



STANDING ROCK TELECOM INC.

Request for Proposal for Construction of Two New Cellular Towers

Issued: Monday, December 22, 2025

Due: Monday, January 26, 2026, 4pm Central Time

All proposals must be submitted electronically

Introduction

Standing Rock Telecom, Inc. ("SRTI" or "Telecom"), a wholly owned tribal corporation of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe ("Tribe") is soliciting a Request for Proposal (RFP) from qualified firms for the deployment of two additional 300' guyed tower structures and related equipment installation for the purpose of expanding coverage of the Standing Rock Telephone, Inc. cellular telephone, and LTE/Data network. The location of the tower construction sites is entirely within the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota and South Dakota. Bidders may submit quotes for provision of the towers, deployment of the radio transmission-related gear, site configuration and interconnection of the tower site to any ground-based communications where required. Any required/available site drawings and environmental applications and/or necessary permitting will be provided to the awarded company or firm upon execution of the project kick-off.

Construction is not expected to begin until March 2026 at the earliest, when weather and ground conditions are more favorable for construction, and is expected to not take longer than eight weeks.

The Telecom seeks a qualified provider or providers to deliver the installation and configuration of the towers/locations in an efficient and timely manner. The project will be awarded as a firm fixed-price deliverable. The winning bidder will be responsible for all direct and indirect related costs incurred in the delivery. Bidders are encouraged to submit quotations for each of the towers themselves, and the installation and configuration requirements as set forth in the project scope included within this document.

The Telecom plans to award any contract to the most qualified, responsive, and responsible firm whose proposal represents the best overall value to the Tribe based upon the evaluation criteria provided herein.

Background

Standing Rock Telecom, Inc, a wireless communications service company operated by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, has received funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for the purpose of upgrading the Standing Rock Telecom network to current standards meeting the requirements of the FCC and the NTIA. Additionally, the Tribe intends to expand the coverage of the services offered by SRTI to cover most of the currently unserved/underserved tribal members.

The current wireless network has essentially been in operation effectively for approximately 15 years but cannot currently provide the capacity and service type/level the Tribal community and the FCC/NTIA require to meet current data rate service standards. The current 3g configuration is also not in accordance with current FCC standards and has been undergoing a transition to newer equipment over the last twenty-four (24) months.

The awarded solution should include the provision for the purchase and erection of two proposed tower locations, SW Solen in North Dakota, and Little Eagle SE, in South Dakota. The initial tower engineering specifications and EA verification have been completed. The total of two (2) new tower locations are ready for provision and construction of towers meeting the defined/required specifications at the time of this request.

In addition, any required tower equipment installation work not performed by SRTI shall be requested of the winning bidder. Therefore, a labor rate/line card for these types of services shall be provided to make decisions based on a la carte needs during the construction process.

The focus of this RFP is to find the most qualified provider/installer of the required 300' guyed tower structures, and tower construction services. Aerial snapshots of the proposed tower locations were determined by surveying and engineering determined as the best location structurally, environmentally, and allows accessibility/performance of the location to meet coverage and interconnection. Full-stamped engineering docs reflecting tower criteria and related construction requirements will be a part of the process and provided with this request, or upon award.

The Telecom expects the response to be concise and complete with enough information to allow for review and scoring, but without overwhelming the reviewers with extraneous documentation and information, such as marketing materials.

All responses must be time stamped and submitted electronically by 4pm Central Time, Monday January 26, 2026. Any responses received after the deadline will not be reviewed.

Additional Documents to Accompany this RFP:

The following documents that are intended to accompany this RFP must be requested separately by contacting Miriam Gillow-Wiles:

1. Engineering KMZ
2. Engineering Plan Sets
3. RFP Budget Template
4. Attestation

RFP Milestones

Responsible Party	RFP Milestones	Date/Time
Tribe	RFP Issued	Monday, December 22, 2025
Interested Parties	RFP Questions Deadline	Friday, January 9, 2026, 4pm Central Time
Tribe	Response to Questions	Friday, January 16, 2026, 4pm Central Time
Interested Parties	RFP Closes	Monday, January 26, 2026, 4pm Central Time
Tribe	Award Determination	Monday, February 9, 2026, 4pm Central Time

Questions and Inquiries

The Telecom will not hold an open forum for questions. Rather, interested parties and potential respondents should send questions to the address listed below no later than **4pm Central, Friday, January 9, 2026**. The questions will be collated and addressed and posted as an addendum to this RFP. Interested parties who submit questions will also receive a copy of the questions and responses.

