



## **Commnet to Help Bring High Speed Broadband to One of Most Remote Locations in Navajo Nation**

*Work will improve access to education, healthcare, economic opportunity and public safety.*

May 9, 2022 – Through a USDA Community Connect Grant Award, NTUA Wireless (NTUAW) will help make internet use a reality for hundreds of residents in one of the most remote and unserved communities on the Navajo Nation.

Through a nearly \$2 million grant to NTUAW, Commnet Broadband will help bring e-connectivity to Teec Nos Pos, a rural community of approximately 700 people in the northeastern corner of Arizona. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter lacks adequate access to broadband needed to thrive in today's economy, an issue exasperated by the worldwide pandemic.

“The Pandemic has shown us our people can be adaptive and overcoming as shown many times in our history, and broadband is one of the tools we have acquired,” said Kenny Victor, Teec Nos Pos Chapter President. “It is an investment of our children's future educational endeavors. We look forward to the vast opportunities broadband brings and are most thankful to Commnet in advocating for this service to be localized to our community and to the Navajo Nation.”

The community has faced significant obstacles in the deployment of broadband infrastructure due to its remote location and limited financial resources that deter investment by commercial providers.

Once operational, high-speed internet will directly support residents, educational institutions, the Arizona Department of Transportation, Apache County facilities and more.

With the assistance of the Community Connect Grant funds, NTUAW will leverage its partner Navajo Tribal Utility Authority to construct a new fiber-connected communications tower and LTE-based fixed-wireless network to provide high-speed internet access to homes and businesses. The grant will also allow NTUAW to install several computers and a color printer within the Teec Nos Pos Chapter House and provide two-years of free internet service.

“For many years, the people of Teec Nos Pos have tried to get internet service to their community with no avail. Now this dream is becoming a reality,” said Tom Guthrie, Commnet Broadband CEO. “We are excited to be able to bring an essential service to this community to improve access to education, healthcare, economic opportunity and public safety.”

The network is expected to be complete within two years of the grant award date.

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**About NTUA Wireless**



NTUA Wireless is a joint venture formed by the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) and Commnet Broadband in 2011 to expand communication services on the Navajo Nation.

### **About Commnet Broadband**

Commnet Broadband, an affiliate of ATN International, Inc. (NASDAQ: ATNI), enables or directly delivers high-quality broadband communications services to Tribal communities and rural America, driving digital inclusions and providing access to education, work, healthcare, safety, entertainment and community connectivity. For more information, visit [www.commnetbroadband.com](http://www.commnetbroadband.com).



*Teec Nos Pos Chapter Officials, pictured left to right: Kenny Victor, Chapter President; Verma Francisco, Chapter Vice President; and Daron Yellowhorse, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer. Photo courtesy of President Victor.*

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