,099
Office Rent & utilities	\$ 69,060	\$ 70,609	\$ 139,669
Computer equipment, support and supplies	\$ 1,635	\$ 11,304	\$ 12,939
Conferences and meetings	\$ 464	\$ 1,262	\$ 1,726
Advertising	\$ 22,961	\$ 424	\$ 23,385
Honesty and Property insurance	\$ 9,835	\$ 5,672	\$ 15,508
Parking	\$ 1,847	\$ 13,690	\$ 15,537
Office furniture	\$ 130	\$ 1,846	\$ 1,976
Equipment rentals	\$ 4,055	\$ 9,439	\$ 13,494
Professional fees	\$ 85,024	\$ 32,802	\$ 117,826
Postage and freight	\$ 5,539	\$ 2,256	\$ 7,794
Telephone	\$ 6,908	\$ 6,828	\$ 13,736
Travel	\$ 7,736	\$ 1,519	\$ 9,254
Supplies	\$ 239	\$ 5,669	\$ 5,908
Books, dues and subscriptions	\$ 13,907	\$ 2,472	\$ 16,379
Report production	\$ 1,668	\$ 1,988	\$ 3,656
Miscellaneous	\$ 8,222	\$ -	\$ 8,222
	<u>\$ 1,870,601</u>	<u>\$ 1,417,178</u>	<u>\$ 3,287,779</u>
<b>OPERATING INCOME:</b>	<u><u>\$ 462,051</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 462,051</u></u>

**CENTRAL NEW YORK REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Balance Sheet**

**December 31, 2022**

<b>ASSETS</b>	General Fund	SMTC Fund	Total
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>			
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 647,221	\$ 50,856	\$ 698,076
Cash & cash equivalents - restricted	\$ 668,505	\$ -	\$ 668,505
Due from federal, state, counties and other agencies	\$ 200,389	\$ -	\$ 200,389
Due from related parties	\$ -	\$ 6,978	\$ 6,978
Due from other funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Accounts Receivable	\$ 212,960	\$ 58,888	\$ 271,848
Prepaid expenditures	\$ 12,243	\$ 2,976	\$ 15,219
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,741,318</u>	<u>\$ 119,698</u>	<u>\$ 1,861,015</u>
 <b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 295,456	\$ 13,238	\$ 308,694
Accrued liabilities	\$ 23,805	\$ 23,012	\$ 46,817
Due to other funds	\$ 6,978	\$ -	\$ 6,978
Accrued retirement payable	\$ 51,714	\$ 83,448	\$ 135,162
Deferred Revenue	\$ 945,304	\$ -	\$ 945,304
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 1,323,257</u>	<u>\$ 119,698</u>	<u>\$ 1,442,955</u>
 Fund balance beginning of the year	 \$ 498,413	 \$ -	 \$ 498,413
Operating Income	\$ 221,031	\$ -	\$ 221,031
Total Fund balance year end	<u>\$ 719,444</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 719,444</u>

**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Change in Fund Balances**  
**For the Year Ended 12/31/2022**

	General Fund	SMTC Fund	Total
<b>REVENUES:</b>			
Federal	\$ 275,175	\$ 1,350,714	\$ 1,625,889
State	\$ 1,233,526	\$ -	\$ 1,233,526
County membership contributions	\$ 290,552	\$ -	\$ 290,552
Interest income	\$ 62	\$ -	\$ 62
Contract Services	\$ 481,665	\$ -	\$ 481,665
	<u>\$ 2,280,979</u>	<u>\$ 1,350,714</u>	<u>\$ 3,631,694</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Salaries & Wages	\$ 586,097	\$ 764,636	\$ 1,350,734
Fringe Benefits	\$ 192,917	\$ 236,722	\$ 429,639
Consultants & Subcontractors	\$ 1,075,902	\$ 140,327	\$ 1,216,229
Office Rent & utilities	\$ 74,848	\$ 73,436	\$ 148,283
Computer equipment, support and supplies	\$ 779	\$ 46,663	\$ 47,442
Conferences and meetings	\$ 4,809	\$ 4,581	\$ 9,390
Advertising	\$ 5,300	\$ 361	\$ 5,661
Honesty and Property insurance	\$ 11,155	\$ -	\$ 11,155
Parking	\$ 4,320	\$ 8,740	\$ 13,060
Office furniture	\$ 14,259	\$ 11,762	\$ 26,021
Equipment rentals	\$ 5,164	\$ 6,058	\$ 11,222
Professional fees	\$ 50,566	\$ 30,176	\$ 80,742
Postage and freight	\$ 1,263	\$ 2,853	\$ 7,794
Telephone	\$ 6,697	\$ 6,617	\$ 13,314
Travel	\$ 3,556	\$ 2,756	\$ 9,254
Supplies	\$ 5,656	\$ 5,651	\$ 11,308
Books, dues and subscriptions	\$ 14,524	\$ 1,301	\$ 15,825
Report production	\$ 124	\$ 7,754	\$ 7,878
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,013	\$ 320	\$ 2,333
	<u>\$ 2,059,949</u>	<u>\$ 1,350,714</u>	<u>\$ 3,410,663</u>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<u>\$ 221,031</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 221,031</u>



**CENTRAL NEW YORK REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Balance Sheet**

**December 31, 2023**

<b>ASSETS</b>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>SMTC Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>			
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 376,624	\$ 267,568	\$ 644,192
Cash & cash equivalents - restricted	\$ 236,453	\$ -	\$ 236,453
Due from federal, state, counties and other agencies	\$ 1,127,199	\$ -	\$ 1,127,199
Due from related parties	\$ -	\$ 1,748	\$ 1,748
Due from other funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Accounts Receivable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Prepaid expenditures	\$ (3,918)	\$ 2,914	\$ (1,004)
	<u>\$ 1,736,358</u>	<u>\$ 272,229</u>	<u>\$ 2,008,587</u>
Total Assets			
 <b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 678,062	\$ -	\$ 678,062
Accrued liabilities	\$ 29,810	\$ 24,811	\$ 54,621
Due to other funds	\$ 1,748	\$ -	\$ 1,748
Accrued retirement payable	\$ 69,718	\$ 105,144	\$ 174,862
Deferred Revenue	\$ 236,453	\$ -	\$ 236,453
	<u>\$ 1,015,790</u>	<u>\$ 129,955</u>	<u>\$ 1,145,745</u>
Total Liabilities			
 Fund balance beginning of the year	 \$ 719,444	 \$ -	 \$ 719,444
Operating Income	\$ 183,006	\$ -	\$ 183,006
Total Fund balance year end	<u>\$ 902,450</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 902,450</u>

**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Change in Fund Balances**  
**For the Year Ended 12/31/2023**

	General Fund	SMTC Fund	Total
<b>REVENUES:</b>			
Federal	\$ 70,000	\$ 1,981,469	\$ 2,051,469
State	\$ 2,600,158	\$ -	\$ 2,600,158
County membership contributions	\$ 296,222	\$ -	\$ 296,222
Interest income	\$ 563	\$ -	\$ 563
Contract Services	\$ 934,405	\$ -	\$ 934,405
	<u>\$ 3,901,348</u>	<u>\$ 1,981,469</u>	<u>\$ 5,882,817</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Salaries & Wages	\$ 778,555	\$ 952,978	\$ 1,731,533
Fringe Benefits	\$ 175,694	\$ 250,836	\$ 426,530
Consultants & Subcontractors	\$ 2,462,731	\$ 506,337	\$ 2,969,068
Office Rent & utilities	\$ 73,030	\$ 73,030	\$ 146,061
Computer equipment, support and supplies	\$ 6,043	\$ 30,222	\$ 36,265
Conferences and meetings	\$ 4,116	\$ 58,503	\$ 62,619
Advertising	\$ 755	\$ 138	\$ 893
Honesty and Property insurance	\$ 12,668	\$ -	\$ 12,668
Parking	\$ 7,003	\$ 10,630	\$ 17,633
Office furniture	\$ 1,838	\$ 883	\$ 2,721
Equipment rentals	\$ 3,354	\$ 7,419	\$ 10,773
Professional fees	\$ 151,521	\$ 35,444	\$ 186,965
Postage and freight	\$ 1,177	\$ 5,098	\$ 6,275
Telephone	\$ 6,485	\$ 6,485	\$ 12,970
Travel	\$ 5,456	\$ 3,053	\$ 8,509
Supplies	\$ 6,681	\$ 11,069	\$ 17,750
Books, dues and subscriptions	\$ 16,868	\$ 2,784	\$ 19,652
Report production	\$ 1,015	\$ 26,488	\$ 27,503
Miscellaneous	\$ 3,353	\$ 71	\$ 3,424
	<u>\$ 3,718,342</u>	<u>\$ 1,981,469</u>	<u>\$ 5,699,811</u>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<u><u>\$ 183,006</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 183,006</u></u>

## **Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board - CNYNET NYS Municipal Infrastructure Program Grant Application**

Experience and Relevant Qualifications

### **CNY Regional Planning and Development Board**

The CNY RPDB is a public regional planning organization formed in 1966 under the provisions of Article 12B of the NYS General Municipal Law. The agency is governed by a 35-member board of directors appointed by its five member counties. The agency provides a comprehensive range of services associated with the growth and development of communities in Central New York with a focus on nine major program areas including:

- Telecommunication and Broadband Planning
- Economic Development
- Environmental Management
- Community Revitalization
- Comprehensive Land Use Planning
- Transportation Planning
- Energy Conservation and Alternative Energy Development
- Information, Research Services, and Grants Management
- Regional Collaboration and Inter-Governmental Coordination

The CNY RPDB is supported, in part, by financial contributions made by each member county. County funds provide the financial base for the CNY RPDB's operations and are used, in part, to provide the local match required for funding that the agency receives from discretionary competitive special purpose federal and state grants. The balance of the agency's operating revenue comes from project services fees and contract revenue items. These operating funds total approximately \$3.5 million annually and support a professional staff of 25 full-time employees and a range of special purpose consultant contracts, and project initiatives.

As a public agency, the CNY RPDB has provided a range of tangible benefits and services to each of its member counties. These accomplishments include completing in 2021 a regional broadband infrastructure study and plan for Central New York. In addition, the agency has a significant amount of experience applying for and managing federal and state grants for local planning initiatives and a range of public and private capital projects for municipal facilities, infrastructure, and commercial properties. The total value of these grants and project exceeds \$200 million and ranges in size from \$500,000 to \$25 million.

As a public planning and development agency, the CNY RPDB has the necessary staff resources and experience to manage the MIP grant. To supplement these resources, the agency will partner with ECC Technologies to manage the build-out and operation of the CNY middle mile fiber network.

ECC Technologies, Inc will serve as the technical project management consultant on this project under contract with the CNY RPDB. ECC Technologies, Inc. has extensive experience in building, operating and maintaining Open Access Networks (OANs) with over 25 years of experience in developing fiberoptic networks and broadband systems for municipal and private entities. ECC Technologies' Open Access fiber business models and programs have been recognized by the FCC as a best practice for rural communities.

ECC Technologies is recognized in the middle mile open access fiber optics arena as a pioneer and national leader, responsible for developing multiple fiber networks across New York State and elsewhere. Many of these networks were developed in conjunction with communities, while others were for profit companies and/or Utility Co-ops. Each network developed by ECC Technologies is still operational and sustainable today, some as long as 20 years. ECC Technologies provides support for the development of business plans, project development and implementation oversight as well as long term operational support as needed for each network. ECC Technologies' financial and operational models are developed to meet the needs of financial sources interested in funding and supporting such models.

ECC Technologies' leadership in the area resulted in ECC Technologies being the 2015 recipient of the NYS Broadband Program Office's Extraordinary Broadband Team Award.

Two case studies of ECC Technologies' experience with OANs include Southern Tier Network (STN) and Access Ontario, as described below. Others are available upon request.

## **Southern Tier Network**

Southern Tier Network (STN) is a 501 c (3) not-for-profit, local development corporation created by the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board (STCRPDB) along with private and municipal partners to build and operate an Open Access (OA) optical fiber network in Steuben, Schuyler, and Chemung Counties of New York State. STCRPDB relied on ECC Technologies' expertise to provide all the necessary services to start, design, build, operate, monetize, and ultimately hand off the OA system. ECC Technologies' services provided to the STCRPDB included: consulting, business plan development, public-private partnership development, grant writing, project management, network monetization through fiber sales, network operations and maintenance, construction management, service provider relationship development.

As the design and project management consultant for the network's construction, ECC Technologies directed the construction efforts, resulting in the projects being completed ahead of schedule and under budget. As the operational support arm of STN, ECC Technologies was responsible for monetizing the network by securing 189 contracts that amounted to \$20 Million in revenue, serving more than 460 enterprise and carrier locations. ECC secured contracts with eight new broadband carriers to extend their networks into the region leveraging the STN network.

In November 2015, Southern Tier Network was awarded \$5 million in grant funding by the New York State Empire State Development to expand the STN open access network by 134 miles to serve

Allegany, Broome, Tompkins, and Tioga Counties. ECC Technologies designed the network and managed its construction to be completed on time and under budget.

Network operations of the expansion project were performed by ECC Technologies. In addition, ECC Technologies began monetizing the network by securing 28 contracts valued at nearly \$1.6 million. ECC arranged for the connection of 55 customer locations on the Southern Tier Network Expansion (STNE) service area. Three carriers expanded their service area into the STNE bringing competitive service offerings to these communities.