- Email questions to: Miriam Gillow-Wiles
- Subject Line of: SRTI New Tower Construction RFP Questions

Responses to questions will be published on or before 4pm Central Time, Friday, January 16, 2026.

RFP Submission Requirements

All proposals must be submitted no later than **4pm Pacific Time, on Monday, January 26, 2026**. Documents should either be in PDF or Excel formats, including the attached budget and

attestation templates, and must be labeled in the following format. "Company" and "Document Name" should be updated:

- SRTI TOWER RFP COMPANY DOCUMENT NAME

Note: any template provided should use the template name for the document name, ex: Budget or Attestation.

How to respond:

- Email proposal packages to Miriam Gillow-Wiles
- Subject Line: SRTI New Tower Construction RFP Response COMPANY NAME
- All documents should be in PDF format
 - Except for the Budget Template, which should remain as MS Excel format
- The Attestation must be signed and dated by an individual of the company with authority to sign.

Any proposal received after the date and time of submission will be rejected and not reviewed or scored. Responses that do not follow the other proposal submission instructions may also be rejected. The Tribe reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Submitted proposals will be acknowledged within 24 hours of receipt. Proposals will not be reviewed until after the RFP has closed.

*It is expected that the Tribe will select a vendor on or before **Monday, February 9, 2026**.*

Project Information

The project consists of two (2) tower site locations. Both sites required are located on Tribal land located within the Standing Rock Reservation, and may have either grazing rights, farming rights, our long-term leases allowing for homes and/or ranch structures, etc. Prospective bidders shall review the points below and provide a response to each indicating they have read, understand, and agree or take exception to each point and demonstrate the ability to meet each requirement. The Requesting Firm has identified and estimated tower solutions to serve as a basis for all proposals. Bidders may propose alternative tower designs only if the proposed alternative meets or exceeds the requirements below, and matches the established environmental requirements and definitions outlined through the EA process. If a Bidder proposes an alternative solution, then Bidder must also respond and demonstrate why the alternative proposed is a better solution from a cost/performance perspective.

Tower Provision and Required Construction and Installation Compliance

1. Compliant with Provided Design and Engineering Specifications
 - a. Any variance must be presented to SRTI, or one of its representatives, for evaluation and approval before acceptance into design sets and provisional requirements of site construction.
2. FCC Compliance:
 - a. Compliance with FCC rules implementing NEPA, which includes separate procedures for

