

Project Description Statement:

Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company (HCTC) proposes to build fiber past every location within the Proposed Service Area. The Hershey Southeast project will consist of mainline and drop fiber cable. In the rural areas the fiber cable along the county roads and highways will be direct buried. The fiber drops will also be direct buried (not placed in duct)

The provided design map identifies the potential corridors for the proposed construction of the fiber optic facilities. Fiber optic cable construction shall primarily occur on previously disturbed public right-of-way. The fiber optic cable will be knifed into the soil at an approximate depth of 42 inches or with a directional boring machine. All streams and wetland areas will be directional bored to avoid impacting those types of environments. Maintenance will be performed by the HCTC staff.

The proposed Hershey Southeast Project consists of 43.0 miles of direct buried fiber cable, of which, if all 114 locations take service will include approximately 8.1 miles of fiber drop cable.

The proposed project will consist of one (1) Electronics cabinet that will house the Adtran Optical Line Terminal (OLT). The OLT will consist of the a TA5000 OLT with GPON line cards. The GPON line cards will be used to provide Giga-bit capable broadband service to each location that takes service. The project will also deploy one PON cabinet to extend the reach the OLT without unnecessarily upsizing the fiber strand count, thereby keeping costs down. At each location that takes service, HCTC will deploy an outdoor Optical Node Terminal (ONT) with an indoor battery backup UPS unit.

Given the number of construction miles, HCTC does not foresee the mainline construction taking more than 65 calendar days (14 weather shutdown days included) to complete. Depending upon the number of locations that take service, the deployment of customer ONTs will be completed soon after the mainline construction is completed. Given the relative short construction period, HCTC has budgeted almost a full year of delay into the schedule waiting for material delivery. Even with the 1-year delay, HCTC expects the project will be completed in the 18-month time period allotted. HCTC believes the 1-year delay is more than sufficient and is what we are currently seeing in fiber cable lead times. See the provided construction schedule M_3.