Fifteen rural New York communities now have fiber to the home with others being added on a continuous basis. In addition to the broadband improvements, this project also included fiber optic connections for K-12 schools, colleges, libraries, hospitals, and healthcare facilities, while also serving the business community at large. Each of the participating counties use the fiber to interconnect internal facilities including public safety towers, economic development sites and other key locations.

The technology deployed for this project was dark fiber for use by municipalities, enterprise, telecommunication carriers and other entities. Dark fiber strands were leased or provided by an indefeasible right of use to those customers who lit the fiber on their own or utilized a managed service provider. This type of system was established to allow other telecommunication carriers into unserved areas and provider end users with another service provider on an all-fiber network. As noted earlier, this network led to eight new broadband carriers extending their networks.

A Service Level Agreement (SLA) was provided to each STN customer, outlining the details of fiber provisioning, maintenance of the fiber, service level commitments and repair time, among other items. The fiber service availability commitment in SLAs is 99.999% of the total applicable time for each month. Service credits, based on the number of hours the customer was out of service, were provided to the customer if they were out of service for more than four hours in one month.

Given the nature of a dark fiber, open access network, download and upload speeds are dependent upon the customer switch/router. The Customer Premises Equipment demarcation equipment from the STN fiber supports multiple 1G and 10G ports to interface with the customer network. All customers of the STN network will have access to multi-gigabit, symmetrical speeds.

The monthly, non-promotional price is \$500/month/span for fiber leases and under an Indefeasible Right of Use contract, there is a \$1,000 one-time fee and \$300/month maintenance fee.

Delays to the project timeline were primarily due to Make Ready work, which is a lengthy schedule due to pole owner requirements on surveying and construction work related to Make Ready, such as pole replacements and moving existing electric and telecommunication lines. For unusual delays, we temporarily attach to poles to stay on schedule.

Other details requested in the MIP grant application:

Number of addresses served	15,000 residential 460 CAI's
Number of businesses subcontracted to build the network	18
Route miles constructed	453
Make ready costs	\$3,142,705
Permitting costs	\$614,823
Engineering/Design costs	\$1,538,390
Labor costs	\$6,867,143
Construction costs	\$6,691,539
Service level commitment offered	2hrs to respond/4 hrs to repair
Signal latency	5 microseconds/km
Service reliability	99%

## Access Ontario

ECC Technologies was the lead consultant and instrumental in the creation, development and success of Access Ontario's Open Access Model in Ontario County, New York. In 2005, ECC developed the business model, designed the network, managed its construction, and operated and monetized it. In 2019, Ontario County leadership determined it had successfully completed its mission and arranged a partnership with Empire Access a local ISP to continue FTTH build out and operations of the network. Empire Access continues to expand their FTTH program within this network.

ECC Technologies designed the fiber optic network and managed the make ready and construction process completing the \$5.8 million, 200 + mile project on time and under budget.

As the sales and operational support arm of Access Ontario, ECC was personally responsible for monetizing the network by securing 95 contracts amounting to \$10.6 million in revenues serving 186 enterprise and carrier locations. Seven new broadband carriers were brought into the County via the AO network providing competitive services and investing millions in broadband technologies.

It should be noted that during the initial stages of Verizon 4G cellular development program, Ontario County was one of the first communities in the nation along with eh 32 NFL Cities to receive the newly developed services. This was a direct result of the partnership created between the network and Verizon which used the fiber network for roll out and testing. In addition to the cellular and broadband improvements, this project also included fiber optic connections for K-12, colleges, libraries, hospitals and healthcare facilities, energy utilities and the business community at large. Ontario County also uses the fiber network to interconnect internal facilities including public safety towers, economic development sites and other key locations.

Other details requested in the MIP grant application:

Number of addresses served	6,000 residential and 186 CAI's
Number of businesses subcontracted to build the network	18
Route miles constructed	200
Make ready costs	\$1,029,945
Permitting costs	\$360,000
Engineering/Design costs	\$474,838
Labor costs	\$1,979,379
Construction costs	\$1,958,309
Service level commitment offered	2hrs to respond/4 hrs to repair
Signal latency	5 microseconds/km
Service reliability	99%

**Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board - CNYNET  
NYS Municipal Infrastructure Program Grant Application**

**CNYNET Network Design**

• **Network elements (both active and passive)**

CNYNet is designed as a dark fiber network with a fiber monitoring system as the only active components distributed across the huts or co-location facilities deployed on dedicated fiber strands. The EXFO Fiber Guardian FG-750 provides OTDR analysis of the designated fiber strands to help detect potential issues in the fiber transmission capabilities as well as fiber breaks. This system will greatly improve the reaction time for dispatch of fiber maintenance crews to diagnose and repair/restore the fiber network segment that has been identified with any issues.

• **Connectivity to the internet backbone**

The network is designed to access the carrier hotel located in Syracuse at 109 South Warren Street to allow subscribers or providers access to several Internet providers.

• **Delivery to each served address with the required throughput and capacity**

This is a dark fiber middle mile open access network that will provide dedicated fiber strands to the subscriber site that allows them to configure the appropriate network connections and optical modules to support their throughput and capacity needs.

• **Engineering decisions required to achieve service speeds and latency, such as:**

• **Backhaul connectivity**

Since this network is a dark fiber deployment the subscriber would only be limited in the optical modules they select for their connectivity needs. Should the subscriber need to upgrade their backhaul capacity it would typically be an exchange of the optical modules to support the necessary capacity.

• **Head end deployment**

The EXFO fiber monitoring system will have the primary Internet connection located in Syracuse at 109 South Warren Street to support remote troubleshooting, diagnostics, and outbound notifications for fiber network status changes.

• **Core network electronics**

This is not an active network providing lit service to the subscribers. There is a distribution network deployed that will connect the EXFO fiber monitoring system together to provide connectivity for remote troubleshooting, diagnostics, and outbound notifications for fiber network status changes.

• **Fiber capacity and strand counts on each segment of the network**



The network has been designed primarily as a 144 strand middle mile system with an approximate 50 mile segment using 288 strands for the projected highest density connection route between Syracuse and Cortland. The network has been designed with 4 geographical rings for redundancy using the constructed fiber as well as adjacent regional open access network partner fiber with an IRU agreement.

- **Maximum line speed at the premises**

This is a middle mile open access network, the only limitations with line speed would be the optical modules the subscriber would deploy in their network equipment.

- **Oversubscription ratio**

This is a middle mile open access network, the subscriber would receive dedicated dark fiber strands.

- **Split ratios**

This is a middle mile open access network, the subscriber would receive dedicated dark fiber strands.

- **Splice points**

This network has been designed with splice locations approximately every 20,000 feet based on the fiber reel capacity. There will also be additional strategic splice locations identified to accommodate the network providers and partner organizations' critical meet points along the backbone.

- **Drop installation**

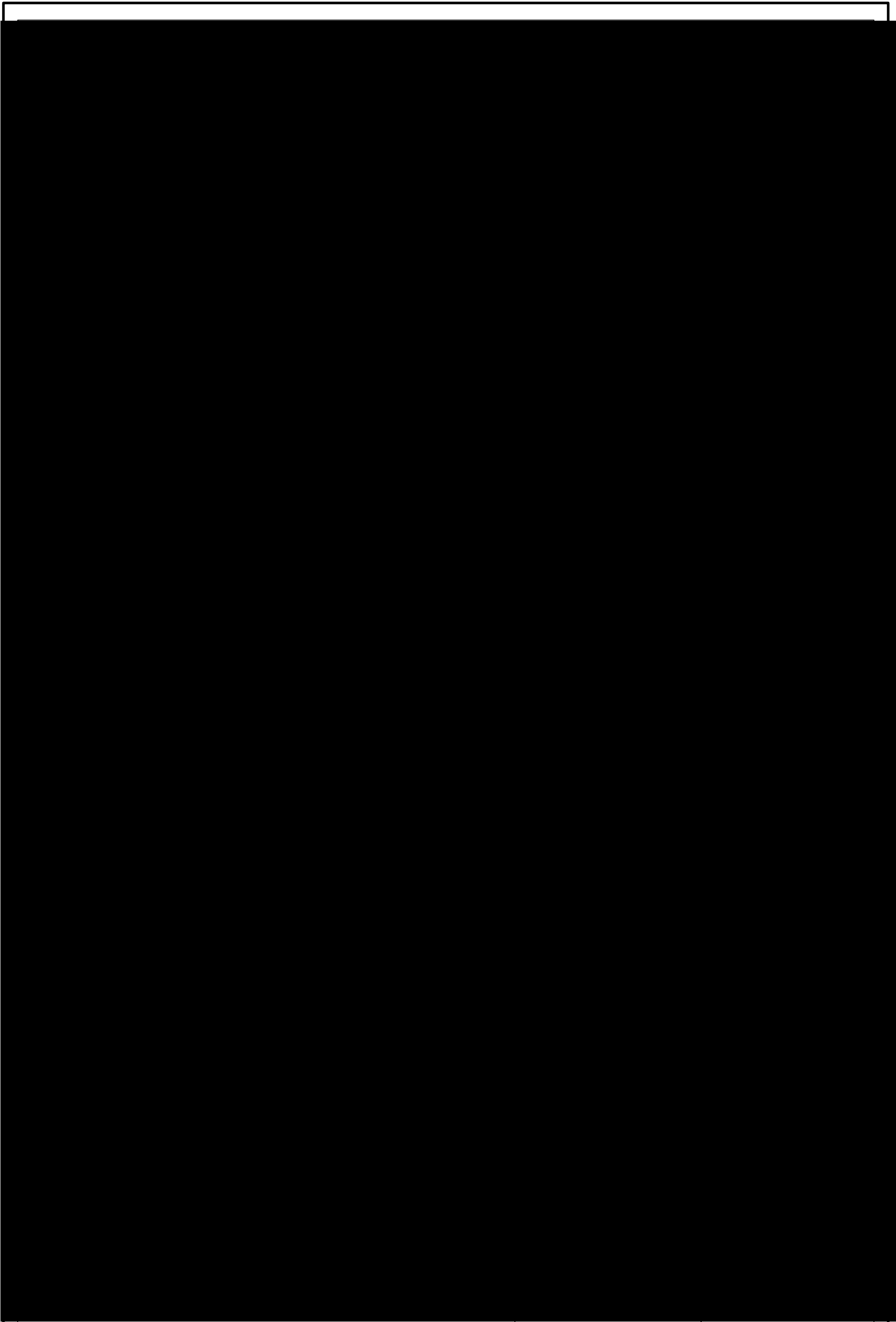
Installation for subscriber locations would require site visits by a RCDD to develop the necessary design and engineering specifications for the construction to extend a lateral from the backbone network into the customer premise designated demarcation point.

- **In-unit termination specification**

All customer fiber termination/hand-off points will be designed and specified by a RCDD to maintain the fiber network performance with minimal optical DB loss.

- **CPE or router model and capabilities (including Wi-Fi interface)**

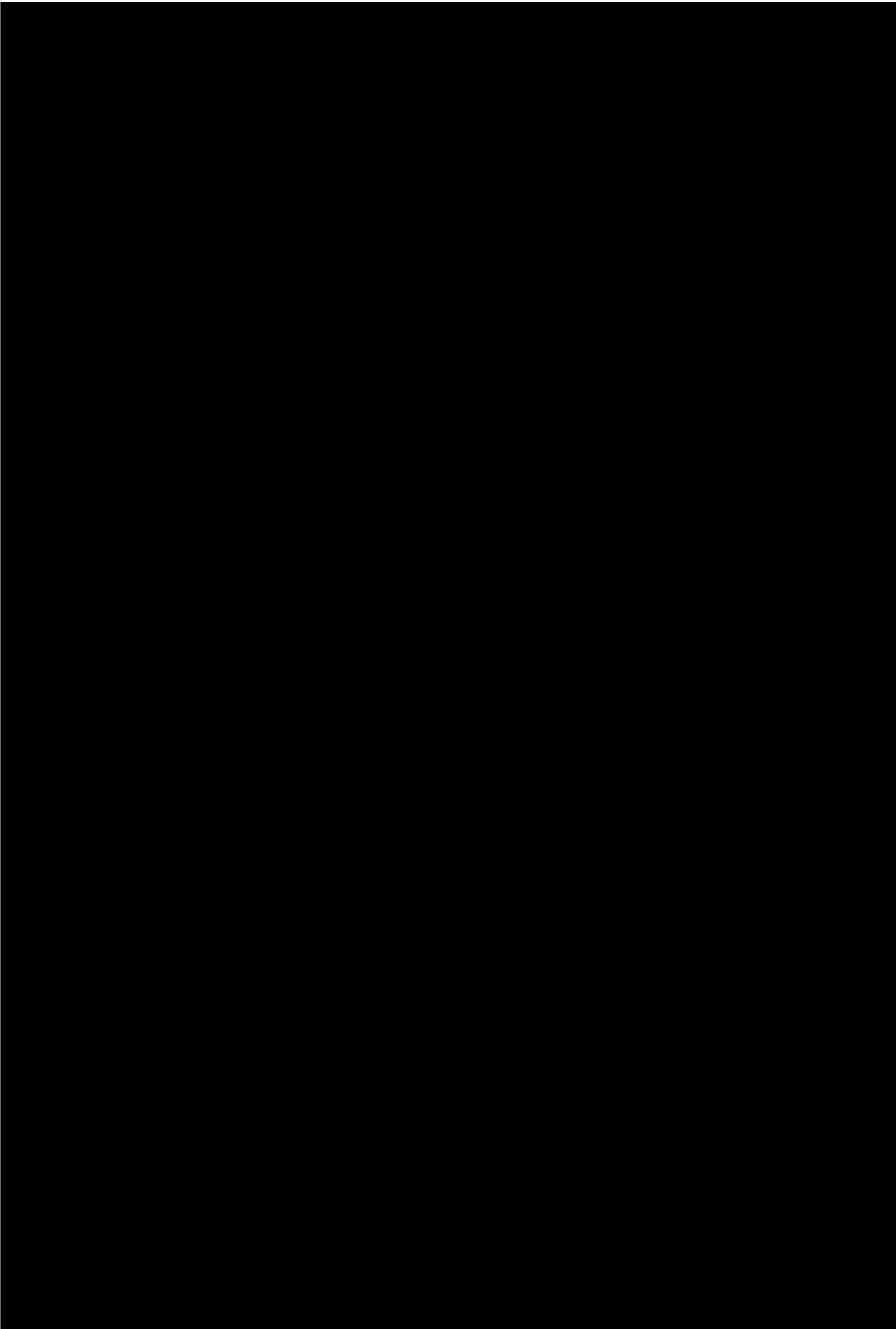
N/A; The connections made at the customer premise will only consist of a fiber distribution panel to allow the subscriber/provider to make the necessary connection to their own networking equipment with appropriate specified fiber patch cable.



