



December 30, 2020

Dear ISPs:

The purpose of this letter is to inform those, who have not completed their deployment by the contractual deadline of December 30, 2020, the position of the Commerce Broadband Office. The Broadband Office views this missed deadline as a breach of the ARC agreement. However, we are aware of supply chain issues, sicknesses, permits, etc. In light of these circumstances, the Commerce Broadband Office will forebear any action until January 31, 2021. This means that ISPs will have until January 31, 2021, to complete their current project. However, this does **not** mean the Commerce Broadband Office is waiving any of its breach claims. But only to wait and see the outcome of your current project until January 31, 2020. The Commerce Broadband Office will make decisions on the appropriate actions to take at that time. We implore you to complete your projects by January 31, 2021.

In the interim, you must continue submitting invoices through the UAMS portal and cooperating with UAMS staff. Unfunded projects of ISPs, who have not completed their current projects, will not receive any new awards for projects until the current projects are completed and signed off by UAMS. To be clear, ISPs in breach can submit projects to the Broadband Office for review. But we will not fund them until current projects are completed.

Thank you again for your continued efforts to get rural Arkansans connected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "S. Porch", written over a light blue circular scribble.

Steven Porch
Chief Legal Counsel and
Executive Broadband Manager for ARC Broadband Program
Arkansas Department of Commerce