

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
State of Louisiana

<http://gohsep.la.gov/SIEC>

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



CHRIS GUILBEAUX
CHAIRMAN

July 22, 2016

Honorable John Bel Edwards
Governor of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Edwards:

On behalf of the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC), it is my pleasure to provide this report on the status of the Louisiana Wireless Information Network (LWIN) and 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:
 - 134 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 December 1, 2015 – June 1, 2016, LWIN has seen an increase from 80,073 subscriber units to 83,431.
 - LWIN remains the largest Statewide Radio System in the nation.
 - The monthly average of Push-to-Talk (PTT) transmissions has remained consistent averaging 12,416,888 for the December 1, 2015 – June 1, 2016 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, Radio Communications Staff. 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.

SIEC Accomplishments

Meetings and Events

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

- LWIN Software/Hardware Upgrade
- LWIN - Southeast Texas Regional Radio System (SETRRS) radio patch
- FirstNet Governance presentation

LWIN software and equipment upgrades

LWIN system is in need of the following software and equipment upgrade and a FY 2016/2017 budget request was submitted through GOHSEP for the initial phase of \$11.4 million. Funding was approved by the legislature in the 2016 Regular Legislative Session.

- Upgrade the current **software version - 7.13 that runs the LWIN system to version - 7.17 software release,**
- In order to implement the new system software the console hardware equipment called **General Purpose Input/Output Modules (GPIOMs)** and **workstations** running Windows Vista will **need to be upgraded.**
- Replacement of all **STR 3000 repeaters,** as they are out of warranty and maintenance is no longer supported by the vendor.

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 continue to be conducted in person and through social media throughout this time period reaching hundreds of state, local and tribal public safety entities.

An RFP was released by Federal FirstNet and bids were due May 31, 2016. Evaluation of these bids will be conducted throughout the remainder of 2016, with an anticipated announcement of the successful bidder/network partner likely coming in November 2016. Once a network partner is chosen by FirstNet, LA FirstNet will work with them to

refine the FirstNet RAN plan for the state of Louisiana in preparation for a decision on the final RAN plan by the Governor in early-mid 2017. A phased build out of the NPSBN will commence after the decision on the RAN plan is made and communicated to FirstNet, the FCC, and NTIA.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Guilbeaux". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and last name "Guilbeaux" clearly legible.

Chris Guilbeaux

cc: SIEC Members