[ecctechnologies.com](http://ecctechnologies.com)  
New York Office | 2136 Five Mile Line Road | Penfield, NY 14526  
North Carolina Office | 7901 Strickland Rd. Ste #113 | Raleigh, NC 27615  
585-377-1850

Date: 3-6-24  
File Name: CNY Net MIP 2024.vsd

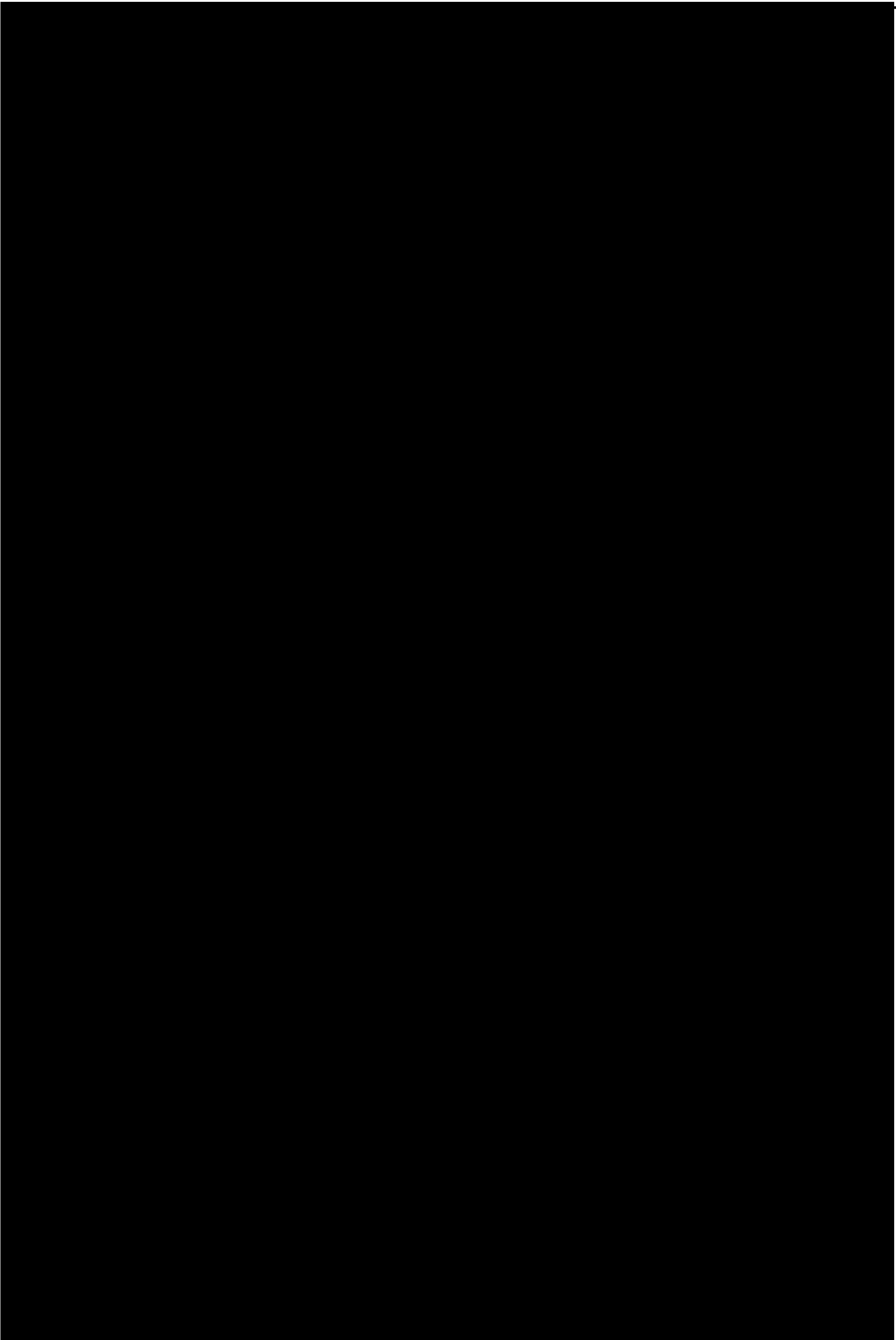
Project Description:  
CNY Net Middle Mile Open  
Access Fiber Network Design



[ecctechnologies.com](http://ecctechnologies.com)  
New York Office | 2136 Five Mile Line Road | Penfield, NY 14526  
North Carolina Office | 7901 Strickland Rd. Ste #113 | Raleigh, NC 27615  
585-377-1850

Date: 3-6-24  
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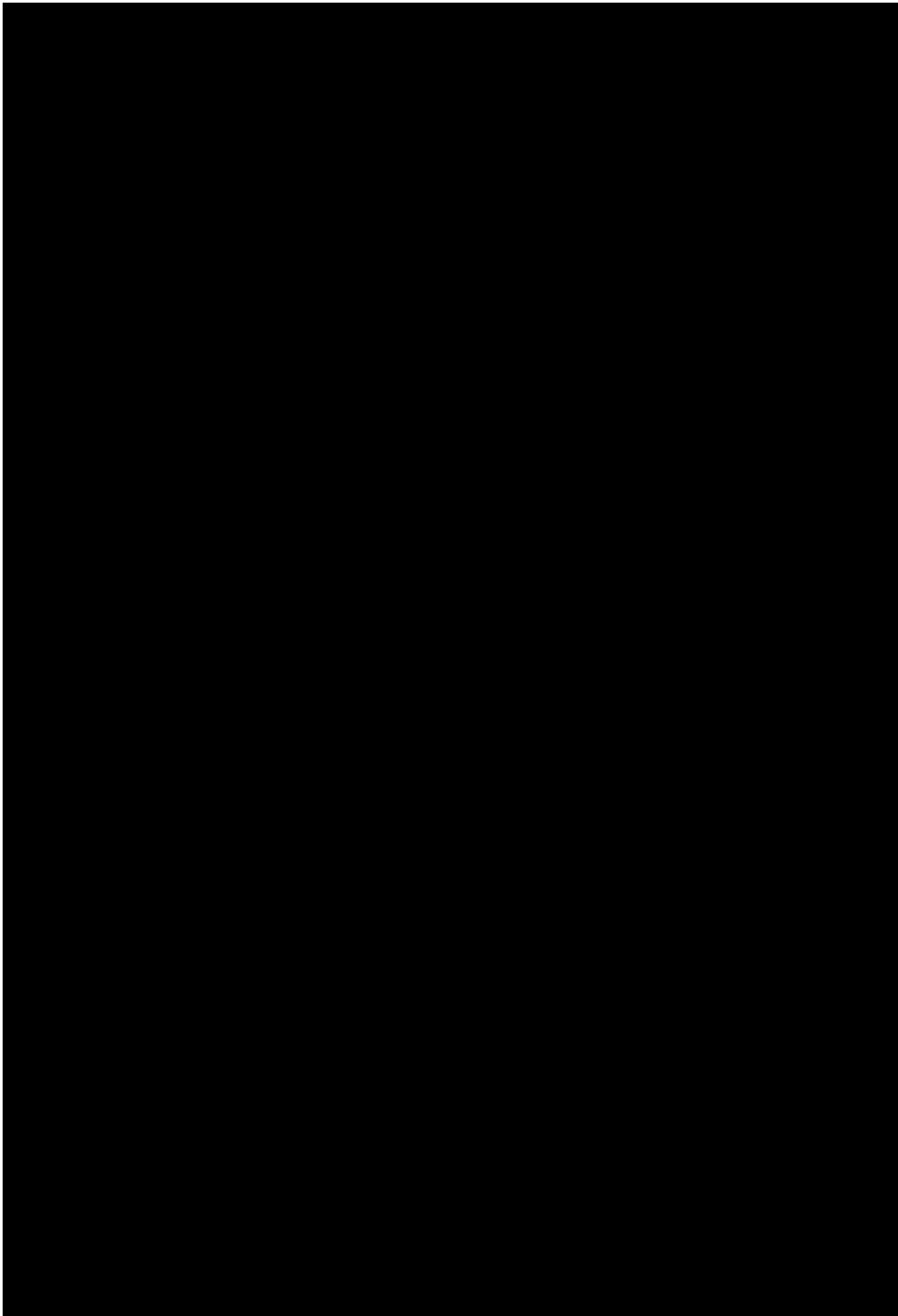
Project Description:  
CNY Net Middle Mile Open  
Access Fiber Network Design



[ecctechnologies.com](http://ecctechnologies.com)  
New York Office | 2136 Five Mile Line Road | Penfield, NY 14526  
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585-377-1850

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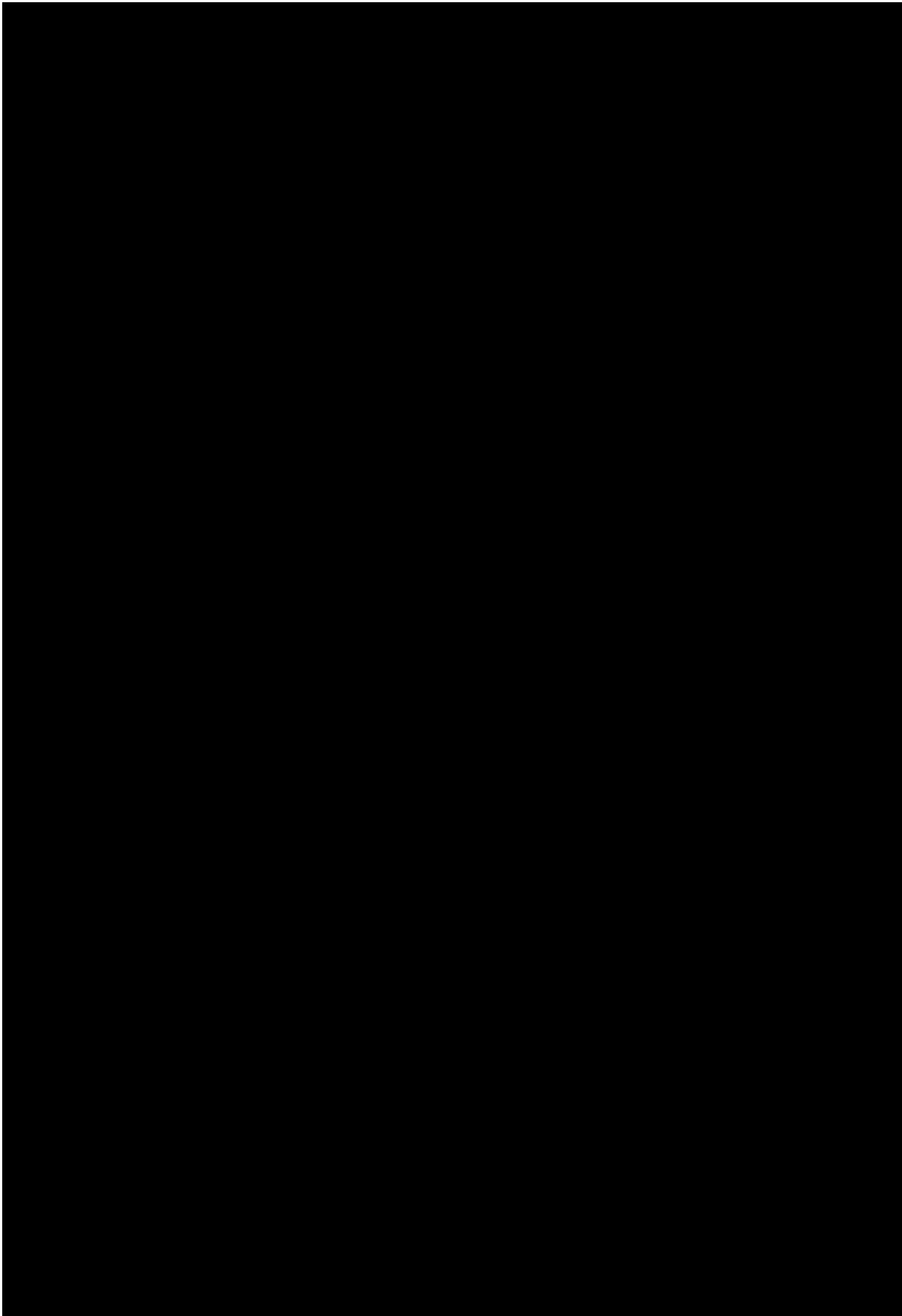
Project Description:  
CNY Net Middle Mile Open  
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585-377-1850

