



## OBO ARPA MIDDLE MILE CLOSEOUT POLICY ADDENDUM

This addendum supplements the OBO SLFRF Close Out Policy. The entirety of that document also governs the ARPA Middle Mile Program, however with two items in Section 2, entitled “Performance Results” and “Service Offerings” being removed and replaced with the following:

### **Performance Results**

#### **1. Physical Plant & Fiber Characterization**

Before the network is activated, the physical medium must be tested to ensure it meets the design specifications and span loss budgets.

- **OTDR Testing:** Conduct bi-directional Optical Time-Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) testing on all fiber strands to identify splice loss, connector reflectance, and macro-bends. Confirm all inactive strands that are dedicated to cabinet-to-cabinet middle mile communication.
- **Optical Loss Test Set (OLTS)/Power Meter Testing:** Perform End-to-End Insertion Loss testing (Link Loss) using a stabilized light source and power meter to confirm the total link loss is within the engineered budget. Confirm all bulkhead and patch cord connectors for cleanliness and physical damage to prevent signal degradation at interconnection points.

#### **2. Interconnection & Market Rate Access**

Middle Mile projects shall facilitate non-discriminatory interconnection for last-mile providers.

- **Carrier-Neutral Verification:** Confirm that the internet exchange facilities or submarine cable landing stations are carrier-neutral and ready for third-party traffic exchange.
- **Physical Linking Test:** Verify the physical linking of two networks at designated "point-of-interest" locations or splice points to ensure traffic can be exchanged on non-discriminatory terms.

#### **3. Geospatial & Asset Documentation**



The closeout process requires precise data regarding the "as-built" environment.

- **Route Accuracy:** Update all KMZ/KML files to reflect the final "as-built" route, ensuring all splice points and interconnection points are accurately geocoded.
- **Asset Inventory:** Label and inventory all grant-acquired property (e.g., routers, OLTs, enclosures) with OBO asset tags to maintain the federal "property trust relationship".

#### **4. Final Certification & Reporting**

- **PE Certification:** Obtain a Professional Engineer (PE) certification attesting that the project was constructed according to the approved engineering design and is fully operational.