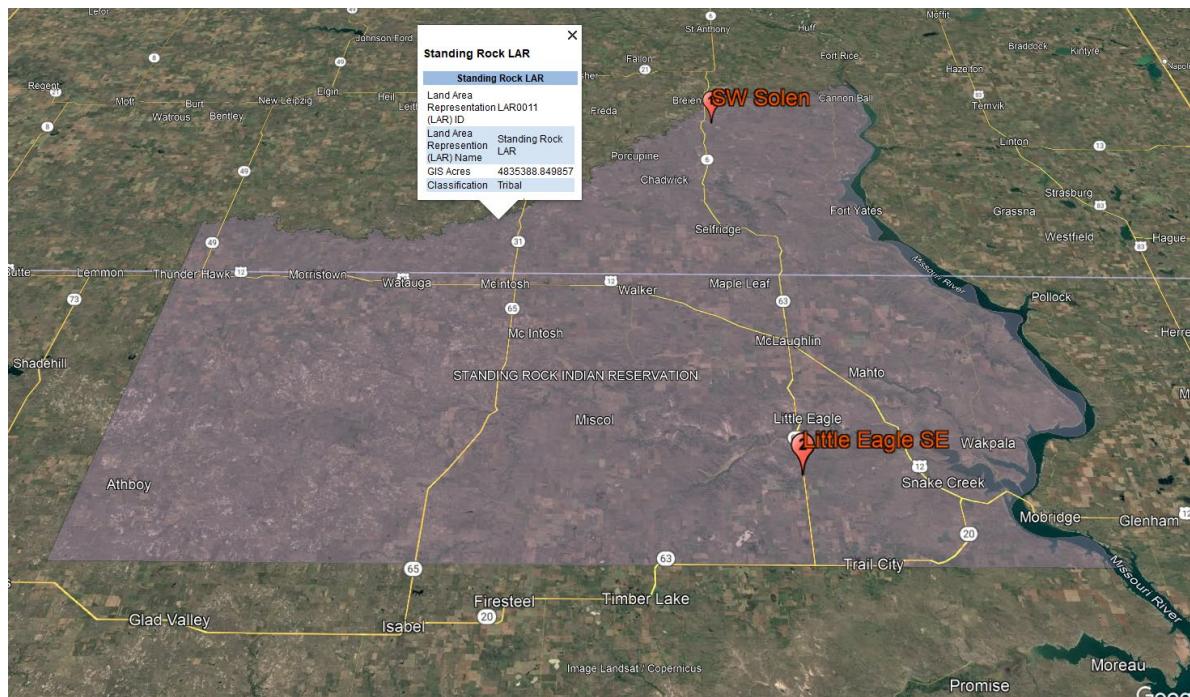
- i. ESA; and,
- ii. NHPA (including Section 106, Study will be completed by others by SRTI and under NTIA approval before any funding for work is authorized).
 - 1. Related FCC site information:
<https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/bureau-divisions/competition-infrastructure-policy-division/tower-and-antenna-siting#Sec106>
- 3. Although previously vetted and cleared, In the interest of aviation safety, depending on the tower's height and location, construction may also require:
 - a. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) notification; and/or,
 - b. Antenna Structure Registration (ASR) with the FCC.
- 4. All construction and climbing operations must comply with
 - a. Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, January 2023 Section 30: Tower Climbing Safety. Applicant must comply with requirements set forth in the following document: <https://www.usbr.gov/safety/rshs/documents/sec30.pdf>
 - b. All established OSHA requirements for construction safety, and equipment operational requirements.
- 5. Construction of New Tower Access Road
 - a. According to provided plan sets AC powerline construction support sets.
- 6. Tower construction Project Management
 - a. Vendor will provide effective monitoring of construction, construction safety and project management services, to include:
 - i. Provision of weekly reporting regarding construction progress, safety compliance, and critical path completion status
 - ii. Weekly Project projection report indication of proposed completion dates.
- 7. Requesting Firm will propose tower solutions as per provided design and engineering specifications to meet the buildout requirements of the two (2) proposed sites Any ancillary/additional material, or changes/modifications deemed necessary by the bidder shall be identified in the bidder's response,
- 8. Microwave radios, grip power meter(s), associated antennas and indoor units will need to be installed at a total of two locations listed here with estimated antenna diameters. Site preparation procedures as outlined in the drawings provided will also be required. Any site acquisition or steps related to property access on Tribal lands.

Acceptance Testing and Commissioning

Acceptance testing will take place at the completion of the splicing of all fiber placed on the project. Commissioning will follow completed project acceptance testing

