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Press Release

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DELHI, NY, July 15, 2015:

As part of Governor Cuomo's action to expand broadband to upstate New York, 2.9 million was awarded to The Delaware County Broadband Initiative (DCBI) in 2014. Total project is estimated at over \$6,700,000 including \$3.7 million in private investment, \$2.9 million in NYS grant funding, \$25,000 from the Catskill Watershed Corporation, and funding from the Town of Hardenburgh Rising Community Program. This funding will expand broadband in rural areas and open the doors to more economic opportunities, healthcare innovation, and educational investments. The fiber optic network will offer a suite of advanced telecommunications services including voice, video, and broadband. In addition, the network will have the capacity to meet future cell tower connectivity needs, provide business-class Ethernet circuits, and support the Delaware County Emergency Services communications network.

This project has been a joint collaboration between Margaretville Telephone Company (MTC), Delhi Telephone Company (DTC) and Delaware County Electric Cooperative (DCEC). DCBI will extend broadband service to approximately 1,800 un-served and underserved DCEC members and their neighbors located in the Townships of Andes, Colchester, Hamden, Hardenburgh, Harpersfield, Jefferson, Kortright, and Meredith. The extension will be approximately 210 miles of fiber optic line. The construction will take place once contracts are signed by New York State Empire State Development Agency. The estimated timeline of this project is about two years. Broadband services will become available as network segments are activated throughout the construction time-frame. Efforts by the partner companies to secure additional funding will continue to address un-served and underserved residents who are not included within this project area.

Delaware County Electric Cooperative (DCEC) will be attending the August Town Board Meetings in the Townships of Hamden and Meredith to answer member questions and concerns about The Delaware County Broadband Initiative (DCBI) project. Hamden Town Board Meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Hamden Town Hall, 20 Covert Hollow Road, Hamden. Meredith Town Board Meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Meredith Town Hall, 4247 Turnpike Rd, Delhi.

Additional information concerning the DCBI project is posted on each of the partner company's web-sites (www.mtctelcom.com, www.delhitel.com, and www.dce.coop).

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