

**TOWN OF WHITEFIELD**

PO Box 58  
Whitefield, Maine 04353

February 13, 2013

Philip W. Lindley, Executive Director  
ConnectME Authority  
78 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0078

Dear Mr. Lindley:

The Town of Whitefield Maine, is seeking funding from ConnectME to provide high speed internet service to the unserved area of Route 218 (Wiscasset Road) in Whitefield, Lincoln County.

**BACKGROUND**

The Town of Whitefield currently receives high speed internet service from Time Warner Cable. Included in this pre-application letter is a description of the proposed expansion area with an estimated cost of the project by Time Warner Cable as the primary service provider.

The residents of the proposed grant area have expressed an urgent need for high speed internet access.

**THE AREA TO BE SERVED BY THIS GRANT**

The requested ConnectME Grant will allow for 9,030' of aerial construction and 1,320' of underground construction with 23 new homes past. The average density for this project is 11.73 HPM with a cost per passing of \$3,310.27. Please Note: This project will require permission from MDOT and Town of Whitefield for trenching 1,320 feet along the side of State Highway 218 and under CMP Transmission Lines which cross Highway 218 at the commencement of this project. Also please note: This estimate does not include any additional cost that may be incurred if ledge removal is required. Proposed extension will be from the existing cable system in Whitefield and proceed along Route 218 to include Petticoat Lane.

**COMMUNICATIONS WITH EXISTING BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS**

The Town has chosen Time Warner Cable as the primary and preferred provider for this project. Time Warner currently serves much of the Town of Whitefield. Expansion by Time Warner into this area will also allow households another option for cable television and digital telephone service.

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**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT**

Time Warner will use their hybrid fiber/coax system, utilizing DOCSIS cable modem technology providing 15Mbps downstream and 1Mbps upstream speeds as standard service. (Lower levels of service will be available as well as up to 50Mbps downstream and 5Mbps upstream speeds with the current Ultimate Internet plan).

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUESTED:**

<u>Homes passed:</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Mileage</u>	<u>1.96</u>
<u>Estimated total cost of project:</u>	<u>\$ 76,136.00</u>
<u>Time Warner Contribution:</u>	<u>\$ 17,250.00</u>
<b><u>Estimated Grant amount requested:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 58,886.00</u></b>

Funding for the project will come from the ConnectME Authority with Time Warner Cable providing approximately 22.66% (\$17,250.00) of the actual project cost. The Town of Whitefield will not provide funding for the project. The project is expected to be completed within the 12 month period required by the ConnectME Authority.

**PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

This project has the strong support of the Board of Selectmen and the grant area residents. Letters of support will be provided with our final grant application

Thank you for your consideration.

Town of Whitefield Board of Selectmen