Location Information

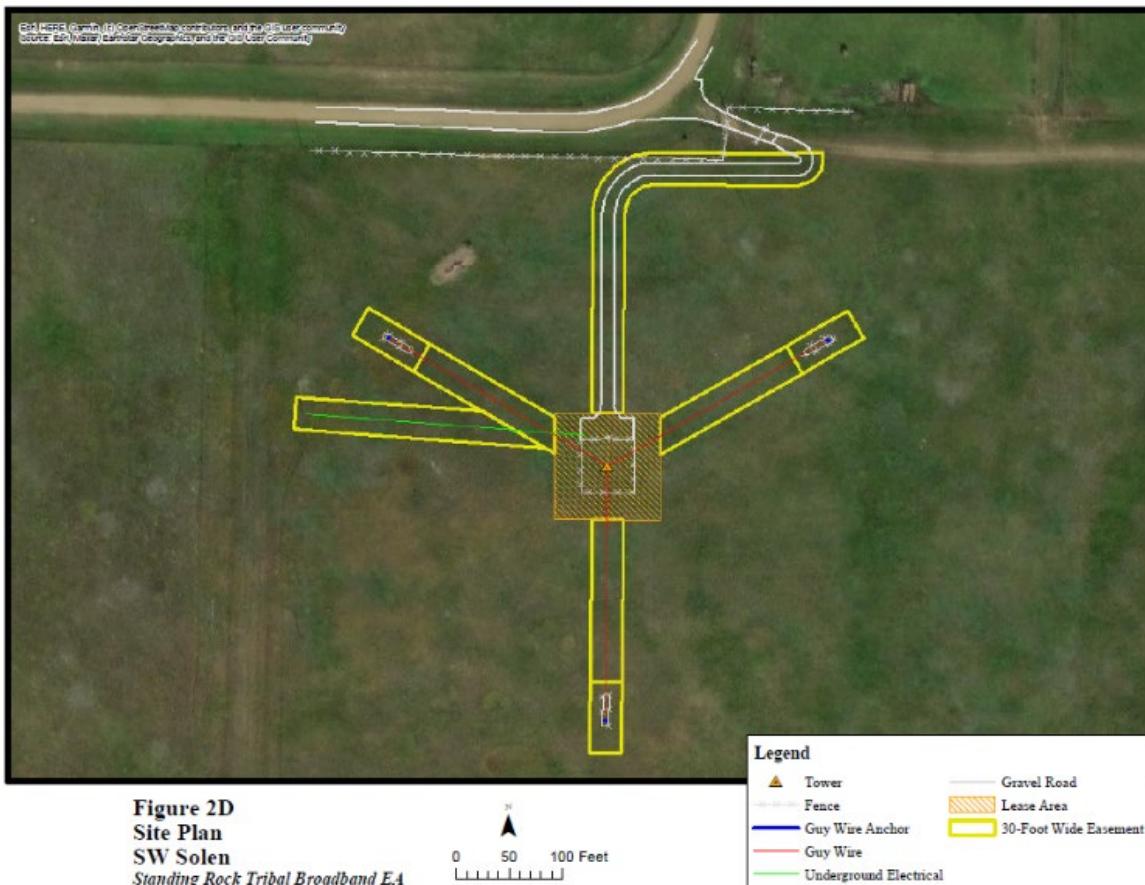
The service area for this project encompasses the entire Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Reservation. The Reservation is a tribal reservation that straddles the North Dakota and South Dakota borders and encompasses approximately 2.3 million acres. The map below shows the service area and associated geography. The total number of Native subscribers, businesses and government anchor institutions that will be served by the new tower construction is 700. Please see the attached KMZ for complete details.



