Welcome & Introductions

Welcome

WAPA’s fiber current state

Customer input

Meeting wrap up
WAPA-owned fiber optic lines

*Note: This map only shows the WAPA-owned part of the fiber optic network. Other neighboring entities, not shown here, operate and maintain their portion of the fiber optic network. Fiber route buildout is based primarily on planned maintenance and replacements to minimize cost.
WAPA fiber & partnerships for grid resilience

• Over 20 years of utility fiber planning, installation and maintenance
• Installed more than 5,000 miles of fiber across WAPA
• Partnerships crafted for mutual benefit
• Agreements reflect specific project & regional needs
• Opportunity: WAPA-wide best practices
Fiber Optic Partnerships Overview

Business Driver: Increasing data needs to support WAPA operations

Currently: Partnerships in place in all WAPA regions

Future: Evaluating partnership requests and WAPA communication needs
Fiber Partnerships

• Explore additional opportunities to use WAPA’s fiber assets.

• **WAPA will explore leveraging its fiber assets to:**
  
  – *Improve its communication capacity to support current and future technologies.*
  
  – *Improve support to customers.*
  
  – *Support grid resilience with the Departments of Energy and Defense.*
  
  – *Support the Presidential Broadband Initiative.*
Fiber Optic Partnership Discussion

Fiber Optic Partnerships Background

American Broadband Initiative Report

- by Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications Information Administration

“By April 2019, the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and Southwestern Area Power Administration (SWPA) in consultation with the Department of Energy Office of Electricity, will complete a feasibility assessment plan to determine if WAPA and SWPA excess fiber can be leased to their customers and broadband service providers. By December 2019, WAPA and SWPA will complete the feasibility assessment.”

Fiber Optic Partnerships

Feasibility Assessment

- Ensure WAPA fiber continues to meet power delivery and transmission system needs
- Maintain “the beneficiary pays” principles
- Address fiber optic partnership requests consistently
- Support American Broadband Initiative & seek customer input
Feasibility Assessment Elements

- Cost Accounting and Allocation
- Grid Resilience
- Legal Authorities
- Fiber Asset Inventory
- Lands and Rights of Way
- Reliability Compliance
- Current Agreement Best Practice
- Outage Issues

Fiber Optic Partnership Feasibility Assessment
Fiber Optic Partnerships Timeline

Fiber Working Group
May 2019

Compile Outreach Data
October/November 2019

Assessment Plan
April 2019

WAPA-wide & Regional Customer Meetings
June/September 2019

Final Assessment Report
December 2019

Reminder: Aug. 29
WAPA-wide discussion in Lakewood, CO
Fiber Optic Partnership
Customer Input

Interest and opportunities for new partnerships
Fiber Optic Partnership
Customer Input

Customers’ priorities and/or goals for fiber partnership

What is a “win” for a new partnership from the Customer view?
Fiber Optic Partnership
Customer Input

Challenges and concerns with new partnerships
Fiber Optic Partnership
Customer Input

Gaps in feasibility assessment elements

What are we missing?
Fiber Optic Partnerships
Feasibility Assessment

Assessment  Next  Steps
Fiber Optic Partnership
Customer Information

• Project information
  – https://www.wapa.gov/About/keytopics/Pages/fiber-feasibility-assessment.aspx

• Send additional input
  – FiberOpticPartnerships@WAPA.GOV

• Contacts
  – Senior Sponsor: Kevin Howard, Executive VP and Chief Operating Officer
  – Project Manager: Kirsten McClure, Public Utilities Specialist
Fiber Optic Partnership
Customer Information

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Hoover Dam