



BOBBY JINDAL  
GOVERNOR

# State of Louisiana

## Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

<http://gohsep.la.gov/interop.aspx>

CHRIS GUILBEAUX  
CHAIRMAN

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July 1, 2014

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% portable, on-street coverage
- Current composition of LWIN sites:
  - 124 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 January 1, 2014 - June 30, 2014, LWIN has seen an increase from 73,898 subscriber units to 74,816.
  - LWIN remains the largest Statewide Radio System in the nation.
  - The monthly average of Push-to-Talk (PTT) transmissions has increased from 11,881,214 to 12,112,156.

### **State Funded System Maintenance**

The Governor's office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) receives and manages the annual maintenance budget for LWIN. 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 to 20% annually as more sites' original warranties expire.

## **SIEC Accomplishments**


### **Meetings and Events**

- During the time period of January 1, 2014 - June 30, 2014, the SIEC held 1 meeting. Major topics covered included:
  - Coordination with Arkansas to enhance the system bridge with their network
  - Vernon Parish coverage limitations and solutions were discussed
  - LWIN connectivity to the Mississippi NWS office for Northeast Louisiana parishes
  - Bossier City Coverage Improvement
- The SIEC also oversaw the addition of one new LWIN tower site during this period
  - Bossier City
- The SIEC has also made great progress towards an agreement with St. Tammany parish to leverage existing LWIN sites in the area as part of the parish's planned emergency communications system potentially saving parish agencies millions of dollars in build out, operation, and maintenance costs.

### **LTE/ Public Safety Broadband**

The SIEC continues to plan for the eventual rollout of the nationwide Public Safety Broadband network by working with FirstNet representatives to ensure Louisiana remains on track with all National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) / FirstNet requirements and milestones. State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) funds have been applied for to aid in funding of the network.

Respectfully,



Chris Guilbeaux

cc: SIEC Members