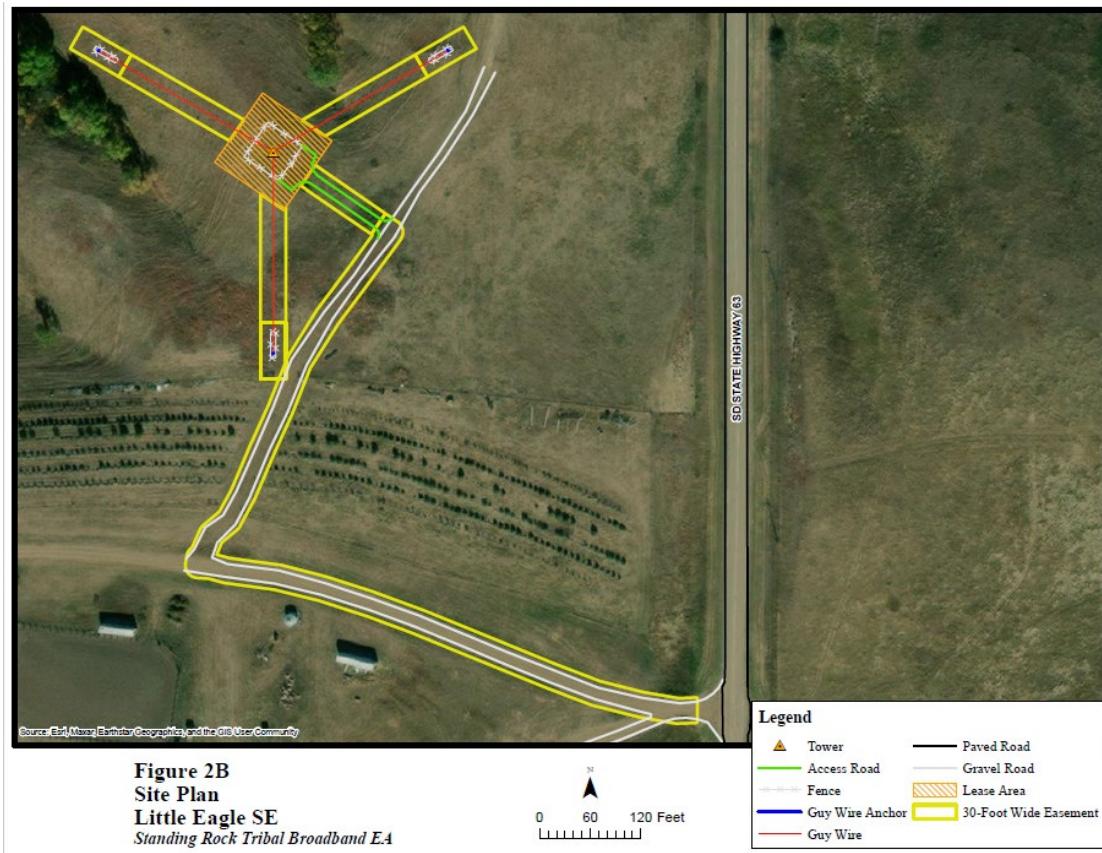
Specific Site Location Information

Basic Information

- SW Solen (New Site #1)
 - The SW Solen site would be located approximately 8 miles southwest of Solen, ND, in the N ¼, Section 30, T133N, R81W, Sioux County, North Dakota (ND). The site, which includes the lease area, guy wire anchor points, access road, and associated utility easements, encompasses approximately 1.1 acres and is located on tribal trust land. The approximate depth of excavation for the tower would typically not exceed 6 feet of subsurface depth. The access road would run approximately 460 feet and would be tied into an existing gravel road (i.e., 76th Street SW). In addition, a 30-foot wide, 300 feet long utility easement would run west from the lease area to an existing overhead utility line located west of the site. An underground or aerial electrical utility conduit is planned for that utility easement, which would be connected to the existing overhead utility line to provide power for the site. If the electrical utility requires an underground approach, then it would be laid with an open trench. Any potentially disturbed land is included in the approximate acreage noted above and occurs within the planned ROW. The tower would be built to 304 feet, and all required/noted guy wire anchors would be installed approximately 240 feet from the tower at the engineering specified locations for the tower.



- Little Eagle SE (New Site #2)
 - The Little Eagle SE site would be located approximately 6 miles southeast of Little Eagle, SD, in the NW ¼ SE ¼, Section 20, T19N, R27E, Corson County, SD. The site, which includes the lease area, guy wire anchor points, access road, and associated utility easements, encompasses approximately 1.5 acres and would be located on tribal trust land. The approximate depth of excavation for the tower would be less than approximately 6 feet. The access road would run approximately 155 feet and would be tied into an existing gravel drive that provides access to SD State Highway 63. The existing gravel drive would be improved as needed through a contractor supplied gravel overlay. A cattle gate would be placed along the access road. The tower would be built to approximately 300 feet. The proposed guy wire anchors would be per the definitions and requirements of the provided approved engineering plan-sets.



