Key Factors to Consider for the Governor to Opt-In or Opt-Out of the FirstNet Plan

Opt-In/Opt-Out Decision, under the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (the “Act”), takes place only after FirstNet delivers the final State Plan to the Governor. State Radio Access Network (RAN) must interconnect with the national FirstNet core network regardless of state decision.

The State Decision: One time

**Opt-In** — RAN only — FirstNet takes on responsibility to deploy, operate, and maintain RAN
- Funds to build network — funded by FirstNet/partner
- Funds to operate/upgrade network — funded by FirstNet/partner
- User fees — funded by individuals/agencies
- Continuing consultation — staffing funded for by the state, as needed or requested

**Opt-Out** — RAN only — state takes on responsibility to deploy, operate, and maintain RAN
Alternative plan approval process –
- submission to and approval by FCC of the interoperability requirements under the Act of the alternative RAN plan
- application to and approval by NTIA of technical interoperability and other Act requirements to negotiate spectrum lease terms with FirstNet
- negotiation of spectrum capacity lease with FirstNet
- Funds to build network — funded by state resources with potential NTIA grant for some portion
- Funds to deploy, operate, and maintain network including compliance with national network policies and use of national core — funded by state resources
- User fees — funded by individuals/agencies

The Agency Decision: Ongoing
Agency by Agency buying of FirstNet services — once network is deployed

Key Steps – National Deployment

Questions? Contact FirstNet at info@firstnet.gov | www.firstnet.gov | 571-665-6100
Opt-In/Opt-Out Process

State Plan Socialized with SPOC

FirstNet Delivers State Plan

Governor Accepts FirstNet Plan

FirstNet Deployed

FirstNet Service Available to Purchase

No additional action required by State

Opt-In

90 Days

Yes

FCC Reviews Alternative State Plan

State Submits Alternative State Plan to FCC

Yes

State Applies to NTIA for Partial Grant Funding if Needed

No

Disapproval

No

FCC Reviews Alternative State Plan

State Submits Alternative State Plan to FCC

Yes

State Applies to NTIA to Lease Spectrum

No

Yes

State Deploys FirstNet

Yes

State Pays Fees to Use FirstNet Core

No

Opt-In/Opt-Out Notification

State Completes RFPs

Potential Legislative Approval

180 Days

State Alternative Plan Demonstrates Compliance with FCC Technical Advisory Board Report and Interoperability with National Network Deployment Based on FirstNet Network Policies

90 Days

State Alternative Plan Demonstrates, Among Others, Cost-Effectiveness and Comparable Completion Timelines, Security, Coverage, QoS

State Negotiates Acceptable Spectrum Lease Terms with FirstNet

State Completes RFPs

State Applies to NTIA to Lease Spectrum

State Applies to NTIA for Partial Grant Funding if Needed

State Deploys FirstNet

State Pays Fees to Use FirstNet Core

FirstNet Service Available to Purchase

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