U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE **Performance Progress Report**	2. Award Or Grant Number 01-50-M09013
	4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY) 01-14-2011

1. Recipient Name Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA)	6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of: Alabama	
3. Street Address P.O. Box 5690, 401 Adams Avenue,	8. Final Report? ◯ Yes ◉ No	9. Report Frequency ◉ Quarterly ◯ Semi Annual ◯ Annual ◯ Final
5. City, State, Zip Code Montgomery, AL 36104-5690		

7. Project / Grant Period Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) 11-01-2009	7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) 10-30-2014	7b. Reporting Period End Date: 12-31-2010	9a. If Other, please describe: n/a

10. Broadband Mapping   10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
0	0	0	0	0	0

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office? ◯ Yes ◉ No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project? ◯ Yes ◉ No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

We have not engaged any Alabama providers who have flatly refused to participate in the program. In some cases, however, we simply do not receive a response to our repeated requests for data. We are once again reaching out to these providers in Round 3.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

As was mentioned in the Q3 report, LinkAMERICA continues to augment provider data with estimations of coverage and speed when necessary. Third party data sources and engineering analysis based on reported Middle Mile infrastructure are the primary means of estimation.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

The LinkAMERICA team uses common procedures in each of the four LinkAMERICA states. In our view, verification can be segmented into four distinct categories. All four processes are ONGOING and occur with each new data collection round.

1.) Third Party Data Comparison: As data arrives from providers we compare submissions against other data sources. An example would be the comparison of an ILECs reported census blocks with the exchange area boundaries identified by the ExchangeInfo data product. If a reported block falls outside a known exchange area, the block is flagged and the provider is contacted for clarification.

2) Provider Validation: PDF check maps and other "check data" documents are given to providers at the beginning of each data collection round. We ask them to either verify or correct the coverage and speed information shown on the map and to add new coverage information.

3.) Data Format Verification: Several processing scripts have been developed to analyze the format of the data per the NTIA Data Model. These scripts help identify anomalies such as "islands" and "donut holes" that require further investigation, but they also ensure the data can be easily imported by NTIA without errors.

4.) Consumer Feedback/Verification: The ConnectingALABAMA interactive map contains a user feedback mechanism that identifies the precise coordinates of each point of feedback. As more user feedback arrives, we are able to examine the data to look for areas when provider-reported data consistently conflicts with consumer reports. We intend to display a consumer feedback layer on the public interactive map later in 2011.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? ◉ Yes   ◯ No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

Activities 1-4 above are currently under way and are repeated with each incoming round of data.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

In years 3-5 we have budgeted for additional drive testing and crowd-sourcing measures to verify mobile broadband coverage. These activities will begin in early 2012 and continue into 2013.

Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

In Q4 2010 SBDD funding has resulted in 3 FTEs at the Prime Recipient level and 1.07 total FTEs at the Subrecipient level - for a total of 4.07FTEs.

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed?   ⦿Yes ○No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

Staffing was finalized in Q3 2010 with the hiring of three additional Regional Coordinators. These three individuals work directly for ADECA, the program's Prime Recipient.

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

Total of 4.0-4.5 FTEs (depending upon number of hours worked each quarter)

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
CEO-Supervisor Role	1	11/01/2009
Project Director	10	11/01/2009
Project Manager	23	11/01/2009
GIS Director	19	11/01/2009
Internal System Support/Architecture	30	11/01/2009
Provider Relations Manager	24	11/01/2009
Regional Coordinator	97	09/07/2010
Regional Coordinator	97	08/31/2010
Regional Coordinator	97	09/07/2010

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Sub Contracts

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
CostQuest Associates Inc/LinkAMERICA Alliance	Project Management/GIS Programming and Planning Services	N	Y	11/01/2009	10/31/2011	1,134,958	100,028

Add Row	Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? $702,688   10q. How much Remains? $4,171,454

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? $470,386   10s. How much Remains? $749,096

