January 4, 2016

Honorable Bobby Jindal
Governor of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Jindal:

On behalf of the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC), it is my pleasure to provide this report on the status of interoperable communications for first responders in the State of Louisiana.

**LWIN Status**

- Current Louisiana Wireless Information Network (LWIN) statewide coverage is 95% or better for portable on-street coverage, and 95% or better in building coverage in the nine (9) metropolitan areas of the State as defined in our Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP).

- Current composition of LWIN sites:
  - 131 active tower sites
  - 4 mobile tower sites
  - 2 mobile repeater sites
  - 4 mobile satellite dishes
  - 6 generators on wheels
  - LWIN Sites are controlled by four master sites
    - Master Site One in Baton Rouge
    - Master Site Two in New Orleans
    - Master Site Three in Alexandria
    - Master Site Four in Baton Rouge

- Subscriber Radios
  - From July 1, 2015 – December 1, 2015, LWIN has seen an increase from 78,733 subscriber units to 80,073.
  - LWIN remains the largest Statewide Radio System in the nation.
  - The monthly average of Push-to-Talk (PTT) transmissions has remained consistent averaging 12,362,500 for the July 1, 2015 – December 1, 2015 time frame.

**State Funded System Maintenance**
The annual maintenance budget for LWIN is funded through the Riverboat Gaming Fund and is maintained by the Division of Administration, Office of Technology Services. This State funding of LWIN allows the radio system to function without charging any subscriber fees, a leading reason for local agency adoption of LWIN. The LWIN System maintenance costs are expected to increase up by 60% as more sites’ original warranties expire and system software upgrades are needed.

**SIEC Accomplishments**

**Meetings and Events**

During the time period of July 1, 2015 - January 1, 2016, the SIEC held 2 meetings. Major topics covered included:

- Site Additions/ Moves: Oberlin - Allen Parish, Enterprise - Catahoula Parish, Deville - Rapides Parish (in progress), Denham Springs – Livingston Parish (in progress), Killian – Livingston Parish, St. Tammany Simulcast: Sites on the air are Abita Springs (new location), Slidell (new location), Covington (new site), Lacomb (new site), Waldheim (new site).

**LTE/ Public Safety Broadband**

Louisiana FirstNet staff continues to work with the SIEC, through its Broadband Subcommittee, as they implement the Department of Commerce’s State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) requirements. Federal FirstNet planners are in the process of crafting plans to design, build and operate the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). Louisiana FirstNet outreach efforts were conducted in person and through social media throughout this time period reaching hundreds of state, local and tribal public safety entities. A significant data collection effort was conducted through a Broadband Working Group, comprised of 18 technical and first responder members, as well as an online survey of public safety agencies. These efforts continue to help inform FirstNet of Louisiana’s public safety community needs for NPSBN.

Respectfully,

Chris Guilbeaux

cc: SIEC Members