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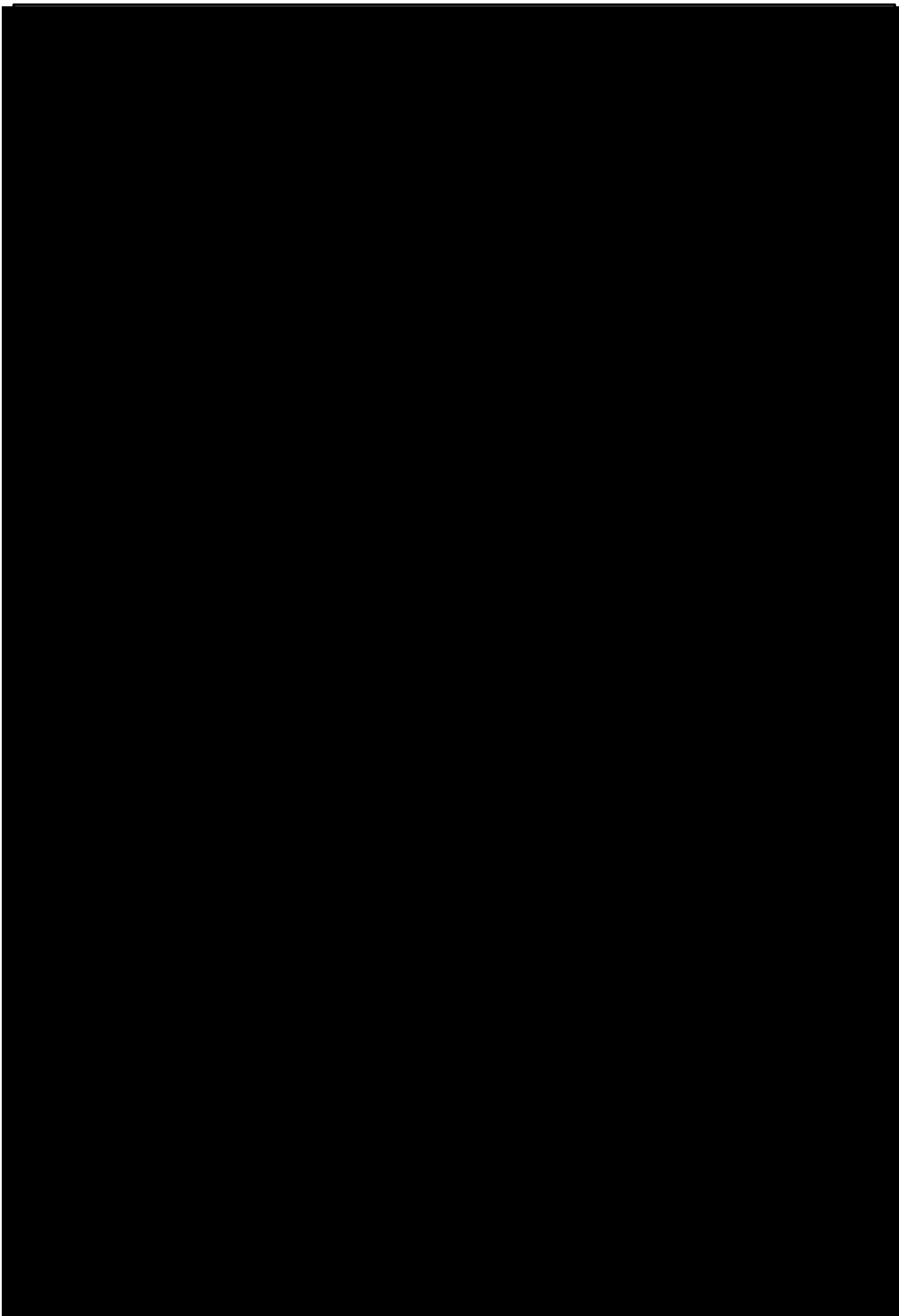
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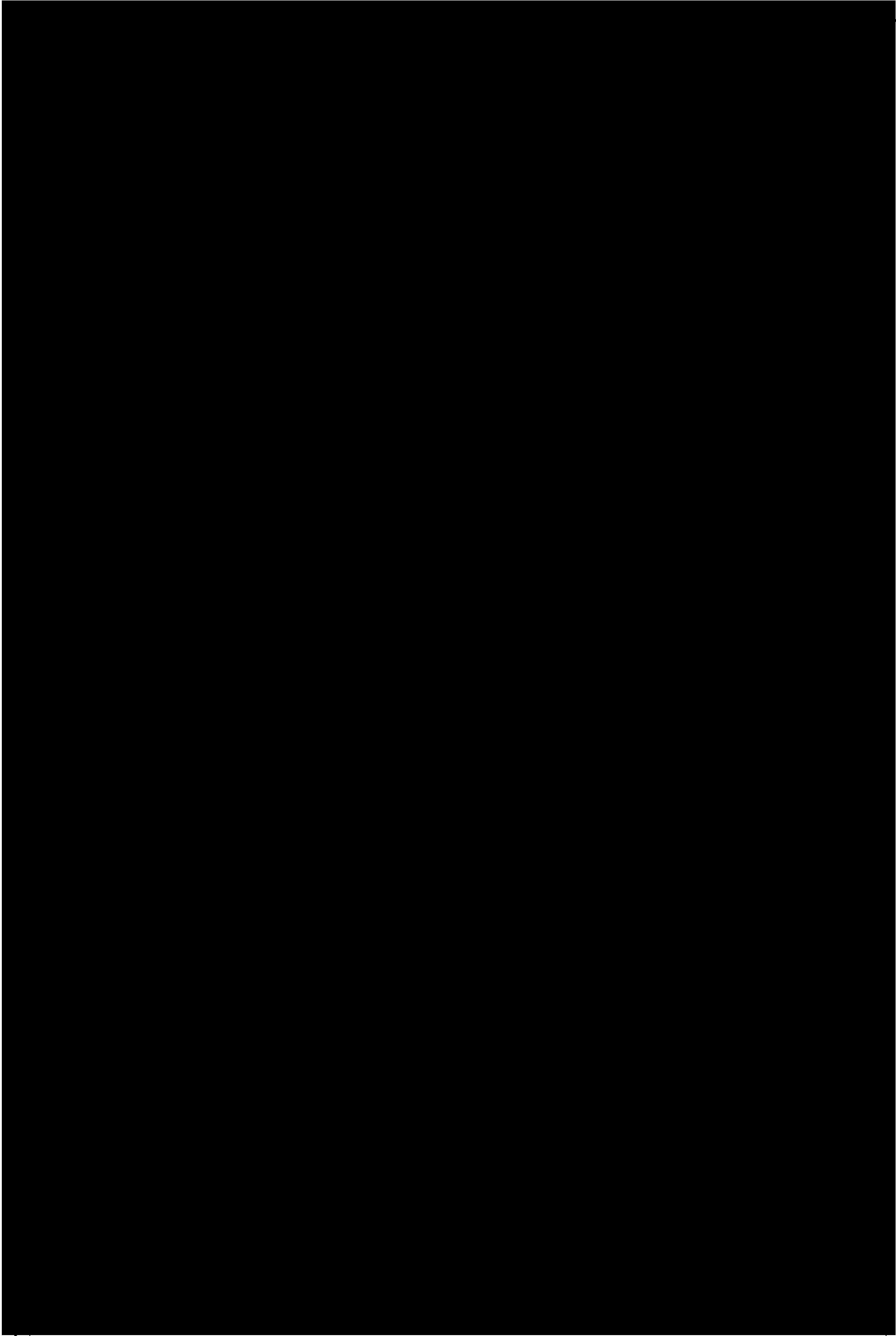
Project Description:  
CNY Net Middle Mile Open  
Access Fiber Network Design



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New York Office | 2136 Five Mile Line Road | Penfield, NY 14526  
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585-377-1850

Date: 3-6-24  
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Project Description:  
CNY Net Middle Mile Open  
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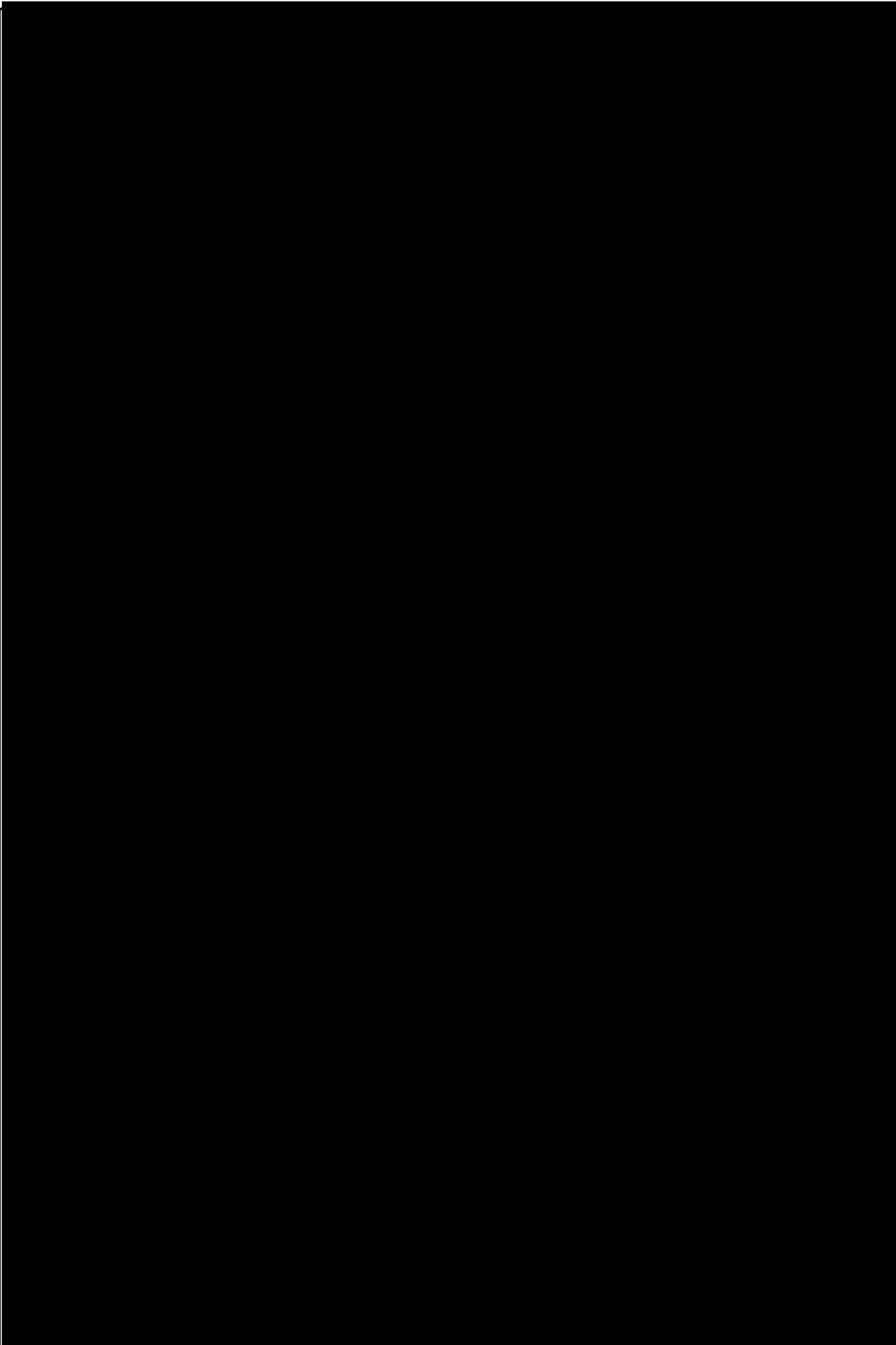


[ecctechologies.com](http://ecctechologies.com)  
New York Office | 2136 Five Mile Line Road | Penfield, NY 14526  
North Carolina Office | 7901 Strickland Rd. Ste #113 | Raleigh, NC 27615  
585-377-1850

Date: 3-6-24  
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Project Description:  
CNY Net Middle Mile Open  
Access Fiber Network Design





[ecctechologies.com](http://ecctechologies.com)  
New York Office | 2136 Five Mile Line Road | Penfield, NY 14526  
North Carolina Office | 7901 Strickland Rd. Ste #113 | Raleigh, NC 27615  
585-377-1850

Date: 3-6-24  
File Name: CNY Net MIP 2024.vsd

Project Description:  
CNY Net Middle Mile Open  
Access Fiber Network Design



February 6, 2024

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Empire Access is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve efficiencies of government, and support broadband development and expansion throughout our five county region and across Central New York.