Historic and Tribal Preservation

In a letter dated December 8, 2022, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe THPO Office determined that the Proposed Action would have no adverse effect on historic properties, although NTIA may have additional consultation responsibilities under 36 CFR Part 800 in the event of inadvertent discovery, or a change to the scale or scope of the proposed action.

It is not expected that there will be any Tribal preservation challenges for this design. Engaging with the Tribe's THPO Officer will be required as part of the development of the project.

Environmental Information

On August 28, 2024, the NTIA issued their National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Determination Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed tower construction activities.¹

Soil Types

Upper soils were previously used for agricultural purposes. No soils are designated as Prime Farmland by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) although some

¹ August 28, 2024, U. S. Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration Finding of No Significant Impact, Standing Rock Telecommunications Inc. (NT22TBC0290078)

soils are classified by NRCS as Farmland of Statewide Importance and Prime Farmland if Irrigated are present.

The Geotechnical Engineering Investigation completed in 2024 containing additional information on the soil types will be available upon request.

Wetlands

No wetlands will be impacted by this project.

Floodplains

No flood plains will be impacted by this project.

Endangered Species

The following list of Special-Status Species are recognized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the FONSI but are unlikely to be adversely affected by the project.

- **Birds**
 - Piping Plover—Threatened
 - Rufa Red knot—Threatened
 - Whooping Crane—Endangered
 -
- **Fishes**
 - Pallid Sturgeon - Endangered
- **Critical Habitats**
 - There are no critical habitats within the project area

Land Use and Zoning

This project encompasses execution of services stated to occur within the entire Standing Rock Sioux Tribe reservation and is in areas of land owned by the Tribe and leased to Standing Rock Telecom, Inc.

Waste Management

Excavation spoils will primarily consist of soil, trees, brush, and debris.

Recycling of any other construction and demolition materials is preferred if material cannot be recycled; the contractors are required to manage waste disposal and remove or relocate all project related spoils as directed.

Water Resources

No water resources will be impacted by this project.

Air Quality

There is an expected increase in construction-related emissions. Mitigation is expected to include detailed planning for construction to ensure that all established environmental compliance requirements are met during the entire construction project, and the shortest construction timeline possible is achieved.

Permitting

A specific tribal permit to construct within the reservation will not be required.

Response Requirements

Tower Construction Components

This project is to build two 300' guyed towers to expand wireless cellular and broadband service to connect anchor locations, residences, and additional sites in the area as required during the process of future growth on the reservation. The Telecom will award to the successful construction firm that can demonstrate value, local knowledge, planning expertise, permitting experience, suggestive and proactive approaches to the project as relates to cost-effective decision making and "value propositioned" construction of the project. The successful construction firm will be expected to provide availability to interact with various entities, including the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Standing Rock Telecom, Inc., Baker Tilly serving as the Owner's Representative, school district staff, business leads and other construction vendors. The successful bidder will do so with timeliness and professionalism.

- Requesting Firm will acquire and provide the winning bidder with all the required Tribal permits and construction drawings to complete each segment touching Tribal Lands.
- The vendor will supply any licenses required by local municipalities, DOT, County jurisdictions etc. that enable work in public rights-of-way.
- The vendor is expected to be able to erect the tower, build the tower foundation, establish the roadway, entrance, and fencing, perform grounding and secondary telco and electrical work, including all earthwork, vegetation clearing, erosion control, and landscaping.
- The vendor will supply all materials including 300' guyed tower and components, all steel, anchors, and hardware, lighting system, access driveway material, tower foundation, fencing, PVC and fiber for vaults, bird diverters, other common materials, equipment, and labor to complete the installation.
- The vendor will be expected to obtain and provide needed traffic control. The vendor will supply miscellaneous incidental materials, including tape, wire-pulling lube, crushed rock, rope, etc.
- The vendor will be responsible for all restoration materials, removal and disposal of all spoils as required.
- The vendor will provide weekly updates and timely invoices.
- The vendor is liable for any loss, theft, damage to materials or equipment while in the Contractor's possession.
- All potholing will be performed at the discretion and cost of the vendor.
- The contractor will be required to provide the Telecom with red-lined, as-built plan sets. Standing Rock Telecom will provide a construction manager to inspect and validate the data collected.
- The vendor is responsible for documenting as-built information and red-lines, including GPS location (decimal degree format: 40.446° N 79.982° W) information for any conduit(s) placed and cable sheath footage markings for cables placed. Cable sheath footage markings shall be recorded at cable ends, at the in and out of all

