

WyoLink Support Manager's Report to the PSCC 18 September 2009

Special Use Permits have been obtained from the Forest Service and BLM for the WyoLink sites at Snow King, Three Mile and Windy Ridge. Construction is proceeding, with Cheyenne Water Tank, Pinkham Mountain, Snow King, Three Mile and Windy Ridge on track to be complete before we are snowed out. Once these sites are completed, Cheyenne Water Tank (a Low Level Site), Snow King, Three Mile and Windy Ridge should be on the air, as our licenses for the frequencies we are sharing with the Feds should be in hand.

WyoLink has been concentrating on developing Talkgroup Plans and creating codeplugs for agencies wishing to come on to WyoLink. In the last month, we have produced over 1000 codeplugs for 8 agencies including State Forestry, State Engineer, Fire Marshal, Carbon County School District, Johnson County School District, Laramie County and Albany County agencies. Currently we're concentrating on generating codeplugs for WYDOT and WHP in WYDOT's District 2. This should be complete by early October.

We asked for an exception to the Governor's hiring freeze to bring retired WyoLink Network Specialist Kent Drummond back as a special classified employee to help with the large volume of work facing us both now and in the coming months. This request was disapproved. WyoLink will be able to complete all of the work ahead of us without this additional help, but there may be some delays in accomplishing this work.

We are poised to create codeplugs for Casper with the help of Wireless Advanced Communications. We will be enlisting their help due to the large number of templates and codeplugs that will be required for this cut over.

With Motorola's help, we have evaluated portable coverage enhancement sites in Green River, Lander, Laramie, Riverton, Rock Springs and Thermopolis. WyoLink's recommendations have been given to the Operations Workgroup. We have identified a site at Halleck Ridge that appears to give the coverage we need in the Elk Mountain Interchange area. There is currently a microwave relay site at this location, and Motorola will be performing coverage tests to verify coverage of the Elk Mountain Interchange area.

WyoLink is working with Motorola to enhance the security of the WyoLink System through login and password management and the implementation of an Advanced System Key. When complete, these enhancements will give us more control over who accesses and makes changes to parameters affecting system operation. As a result of these changes, WyoLink will be updating our documentation of procedures for making changes to and maintaining the system and its components.

We are expecting the FCC licenses for our federal frequencies around the end of September. With these licenses and the construction scheduled to be complete this fall, we will have 49 WyoLink sites operational. This will be 90% of our 54 sites. The remainder of the sites are anticipated to be complete and operational by the end of 2010.