As we learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to our rapidly developing virtual learning, healthcare and economic development. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, the fiber provided would help connect the unserved neighbors and improve internet access whereby creating a more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

Bob VanDelinder

Vice President of Sales

Empire Access

607-661-8761

[bob.vandelinder@empireaccess.com](mailto:bob.vandelinder@empireaccess.com)



# FIBERSPARK

950 DANBY ROAD  
ITHACA, NY 14850  
607-383-0595  
INFO@FIBERSPARK.COM

---

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Ste 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

RE: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar:

Fiberspark Inc. is an Internet Service Provider operating in multiple counties in New York State. The purpose of this letter is to express Fiberspark's support of the proposal which the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure NYS MIP funds for the continued development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in and around the Central New York Region. We understand that this network will be used to improve efficiencies of government, and support broadband expansion across CNY's five counties.

With Fiberspark's involvement in two of NYS ConnectAll's initial deployments, we have seen firsthand the immediate benefits that are brought to communities where Open Access Fiber Networks are made available. We strongly believe that such a network in the CNY region would help connect our unserved neighbors and improve internet access, creating more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in CNY. I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

Jeff Shaffer  
CEO  
Fiberspark Inc.  
Jeff@fiberspark.com



March 5, 2024

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St., Suite 120

RE: CNY RPDB Middle Mile-OAN MIP Grant

Dear Mr. Bottar,

I am writing on behalf of Point Broadband to express our support for the application and proposed project submitted by the CNY RPDB to the Municipal Infrastructure Program from the New York State ConnectAll Office. We have discussed their proposed middle-mile service offerings and believe that this project could be valuable to our organization by creating a viable open access middle mile network giving us the ability to serve communities where we do not have access to long haul fiber today. This will allow us to dedicate more resources to last mile buildouts.

We have a well-established relationship with the CNY RPDB and look forward to working with them to facilitate their deployment of this network. This network would allow us to strategically position fiber distribution hubs with the potential to provide service within a 20 km radius. We further commit to giving this network strong consideration as we pursue our mission to bring fiber to unserved and underserved communities across the state as identified by the BEAD IPV1 location data.

Please contact Charles Bartosch, General Manager for Point Broadband in NY at (607) 227-5500 or via email at [chuck.bartosch@point-broadband.com](mailto:chuck.bartosch@point-broadband.com) with any questions or to discuss our work with the CNY RPDB on this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Bartosch".

Charles Bartosch  
NY General Manager

## **Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board - CNYNET NYS Municipal Infrastructure Program Grant Application**

### CNYNET Project Summary

#### Applicant, Partners, and Ownership Approach

The Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNY RPDB) is the applicant for the NYS CAO Municipal Infrastructure Program grant. The agency will have responsibility for all grant management and contract services required to fully implement this project.

As part of its grant and project management responsibilities, the CNY RPDB will form and manage a non-profit local development corporation – CNYNET, Inc. that will serve as the owner of the broadband network. This partnership structure will be patterned after the successful model used by the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning Board and the Southern Tier Network (STN).

CNYNET, Inc. will be responsible for the overall operation and performance of the fiber backbone once the system is completed and operational. Responsibilities will include strategic direction, staffing, establishment of annual budgets, marketing, and maintenance of strategic ISP partnerships. Ongoing staff support to CNYNET, Inc. will be provided by the CNY RPDB and ECC Technologies throughout the project development and operations period.

To assist with the development of this project, the CNY RPDB will enter into a professional service contract with ECC Technologies. ECC Technologies will have responsibility for project design, construction supervision, and implementing the long-term operating structure and staff plan for CNYNET, Inc.

CNYNET, Inc. will also enter into a series of partnership arrangements with ISPs with active business operations in Upstate New York to provide the last-mile fiber connectivity to unserved and underserved areas throughout the five-county region. Several ISPs have been consulted about this partnership arrangement and have written letters of support for this proposal including Point Broadband/Clarity Connect and Empire Access. Other companies that will be approached to utilize the middle-mile network in Central New York include Northland Communications, SlicNetworks, FiberSpark, USAFibercomm, Adirondack Techs, Spectrum, Frontier, and Verizon. A formal partnership and system utilization arrangement is also expected with National Grid and with each county across the region to facilitate improved electric grid network connectivity and improved emergency management communication capability.

#### Project Area – Location

The CNY RPDB is proposing the development of a regional open-access fiber network that will serve the Counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego. The network is projected to total 428.6 miles and cost approximately \$38 million to build.

The CNYNET fiber network will also serve as the connection point between two highly successful regional Open Access Networks (OANs) in NYS, the 2,000-mile DANC network and 750-mile STN

network. Upon completion, this project will provide for the operation of the largest OAN in the country serving 12 counties and 3,000 road miles.

The network will provide robust service across the region and provide a network footprint that is of sufficient scale to attract an active ISP marketplace that can ensure last mile connectivity throughout the region. The fiber network will also afford the region the benefits of a series of fiber rings and connection points that will help ensure redundancy, survivability, and diversity of internet service in Upstate New York.

In evaluating the location of the CNYNET fiber network, it is important to note that the network route in Central New York was chosen to provide ISPs access to most of the unserved last mile locations in the region along with providing service to carefully targeted schools, healthcare establishments, government properties, public safety towers, and businesses.

Based upon a comprehensive broadband infrastructure study that was completed in December 2021 by ECC Technologies for the CNY RPDB, it is projected that the CNYNET fiber network will bring last mile connectivity to over 7,500 unserved locations in Central New York. In addition, the network will bring fiber service to most of the underserved locations in CNY that currently do not have fiber optic service to their homes, businesses, and community institutions. This underserved area represents 63% of all locations in the region, or nearly 60,000 address locations in Central New York. Most of these addresses are in rural areas across the five-county region, outside the City of Syracuse and the urbanized area in Onondaga County.

#### Approach and Budget

As noted in a broadband study commissioned by CNY RPDB in 2021, the single largest hurdle to providing last mile broadband and high-capacity telecommunications in the region is the absence of a comprehensive carrier neutral OAN middle mile fiber network. After careful consideration, the CNY RPDB determined that to create a 21st Century social and economically competitive environment, it must facilitate the construction of an Open Access Network Middle Mile fiber network in Central New York.

For the purpose of this application, the CNY RPDB is proposing that this network be built in two phases. The first phase - CNYNET: Regional Network, is the development of a network of 324.3 miles that facilitates ISP last mile service across the five-county region and connectivity to the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) middle mile fiber route through Oswego County.

The second phase - CNYNET: Micron and DANC/STN Extensions, consist of 104.3 miles, and will provide dedicated fiber service to the proposed Micron semiconductor location in the Onondaga County Town of Clay, ensuring Micron, its suppliers, partners, and customers have the bandwidth, security, redundancy, and scalability necessary to compete in the global marketplace today.

In addition, Phase 2 will allow for enhanced fiber extensions and connectivity to STN and additional connections to DANC, Madison, Oneida, Tompkins, and Broome Counties fiber networks. Both STN and DANC support this effort and have issued letters of support for this proposal. Last mile service providers have expressed interest in expanding services into the unserved areas of the five county CNY region when this fiber is completed. Letters of support are included in this submission.

As currently planned the total project cost is estimated at \$38 million. The cost for Phase 1 is projected to equal \$28,884,550. The cost for Phase 2 is projected at \$9,278,621. All design work for this project is scheduled to be completed by December 2024 and construction is scheduled to be completed by December 2026. Financial plans for this project indicate the system will be fully operational by July 2027 and financially sustainable after the first two years of operation.



March 8, 2024

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Micron Technology, Inc. is in support of the proposal the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is submitting to the NYS ConnectAll Office to secure funds from the CAO Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) to support development of a 350-mile Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. I understand that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources for residential, business, and community use across the five-county region in Central New York.

As noted in the proposal, building an open-access middle mile network in Central New York will provide significant benefits to the region. These benefits include the capacity to provide true high speed broadband service to families and businesses throughout the five-county region in urban, suburban, and rural areas. A modern "open-access" fiber network would also allow large and small internet service providers to compete in a robust marketplace with the capacity to provide affordable last mile service throughout the region. Also, as noted in our recent discussions, the presence of a 21st century fiber optic network deployed across a region can be a major recruitment tool for large and small companies seeking to attract and retain employees and talent in a very competitive market. This resource would certainly be used by Micron as part of its employee recruitment campaign.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative. I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our company can support this project and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in Central New York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Gatzemeier".

Scott Gatzemeier  
Corporate Vice President, Frond End US Expansion





**Cortland County Planning Department**

60 Central Avenue • Cortland, New York 13045  
Telephone: (607)753-5043 • Fax: (607)753-5150

**TRISHA R. HIEMSTRA, P.E.**

*Director of Planning*

email: [thiemstra@cortland-co.org](mailto:thiemstra@cortland-co.org)

March 07, 2024

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

Cortland County is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board has prepared to secure State funds from the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. Cortland County has many locations that would greatly benefit from the additional build out of Middle Mile Fiber Network. Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

Trisha R. Hiemstra, P.E.  
Director of Planning



8 Denison Parkway East, Suite 205  
Corning, New York 14830  
Phone: 607.463.8485

March 6, 2024

David Bottar  
Executive  
Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development  
Board 126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Southern Tier Network is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure NYS MIP Funds to support the continued development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in are around the Central New York region. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve efficiencies of government, and support broadband development and expansion throughout our five county region in Central New York.

As we learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to our rapidly developing virtual learning, healthcare and economic development. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that Open Access Fiber network developed in the CNY region would help connect the unserved neighbors and improve internet access whereby creating a more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in CNY. It should be known that Southern Tier Network has continually used Open Access Networks across New York State to expand services to unserved and underserved areas. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jeffrey Gasper' in a cursive script.

Jeff Gasper, CEO



Dulles State Office Building  
317 Washington Street, Suite 414  
Watertown, New York 13601  
Telephone (315) 661-3200  
TDD (800) 662-1220 • danc.org

March 4, 2024

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB Middle Mile-OAN MIP Grant

Dear Mr. Bottar,

The purpose of this letter is to express support for the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board's (CNYRPDB) Municipal Infrastructure Program grant application for the creation of a 340-mile fiber optic Open Access Network (OAN).

The Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) is in support of this application; as the proposed OAN would be utilized to interconnect to our network in Oswego County. This interconnection point would serve as a way for DANC and CNYRPDB to share in the growth of a wider OAN in Upstate New York, providing a more robust fiber optic network, which will promote competition and lower prices for government, businesses and residents.

It is my understanding that this network would be used to improve efficiencies of government, and support broadband development and expansion throughout the five county region and across Central New York. As we have learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to our rapidly developing virtual learning, healthcare, and economic development. In addition, CNY and the North Country will benefit through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in CNY and the North Country. I look forward to working with members of your team to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carl E. Farone, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Carl E. Farone, Jr.  
Executive Director

---

**Cayuga County  
Development Corporation**

Cayuga County Office Building  
160 Genesee St., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Auburn, NY 13021

Phone: 315.253.1276  
Fax: 315,253.1499  
slynch@cayugacounty.us

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mr. John Latanyshyn, Chair  
Mr. Grant Kyle  
Mr. Eric Ridley  
Mr. Bud Shattuck  
Ms. Tracy Verier

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Stephen F. Lynch, AICP  
**SECRETARY/TREASURER & CFO**  
Ms. Suzanne Gauthier

August 23, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the Cayuga County Development Corporation - CCDC, is in full support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout Cayuga County and across the Central New York region.

CCDC understands that broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the Cayuga County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

  
Stephen F. Lynch, AICP  
Executive Director



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

CORTLAND COUNTY  
60 CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 316  
CORTLAND, NEW YORK 13045  
607-753-5083 (phone)  
607-756-3489 (fax)

*Robert J. Corpora*  
County Administrator  
rcorpora@cortland-co.org

*Wendy M. Canfield*  
Executive Assistant  
wcanfield@cortland-co.org

September 1, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Cortland County Administration is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our County and across Central New York.

Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County; position our municipal governments for better service to the residents, and help with population growth. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in healthcare, public safety, education as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our County Administration can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Corpora



## CORTLAND COUNTY

Beau A.C. Harbin  
Cortland County Legislator, LD 2  
60 Central Avenue  
Cortland, NY 13045

Savannah Hempstead  
Clerk of the Legislature  
shempstead@cortland-co.org  
(607) 753-5048

September 2, 2022

Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
c/o David Bottar, Executive Director  
126 North Salina Street, Suite 200  
Syracuse, New York 13202

***RE: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal***

Dear Mr. Bottar:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that as the Chair of the Cortland County Legislature's Agricultural, Planning and Environmental Committee, I am in full support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber Network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County, position our local businesses for growth and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Beau A.C. Harbin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Beau A.C. Harbin  
Cortland County Legislator  
Chair of the Agricultural, Planning and Environmental Committee



## MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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*Chairman*

**MARK SCIMONE**

*County Administrator*

**EMILY C. BURNS**

*Clerk*

138 N. Court St., PO Box 635

Wampsville, NY 13163

Phone: 315/366-2201

Fax: 315/366-2502

September 14, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Madison County Board of Supervisors is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, we believe that the fiber will provide a vital opportunity to increase security, redundancy, and resiliency within our public safety network. Linking our facilities through dedicated channels will help us serve our communities and improve the lives of countless residents. In addition, our community will benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Becker".

