

Commonwealth of Kentucky Kentucky Communications Network Authority (KCNA)

PRESS RELEASE

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BTC Helps Build KentuckyWired

Brandenburg Telephone Company (BTC) has entered into an agreement with the Commonwealth of Kentucky to build part of its KentuckyWired fiber optic cable project in Meade and Breckinridge counties. BTC will construct approximately 40 miles of the 3,400-mile ultra-high speed network that will extend into every county in the Commonwealth.

"I cannot stress how significant this partnership will be for economic development in our region," said Sen. Steve Meredith, of Leitchfield. "This improved access to broadband and enhanced bandwidth will allow businesses to grow and improve workforce development in our schools. I am pleased to see this partnership formed, and I appreciate the efforts from BTC and those in the Kentucky Communications Network Authority (KCNA) for helping to make this possible."

"I want to commend the Brandenburg Telephone Company for working toward improving broadband speeds and access here in our community," said state Rep. Jeff Greer, of Brandenburg. "Broadband internet is more critical than ever when it comes to economic development and helping our students and teachers get the resources they need, not to mention those of us who rely on it for news and entertainment."

"There is no doubt that increasing access to faster internet speeds is an absolute must for our businesses, schools, first responders and improving overall quality of life, especially in our more rural areas of the state," said Rep. Dean Schamore, of Hardinsburg.

According to KCNA Executive Director Phillip Brown, the work done by BTC will speed up construction. "We're very happy to have Brandenburg Telephone's help with our project," he said. "From day one, KentuckyWired has worked to partner with local broadband providers to build its network."

Similar agreements with Cincinnati Bell Telephone, Eastern Kentucky Network, and Bluegrass Network have already saved the KentuckyWired project over \$10 million.

"We are very happy to work with the Commonwealth of Kentucky and KCNA to support the KentuckyWired network," said Allison Willoughby, general manager of BTC.

Willoughby added that construction has already begun, and she expects the 40-mile portion of the project to be completed by April 2018.

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