hand holes (the start and end of all slack coils) and buildings. Cable sheath footage markings and cardinal/intercardinal directions shall be recorded for each sheath in splice cases. This as-built information will be recorded on a clean set of Construction plan sets (for further reference, please refer to the provided "UG Fiber Constructions Procedure & Required Standards" included with the proposal documents).

- The tribe may coordinate with the vendor to obtain GPS coordinate data of all underground data transport facilities including, but not limited to manholes, hand holes, conduit, inner duct, fiber cable and surface markers. The Contractor shall not backfill or bury any underground facility until County planning staff have taken GPS coordinate readings.
- The vendor is responsible for ensuring that all construction standards are followed, allowing for all new Tribal assets to be accurately located for protection and the vendor is responsible for protecting the newly installed plant until the final as built and fiber test result documents are delivered and accepted.
- Final payment will be dependent upon receipt of as-builts and proof of operational compliance of all items related both to the project scope and the contractual agreement.

Material Procurement

The vendor will procure the materials to construct the towers including a data shelter for each location and are described in the budget template. Complete the budget template for each location separately.

Standing Rock Telecom is a wholly owned tribal corporation of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, a Federally recognized tribe and is a tax-exempt entity in the State of North Dakota and South Dakota. As such, SRTI will not pay taxes on any materials. Any taxes charged on any materials will be at the expense of the entity selected for this project.

Non-Construction Components

While construction is the significant component of any response, the non-construction requirements are just as important and should not be overlooked or minimized in the bid submission. Proposals must include:

- Applicant Name, Address (mailing and physical), phone, and email
- Identification of key personnel, including names, titles, and resumes identifying similar projects or work experience.
- A short description of the approach the applicant will take to construct the FTTP and interaction with the Tribe and other consultants, including coordinating weekly project meetings as the Construction Manager.
- An estimated time frame for completion of the construction.
- A Gantt Chart or similar timeline identifying when construction milestones are expected to be achieved along with completion date(s).
- Detailed Budget submitted using the MS Excel template provided; the budget should include any travel expenses and rates of identified staff or similar qualified staff member(s).
- Please provide the expected cost for materials in the template provided.

- A minimum of three references with similar projects, location, and/or Tribal engagement.
- Signed attestation template by a member of the organization with the authority to sign such a document.

Budget

The budget for construction includes the costs of materials, labor, permitting, equipment, and all other aforementioned/required items as listed in this RFP. Please include the material costs in the provided budget template. Complete the budget template for each location separately.

Applications that exceed any established monetary or cost threshold may or may not be considered but will only be reviewed after applications that stay within the budget have been scored and, if all applications within the budget are found to be incomplete. Pricing is expected to be held for 90 days from the date the RFP closes.

Additional Response Requirements

Except for the budget template provided, all responses must be submitted in PDF format. The budget template should be maintained in the MS Excel format provided.

No hard copies will be accepted. Further, do not mail or deliver hard copies to the Standing Rock Telecom or any Baker Tilly office.

With the exception of required attachments or provided templates, responses should not be more than 10 pages in length.

Attachments are limited to:

- Resumes of key personnel expected to work on the project, limited to 1-page each
- Definition of the scope of work to be performed
- Include a definition of any planned subcontractor-related work, clearly identified, and justified in the response provided. All cost and pricing data from the subcontractor must be submitted in the proposal. Additional staff, materials, equipment, labor, and/or any other direct costs in the subcontracted work must be unique to that subcontractor as a cost incurred exclusively by the firm responding to this RFP and not repeated in the primary offeror's cost proposal as additional or other related current or future costs
- References – a minimum of three, including previous project information and contact information for a verifying individual at the organization of reference. Limit to 1 page each.
- Completed Budget Template
- Signed Attestation Template
- Promotional materials will not be accepted as part of the bidder's proposal

Qualifications and Expectations

All respondents are expected to demonstrate a strong working knowledge of telecommunications, telecommunications construction standards and best practices, as well as the specific of working within underground fiber optic development and construction projects. The applicants should also demonstrate experience in following permitting documentation across a variety of organizations including Tribal, Federal Agencies, and/or Counties.

