

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
State of Louisiana
<http://gohsep.la.gov/SIEC>

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



CHRIS GUILBEAUX
CHAIRMAN

July 1, 2017

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 Statistics

- 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 LWIN Policy 001, Statewide System Requirements Policy.
- Current composition of LWIN sites:
 - 135 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
 - January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017, LWIN has seen an increase from 85,518 subscriber units to over 92,840.
 - LWIN remains one of the largest Statewide Radio System in the nation.
 - The monthly average of Push-to-Talk (PTT) transmissions has remained consistent averaging 12,950,547 for the January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017 time frame.

State Funded LWIN System Maintenance and SIEC Governance

The annual maintenance budget of \$8.5 million for LWIN is funded through the Riverboat Gaming Fund and is maintained by the Louisiana State Police 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, 2017 – June 30, 2017, the SIEC held two (2) meetings. Major topics covered included:

- LWIN system coverage and capacity improvements
- State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) 2.0
- FirstNet RFP Award and preparation for the FirstNet Louisiana State Plan

LWIN software and equipment upgrades

The LWIN system software and equipment upgrade funded with \$11.4 million of revenue from the Department of Public Safety Services began in August 2016. The initial phase replaced all State and local consoles and workstations. The second phase updated the LWIN system software from version 7.13 to 7.17. Both of these were complete in May 2017.

The final phase is the replacement of 181 STR 3000 repeaters, as they are out of warranty and maintenance is no longer supported by the vendor. GOHSEP is approved for \$1.3 million in its FY17/18 budget request, which will partially fund the repeater replacement. The two initial sites will be Bridge City and Pan Am. The balance of the funding required to complete the repeater replacement will be submitted in GOHSEP's FY 18/19 budget request.

FirstNet

- On March 30, U.S. Department of Commerce announced that the First Responder Network Authority will partner with AT&T to build the nation's modern, mobile broadband LTE network for first responders; a \$46.5 billion network for first responders nationwide.
- FirstNet through AT&T will deliver the DRAFT State Plan simultaneously to all states on June 19, 2017 through an online Portal.
- States will have 45 days to provide comments to FirstNet on the DRAFT State Plan.
- For Louisiana, secure Portal access will be given to the SIEC members, Broadband Subcommittee members, LA FirstNet team and select Governor's Office staff.
- Members of the public and other first responders will be able to access the state plans through a public version by visiting firstnet.com. This audience will not have access to secure data.
- Members of the FirstNet outreach and design teams will work closely with the SPOC (Jim Waskom and LA FirstNet staff) to provide insight and answer questions

throughout the 45 day review in order to deliver a network deployment plan that meets Louisiana's needs. It is extremely important for first responder agencies to review the state plan and provide feedback. The Governor's decision will be final on behalf of all agencies and municipalities. It is imperative that public safety agencies send comments via the Portal or to firstnet@la.gov.

- Louisiana scheduled the following education and outreach events for key stakeholders:
 - 9 Regional Meetings to be held within each of the regions tentatively scheduled the first two weeks of August 2017
 - Authorized portal member only dive in session to review portal and address any access issues at 9am on July 26, 2017
 - Briefing to the SIEC at 1pm on July 26, 2017
- FirstNet will then provide the Governor of each State the final version of the state plan. The **Governor will have 90 days (December 2017) to choose whether to participate in the plan provided by FirstNet or conduct its own deployment of a radio access network.**

If a Governor decides to opt out, then he/she is required to notify FirstNet, NTIA, and the FCC. After providing the notification, the Governor has 180 days to develop and complete requests for proposals for the construction, maintenance and operation of the RAN within the State. The State is required to submit an alternative plan to the FCC that is interoperable with the NPSBN and complies with the minimum technical interoperability requirements under the Act.

If you have any additional questions, please contact me at 225.925.7333 or by email at Christopher.Guilbeaux@la.gov.

Respectfully,



Chris Guilbeaux

cc: SIEC Members