John M. Becker  
Chairman of the Board



County of Onondaga  
**Office of the County Executive**

John H. Mulroy Civic Center, 14th Floor  
421 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, New York 13202

Phone: 315.435.3516 Fax: 315.435.8582

[www.ongov.net](http://www.ongov.net)

**J. Ryan McMahon, II**  
*County Executive*

**Ann Rooney**  
*Deputy County Executive, Human Services*

**Brian J. Donnelly**  
*Deputy County Executive*

**Mary Beth Primo**  
*Deputy County Executive, Physical Services*

September 26, 2012

David Bottar  
Regional Director  
Central New York Regional and Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar,

Please accept this letter of support regarding the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board. They are preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve efficiencies of government as well as support broadband development and expansion throughout our five-county region and across Central New York.

As you are aware the County has a goal to interconnect our Public Safety Towers using Dark Fiber. This will give us the control and confidence needed to ensure the rollout of meaningful public safety initiatives across the County. In addition, our community will benefit through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to offer my support for this important initiative in Central New York. I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Ryan McMahon, II". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

J. Ryan McMahon, II  
County Executive





*David R. Turner*  
*Director*

**OSWEGO COUNTY**  
**OFFICE OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES**

**COUNTY BUILDING**  
**46 EAST BRIDGE STREET**  
**OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126**

**TELEPHONE (315) 349-8260**  
**OSI@oswegocounty.com**

*Kyle Boeckmann*  
*Strategic Programs Specialist*

*Kasey Chewing-Kulick*  
*Administrative Assistant*

09/08/2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the County of Oswego is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds for the development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Turner".

David Turner

September 27, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

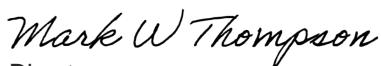
The purpose of this letter is to confirm that National Grid is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve efficiencies of government, and support broadband development and expansion throughout our five county region and across Central New York.

As we learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to our rapidly developing virtual learning, healthcare and economic development. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, the fiber provided would help connect the unserved neighbors and improve internet access whereby creating a more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, healthcare, and critical infrastructure as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

Mark Thompson



Director

NY Grid Modernization



315-785-2380 / 2570

315-785-2574 (fax)

Dulles State Office Building  
317 Washington Street  
Watertown, New York 13601-3782

e-mail: [tughill@tughill.org](mailto:tughill@tughill.org)

website: [www.tughill.org](http://www.tughill.org)

**Chairman**

Jan J. Bogdanowicz

**Vice Chairman**

Michael G. Yerdon, Sr.

**Secretary**

Thomas E. Boxberger

**Members**

Leona M. Cheresnoski

Roger W. Maciejko

Geraldine J. Ritter

William W. Scriber

**Executive Director**

Katie Malinowski

September 30, 2022

David Bottar  
Central NY Regional Planning & Development Board  
100 Clinton Street, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Dear David,

The NYS Tug Hill Commission is pleased to provide this letter of support to the Central NY Planning & Development Board's (CNYRPDB) application to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration for middle mile broadband infrastructure in the five-county CNY area.

The Tug Hill Commission has been working CNYRPDB for almost three years to address the lack of broadband internet connectivity in Tug Hill and Central New York. CNYRPDB took the lead in securing contractors to perform necessary field work and reporting to accurately identify broadband gaps, and is now leading to implement solutions. COVID and the rapid growth of on-line applications in all areas of life – business, school, medical, personal – made it very clear that in order for rural areas to provide quality of life and economic opportunities for residents and businesses, more coverage and faster speeds are necessary.

We fully support CNYRPDB's application and stand ready to help implement this project as we are able.

Sincerely,

Katie Malinowski  
Executive Director



Syracuse, NY  
1 Dupli Park Drive  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
315 671 6200

Holland Patent, NY  
9560 Main Street  
Holland Patent, NY 13354  
315 624 2000

September 28, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar,

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Northland Communications is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve efficiencies of government and support broadband development and expansion throughout our five-county region and across Central New York.

As we learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to our rapidly developing virtual learning, healthcare, and economic development. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, the fiber provided would help connect the unserved neighbors and improve internet access whereby creating a more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'J. P. McCarthy'.

James P. McCarthy

President, Northland Communications



**Auburn Industrial  
Development Authority**

**August 31, 2022**

**David Bottar**

**Executive Director**

**Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board**

**126 North Salina St, Suite 200**

**Syracuse, NY 13202**

**Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal**

**Dear Mr. Bottar**

**The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Auburn Industrial Development Authority (“AIDA”) is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.**

**Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.**

**I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Dacey", is written over a large, light blue circular graphic that resembles a stylized gear or a fiber optic network diagram.

**James Dacey**

**AIDA Chairman**

**James A. Dacey  
Chairman**

**24 South Street  
Auburn, NY 13021**

**PHONE  
(315) 255-4115**

**FAX  
(315) 253-0282**



**Cayuga Cortland Workforce Development Board**  
**60 Central Ave., Rm B38**  
**Cortland, NY 13045**  
**Contact: Amy Buggs**  
**607-753-5071**  
[abuggs@cortland-co.org](mailto:abuggs@cortland-co.org)

August 29, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the Cayuga Cortland Workforce Development Board is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy L. Buggs".

Amy Buggs, Director  
Cayuga Cortland Workforce Development Board



August 29, 2022

David Bottar

Executive Director

Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

126 North Salina St, Suite 200

Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar,

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency ("CCIDA") is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond E. Lockwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue circular stamp.

Raymond Lockwood

CCIDA Chairman

Raymond E. Lockwood  
Chairman

2 State Street  
Auburn, New York 13021

Phone: 315.252.3500

Fax: 315.255.3077

[www.cayugacountyida.com](http://www.cayugacountyida.com)



August 29, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Cayuga Economic Development Agency (“CEDA”) is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray background.

Michael Miller  
Executive Director  
mmiller@cayugaeda.org





## **Aurelius Volunteer Fire Department**

6320 Half Acre Road  
Auburn, New York 13021

### **OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF**

David Bottar

Executive Director

Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

126 North Salina Street, Suite 200

Syracuse, New York 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the Aurelius Volunteer Fire Department is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, we believe that the fiber will provide a vital opportunity to increase security, redundancy, and resiliency within our public safety network. Linking our facilities through dedicated channels will help us serve our communities and improve the lives of countless residents. In addition, our community will benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our



## Aurelius Volunteer Fire Department

6320 Half Acre Road  
Auburn, New York 13021

### OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF

organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Perkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Perkins  
Fire Chief

# CAYUGA COUNTY

AGRICULTURE AND FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD



COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING – 160 GENESEE STREET – AUBURN, NEW YORK 13201

(315) 253-1276

August 30, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the Cayuga County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, that our agricultural community would greatly benefit from improved access to broadband. Agriculture has evolved and increasingly relies on connected technologies, yet our rural areas are often left without adequate access to broadband. Middle mile fiber will help bring these vital services to our industry and increase our productivity. In addition, our community will benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Welch", with a long, sweeping underline.

Dan Welch, Chair



Cayuga County Farm Bureau • 7413 County House Road • Auburn, New York 13021 • 315-252-1367

September 6, 2022

David Bottar, Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar,

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Cayuga County Farm Bureau is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, that our agricultural community would greatly benefit from improved access to broadband. Agriculture has evolved and increasingly relies on connected technologies, yet our rural areas are often left without adequate access to broadband. Middle mile fiber will help bring these vital services to our industry and increase our productivity. In addition, our community will benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

Farm Bureau policy supports this effort. Our policy reads as follows: We support New York State securing high-speed internet for all rural areas. Many farmers need to conduct business directly from the farm and, without high-speed internet, many farms cannot conduct business transactions while on the farm. The lack of high-speed internet in rural areas, therefore, causes the farmer much added expense to conduct business and/or ultimately be unable to complete business at all. Service providers, especially those who receive taxpayer money, by law need to be transparent with accurate data of services provided and areas of service (GPS coordinates per user). This will allow competition to see needs in the rural areas and will spur buildout and lower prices.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Patterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Jon Patterson, President  
Cayuga County Farm Bureau

To Serve and Strengthen Agriculture

# Cornell Cooperative Extension Cayuga County

199 Franklin St, Suite 3  
Auburn, NY 13021  
Phone: 315.255.1183  
Web: [blogs.cornell.edu/ccecauyuga](http://blogs.cornell.edu/ccecauyuga)

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar,

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Cornell Cooperative Extension Cayuga County is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, that our agricultural community would greatly benefit from improved access to broadband. Agriculture has evolved and increasingly relies on connected technologies, yet our rural areas are often left without adequate access to broadband. Middle mile fiber will help bring these vital services to our industry and increase our productivity. In addition, our community will benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,



Daniel L. Welch  
Executive Director

*Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities*



**BRIAN K. HARTWELL, Ed.D.**, District Superintendent  
bhartwell@cayboces.org

August 11, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

As we learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to education. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, the fiber provided would help connect the unserved neighbors and improve internet access for our educational facilities, creating a more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit beyond education, through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian".

Brian

Dr. Terry Ward  
Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Elizabeth Kupiec  
Assistant Superintendent

Mrs. Khrystie Allen  
Committee on Special Education Chairperson

August 11, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the Cato-Meridian Central School District is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

As we learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to education. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, the fiber provided would help connect the unserved neighbors and improve internet access for our educational facilities, creating a more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit beyond education, through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,



Dr. Terry Ward  
Superintendent of Schools



**AUBURN CAMPUS**  
197 Franklin Street  
Auburn, New York 13021  
Tel: (315) 255-1743  
Fax: (315) 255-2117

**FULTON CAMPUS**  
11 River Glen Drive  
Fulton, New York 13069  
Tel: (315) 592-4143  
Fax: (315) 592-5055

August 31, 2022

David Bottar, Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St., Suite 200, Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar,

Cayuga Community College wishes to express support for the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

Broadband access is a critical piece of infrastructure especially when it comes to education. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, the fiber provided would help connect the unserved neighbors and improve internet access for our educational facilities, creating a more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit beyond education, through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian M. Durant'.

Brian M. Durant, Ed.D.  
President





170 Main Street  
Aurora, New York 13026  
T 315.364.3265  
F 315.364.3335  
president@wells.edu  
www.wells.edu  
Office of the President



August 29, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear David:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Wells College is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

As we learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to education. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, the fiber provided would help connect the unserved neighbors and improve internet access for our educational facilities, creating a more resilient community in the process. In addition, our community will benefit beyond education, through supporting efficiencies in government, public safety, and healthcare, as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Gibraltar  
President



In keeping with the College's commitment to environmentally and socially responsible practices, this paper is certified to the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®).

August 31, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

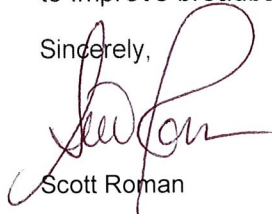
Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Cortland County Emergency Response & Communication Department is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout our county and across Central New York.

In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, we believe that the fiber will provide a vital opportunity to increase security, redundancy, and resiliency within our public safety network. Linking our facilities through dedicated channels will help us serve our communities and improve the lives of countless residents. In addition, our community will benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,



Scott Roman

Director

Cortland County Department of Emergency Response & Communications



# Cortland County

Business Development Corporation

40 Main Street Cortland  
Phone-756-5005

August 31, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St,  
Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The Cortland County Business Development Corporation's is in support of your efforts to secure federal funds supporting development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout Cortland County and across Central New York.

Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across the County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

Please let me know if there are other ways the BDC can support this initiative.

Sincerely,

Garry L. VanGorder  
Executive Director/CEO

**L. Michael Treadwell, CEcD**  
*Executive Director*



44 West Bridge Street  
Oswego, NY 13126  
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## **Operation Oswego County**

*An Economic and Job Development Corporation Serving Oswego County, NY*

August 23, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Operation Oswego County, Inc. is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout Oswego County and across the Central New York Region.

Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across Oswego County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

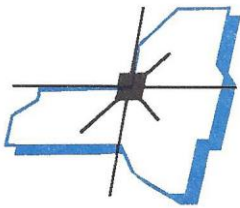
I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Central New York. Please note that I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Very truly yours,

**Operation Oswego County**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Michael Treadwell".

L. Michael Treadwell, CEcD  
Executive Director



August 23, 2022

David Bottar  
Executive Director  
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board  
126 North Salina St, Suite 200  
Syracuse, NY 13202

RE: CNY RPDB NTIA Middle Mile-OAM Proposal

Dear Mr. Bottar:

The County of Oswego Industrial Development Agency (IDA) is a public benefit corporation created by New York State and the Oswego County legislature. The IDA's mission is to create and retain jobs through economic development financing and has been serving Oswego County since 1976. In this capacity, the IDA fully is in support of the proposal that the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board is preparing to secure federal funds to support development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Central New York. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve broadband services and resources throughout Oswego County and across the Central New York Region.