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	$692,281	$228,405	$920,686	$23,652	$0	$23,652
Personnel Fringe Benefits	$319,163	$85,318	$404,481	$16,340	$0	$16,340
Travel	$38,795	$0	$38,795	$1,965	$0	$1,965
Equipment	$64,700	$0	$64,700	$0	$0	$0
Materials / Supplies	$10,500	$0	$10,500	$5,459	$0	$5,459
Subcontracts Total	$1,760,324	$347,302	$2,107,626	$641,866	$470,386	$1,112,252
Subcontract #1	$1,760,324	$347,302	$2,107,626	$641,866	$470,386	$1,112,252
Subcontract #2	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #3	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #4	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #5	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Construction	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Other	$0	$73,422	$73,422	$841	$0	$841
Total Direct Costs	$2,885,763	$734,447	$3,620,210	$690,126	$470,386	$1,160,512
Total Indirect Costs	$92,056	$10,008	$102,064	$12,562	$0	$12,562
Total Costs	$2,977,819	$744,455	$3,722,274	$702,688	$470,386	$1,173,074
% Of Total	80	20	100	60	40	100

Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application?   ●Yes ○No

10v. If yes, please list

Laptop computers and software designated for sub-recipient staff in Years 1-2, and equipment for Regional and State Coordinators has been purchased. Actual cost of these products was $4026 compared to a budgeted amount of $3835.

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

All software/hardware listed in the budget for Years 1-2 has been purchased. Software and Hardware for transition of the interactive maps to state hosting, in the amount of $44,700 will be purchased in 2012. This purchase will include a Database Server, Web/GIS Server, and external storage device, and the necessary MS SQL Server and ESRI software licenses.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets?   ●Yes ○No

10y. If yes, please list

American Roamer ($5147), Media Prints ($500), and ExchangeInfo ($3805)

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?   ○Yes ●No

10aa. If yes, please list

N/A

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

The team did not experience any significant challenges or obstacles in Q4 2010 that have not already been addressed in past reports. We did make several changes to the functionality of the online interactive map in Q4 based on feedback from the general public and the Regional Planning Teams.   However, we see evolution of the mapping interface and functionality as a normal part of the project's progression.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project
The majority of comments in past reports are still valid. We would very much appreciate a new project NOFA Technical Appendix that takes into account the lessons learned in Year 1 as well as NTIA's verbal instructions for data collection and processing. Many providers are familiar with the original program NOFA and data format and are reluctant to provide additional information or differently formatted information without a formal clarification, in writing, from NTIA.   We have spoken to the program office on this topic and believe it is being addressed.

11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status
Connecting Alabama has developed a dynamic planning team, with a Statewide Planning and Outreach Coordinator, 3 Regional Planners and a partnership with ASU to house an intern coordinator. We will be utilizing the intern support to assist with plan development, community anchor validation, and data research. With the successful engagement of the planning team, the coordinators began intense distribution of the Broadband Awareness and adoption videos through local libraries, chamber of commerce, local governments, and other engaged stakeholder organizations. The Regional Coordinators have begun delivery of the regional planning introductory meetings, and have begun developing the regional Broadband Action Teams that will provide guidance to the development of the planning documents. In addition, program staff has developed a newsletter "Up to Speed" to enhance the awareness of the broadband project. All 12 of the regions have conducted a kickoff meetings, which were delivered as a "get up and get excited about broadband" meeting. All 12 regions have conducted at least one planning session. The planning team, led by the Outreach coordinator, are developing priorities and refining the comments from the consumers. During these meetings as issues are raised the teams are also offering short term solutions to the long standing problems. IN addition, the teams are collecting the technological assets that are available in the community and helping to promote their use.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

A continuing challenge is the census tract display of the mapping effort, we are receiving more calls from consumers about the maps not being correct now that the data is represented by tracks instead of street level.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning?   ◯ Yes   ⦿ No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

n/a

Funding

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? $0   11f. How much Remains? $0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? $0   11h. How much Remains? $0

11i. Planning Worksheet						
Personal Salaries	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Travel	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Equipment	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Materials / Supplies	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontracts Total	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #1	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #2	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

11i. Planning Worksheet						
Subcontract #3	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #4	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #5	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Construction	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Other	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Direct Costs	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Indirect Costs	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Costs	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

no

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

due to the census block display we are tracking all notes and verifying them with the providers website, our data, and any other mapping data that is being used as validation

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

n/a

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.	
12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Jessica Dent	12c. Telephone (area code, number, and extension)
	12d. Email Address jessica.dent@adeca.alabama.gov
12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official Submitted Electronically	12e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) 02-10-2011