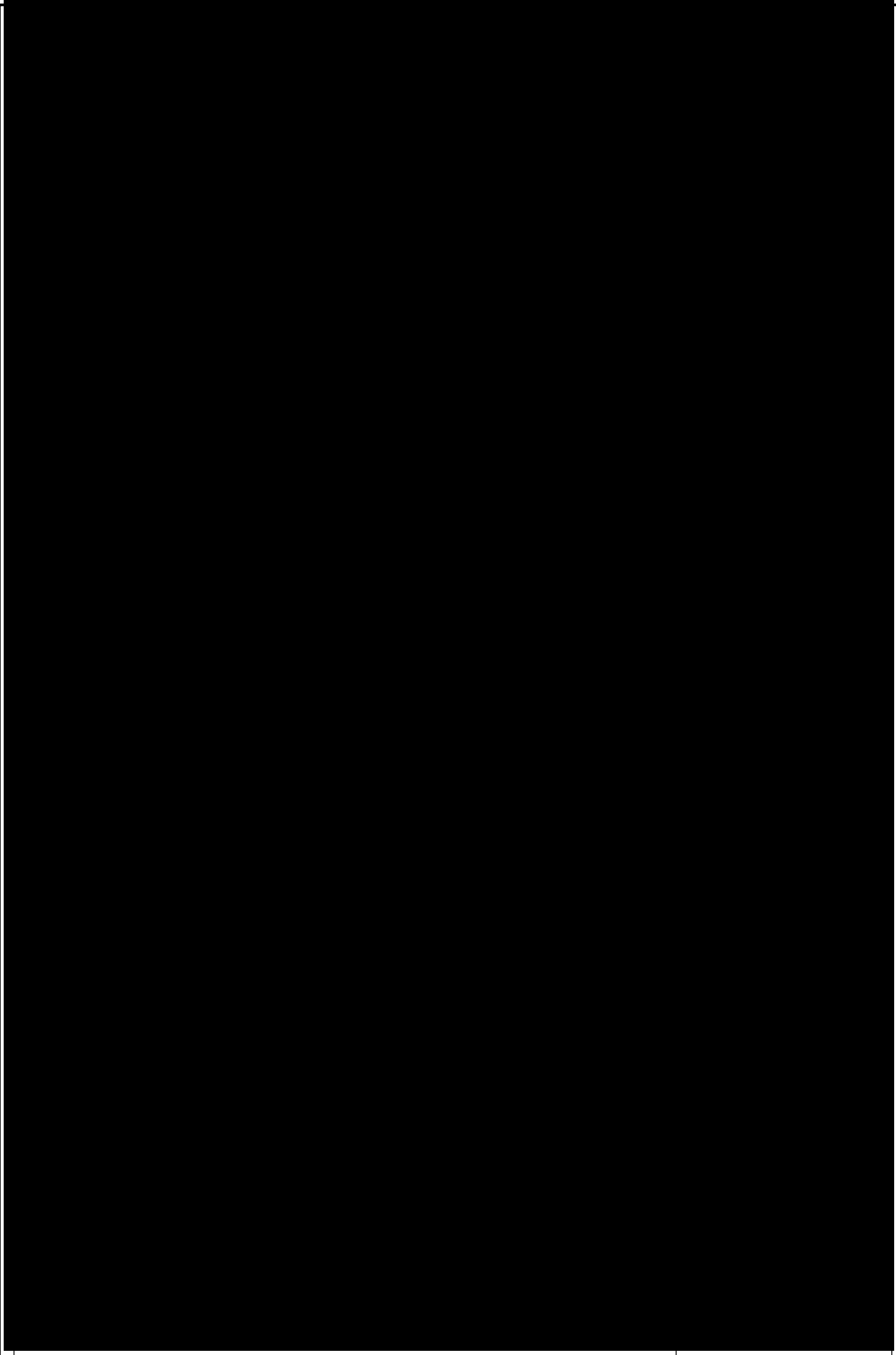
Broadband access is vital to the growth and prosperity of our communities. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that if an Open Access Fiber network is developed in Central New York, our community will be able to close gaps in access across Oswego County, position our local businesses for growth, and attract new talent and investments. Our community will also benefit by using this fiber to support efficiencies in government, public safety, education, healthcare as well as other life enhancing opportunities.

For these reasons, we fully support the CNYRPDB proposal to obtain funding for this important collaborative and regional endeavor. The IDA looks forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in our community.

Sincerely,

**County of Oswego Industrial Development Agency**

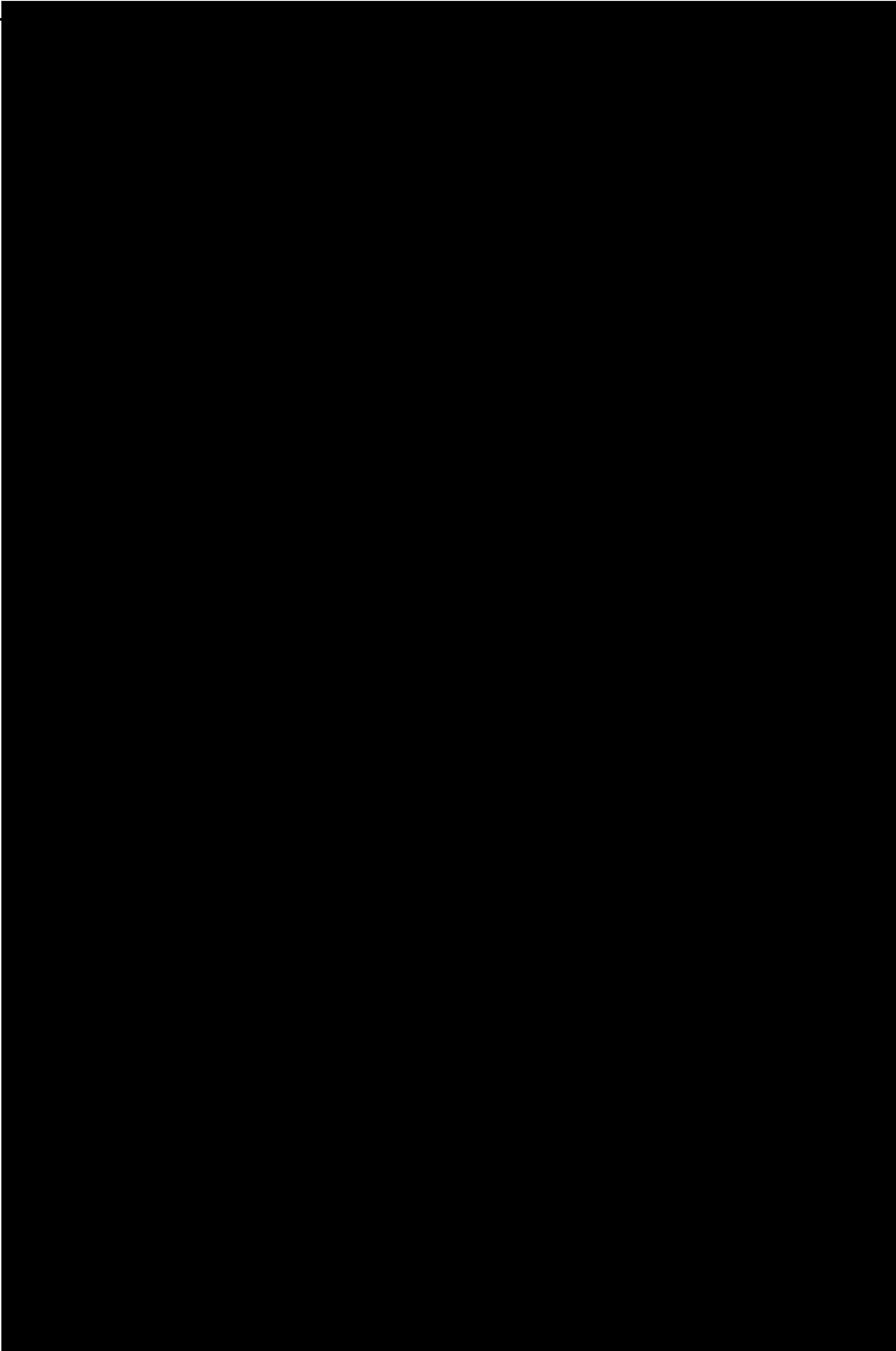
L. Michael Treadwell, CEcD  
Chief Executive Officer



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North Carolina Office | 7901 Strickland Rd. Ste #113 | Raleigh, NC 27615  
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Date: 3-6-24  
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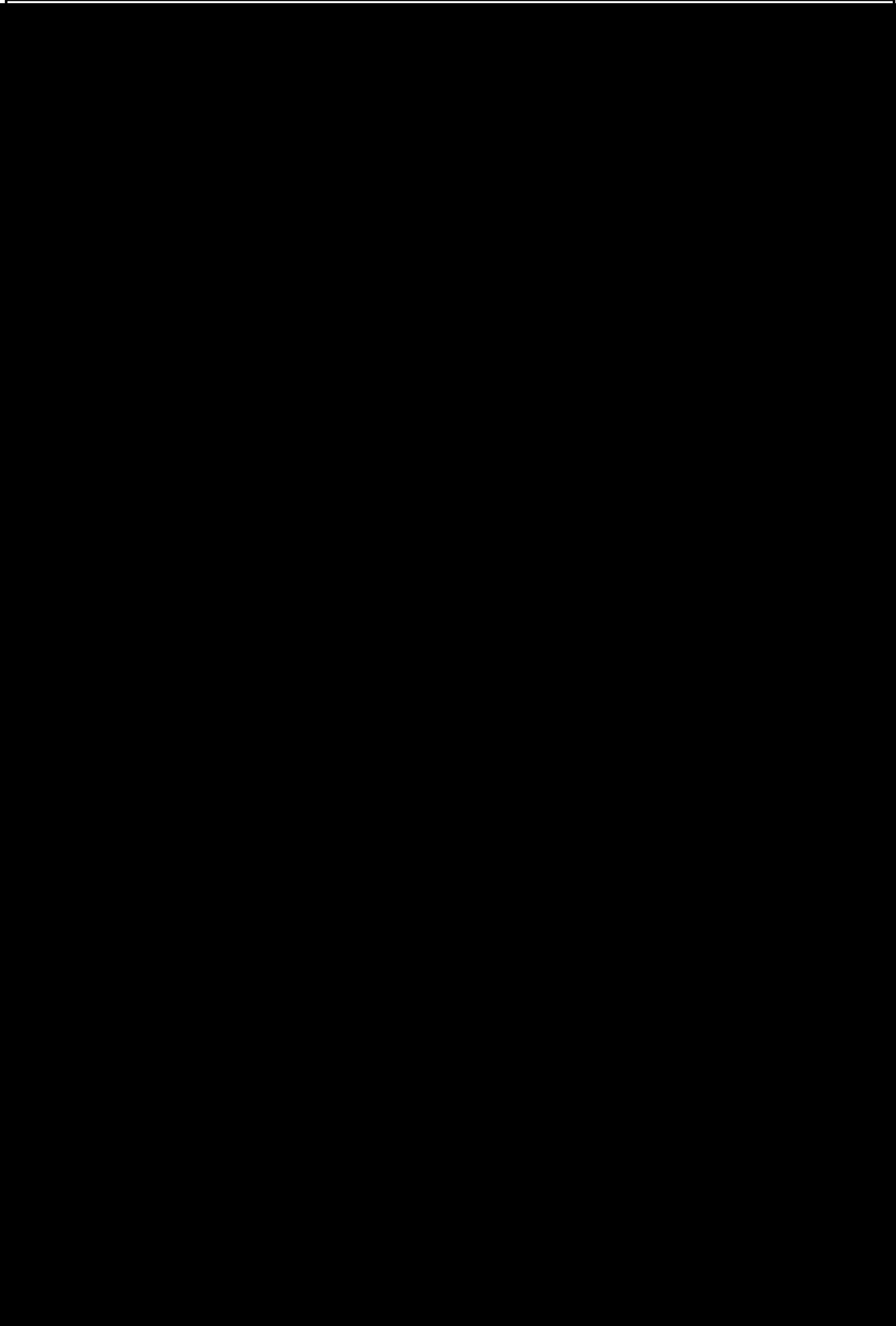
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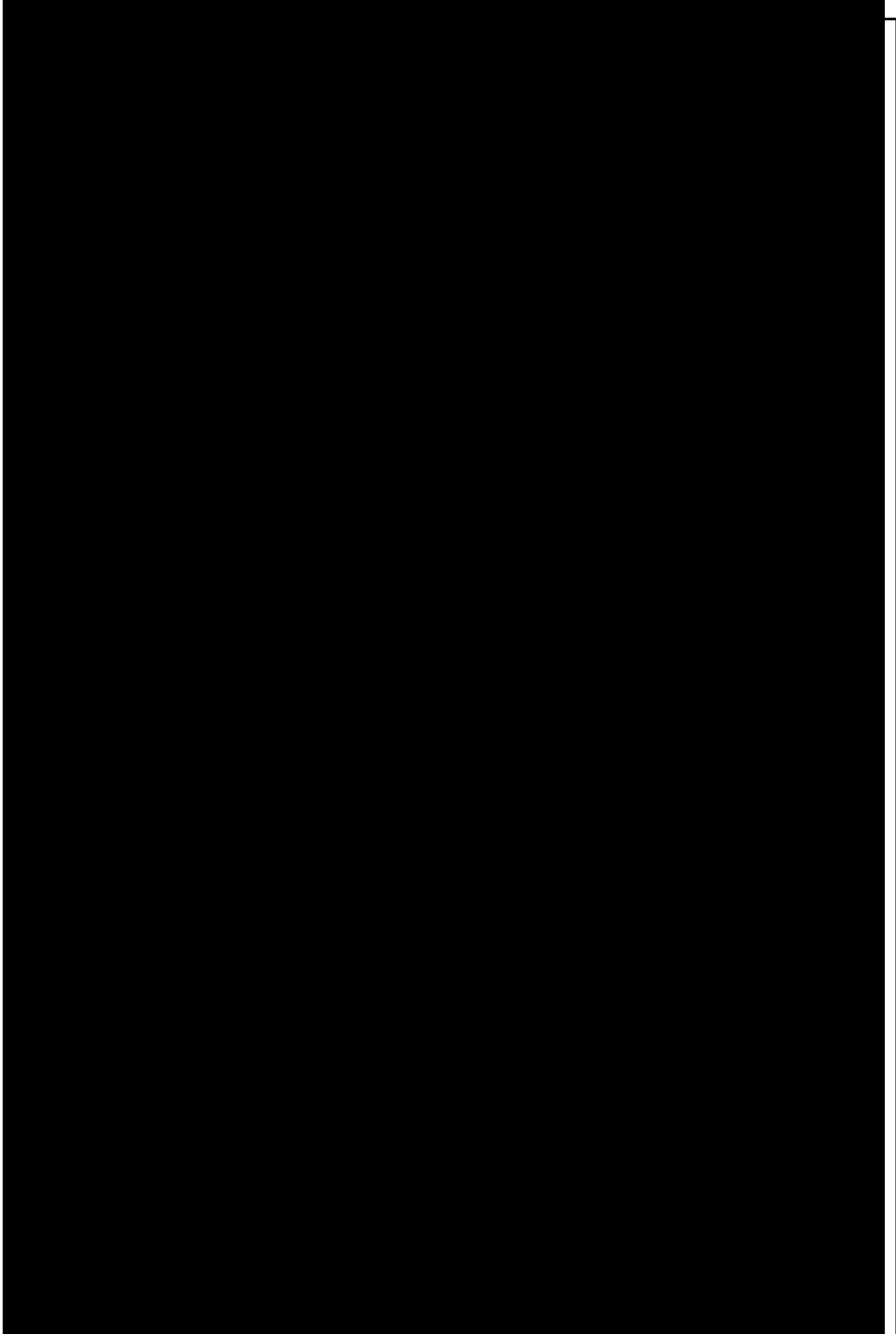


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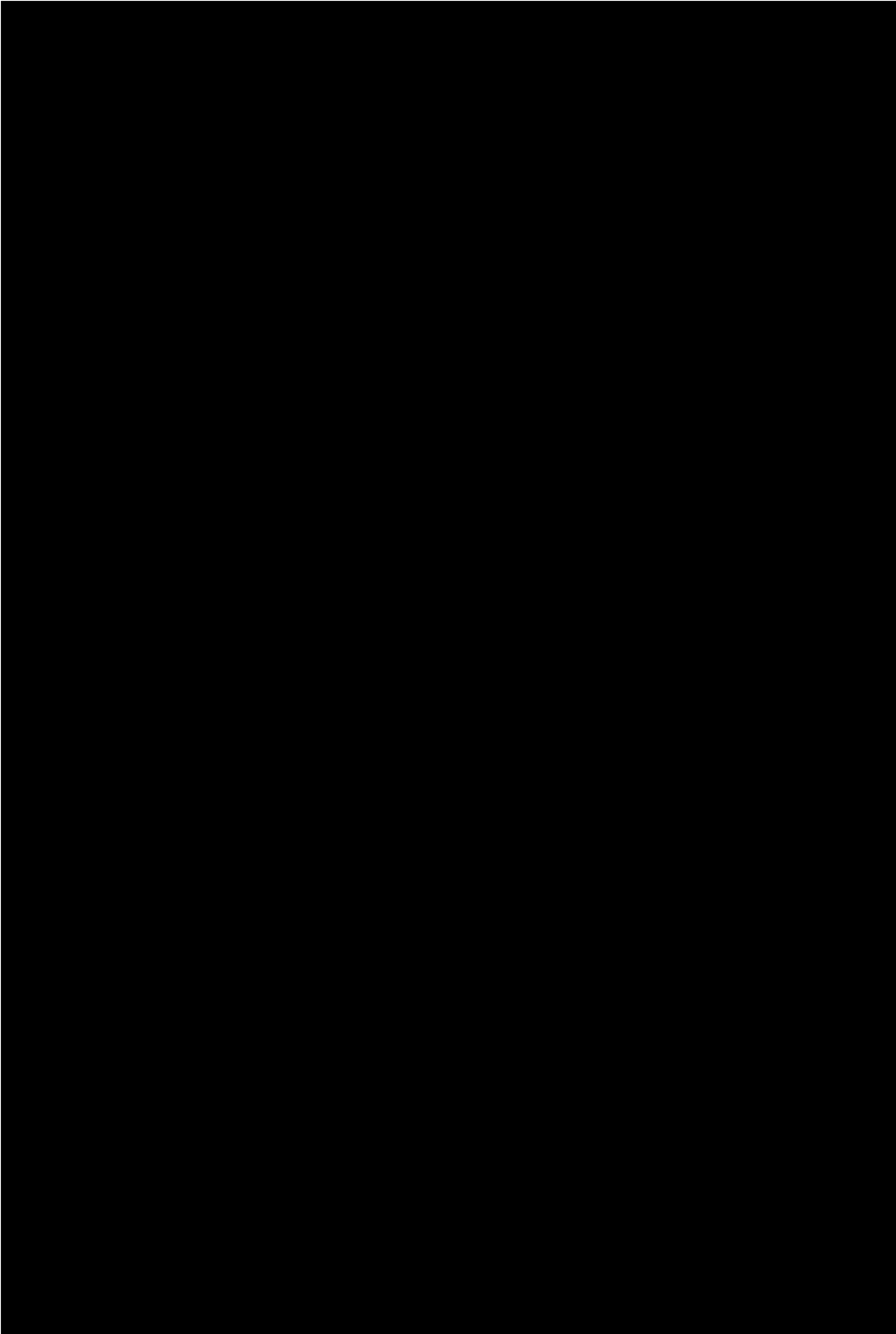




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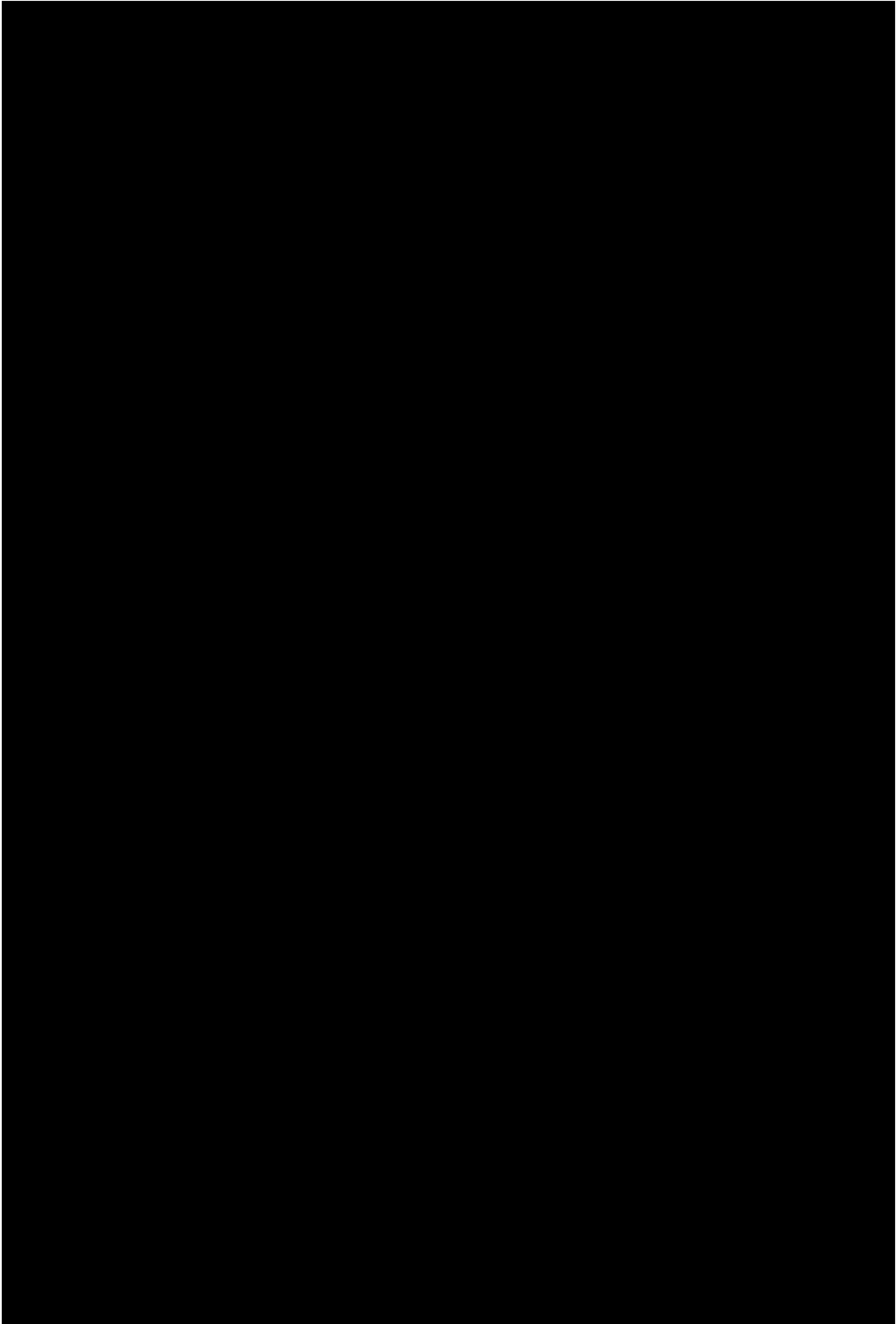
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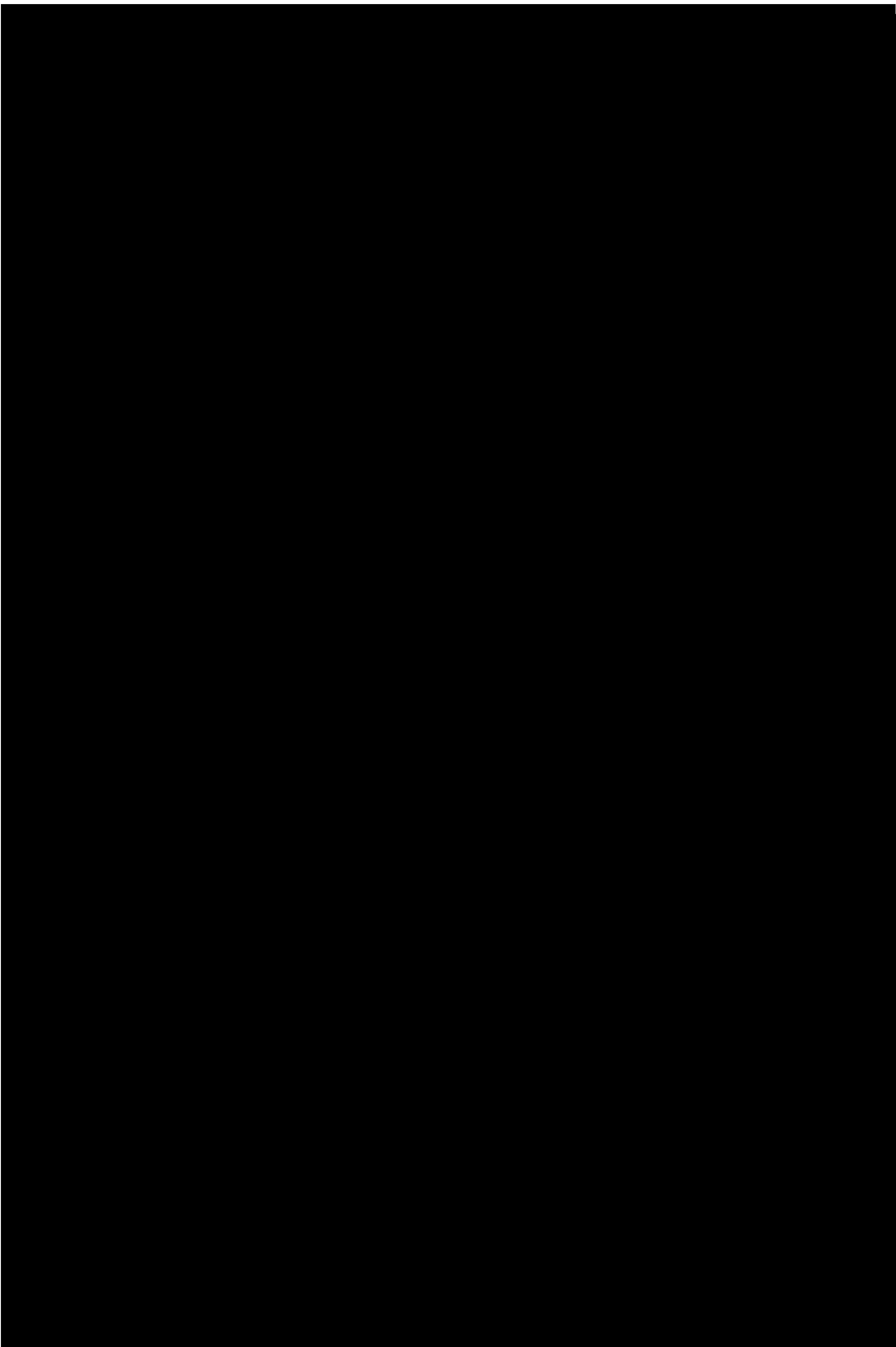
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