- In addition, the following is expected:
 - The Respondent is responsible for submitting the design for any approved traffic control plans to the appropriate agencies.
 - The construction firm or entity will be responsible for following the final approved engineering plans, with any/all red lines updated and provided at a minimal interval of one workweek. Adherence to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program grant requirements will be enforced through project oversight
 - An organization or entity with knowledge of working with Native American Tribes is preferred.

Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO)

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe TERO Ordinance will apply to this project. Per the SRT TERO Ordinance, the construction contractor must pay a one-time fee of 2.5% of the total amount of the contract, plus a fee of 2.5% of any increases in the contract amount for contracts of \$500.00 or more.²

For any questions regarding these fees and payments, contact the SRT TERO office directly.

- Email questions to SRST TERO Officials: vfasthorse@standingrock.org and acotanny@standingrock.org
- SRT TERO Ordinance can be found here: [Title XXX - \(30\) TERO \(Tribal Employment Rights Office\).pdf](#)

Insurance Requirements

Prior to commencing work, the selected Bidder will be required to provide initially and on an annual basis and maintain in effect for the duration of the Agreement and any extensions, a certificate of insurance. Such certificate of insurance shall be written by an insurance company (or companies) acceptable to Requesting Firm and naming Requesting Firm as an additional named insured, and evidencing the following insurance coverage:

² Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Code of Justice, Title XXX TERO Ordinance No. 165, Resolution 114-14, Amended March 4, 2014

TYPE OF INSURANCE	LIMIT OF LIABILITY	
COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY		
General Aggregate	\$	5,000,000.00
Each Occurrence	\$	1,000,000.00
Products & Completed Operations	\$	5,000,000.00
Damage to Rented Premises - each occurrence	\$	500,000.00
Medical Expense (any one person)	\$	5,000,000.00
Personal and Adv. Injury	\$	5,000,000.00
AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY		
Combined Single Limit (ea. Accident)	\$	1,000,000.00
EXCESS/UMBRELLA LIABILITY		
Each Occurrence	\$	1,000,000.00
Aggregate	\$	1,000,000.00
WORKERS COMPENSATION		
Statutory		
E.L. Each Accident	\$	1,000,000.00
E.L. Disease - Each Employee	\$	1,000,000.00
E.L. Disease - Policy Limit	\$	5,000,000.00

Review and Evaluation

Responses will be reviewed after the RFP has closed on January 26, 2026. No responses will be reviewed prior to the closing date. After the proposals have been received, they will be reviewed and evaluated on completeness, applicant qualifications, responsiveness, and budget. Standing Rock Telecom, Inc expects to award the lowest cost, qualified bidder. This may or may not be the lowest cost response. The responses will be scored in the following manner:

Scored Component	Total Points Possible	Percentage of Overall Score
Qualifications	13	23.64%
Pricing	12	21.82%
Time Frame/Plan to Complete	10	18.18%
Completeness of Proposal	5	9.09%
References	5	9.09%
Native American Owned Business	5	9.09%
MBE/DBE/WBE	5	9.09%
Total Points	55	100.00%

Reviewers may request clarification or a meeting with any or all of the applicants on an as-needed basis. Any engagement after the RFP closes does not imply any award and should not be construed as such.

Right to Reject Proposals

Standing Rock Telecom, Inc. reserves the right to reject any or all proposals based on its sole discretion, or to waive any minor defects or minor irregularities in any proposal or in the proposal process, or to solicit new proposals for the same project or a modified project which may include portions of the original proposed project as in the best interest of the Telecom.

Awards and Agreements

Upon review and evaluation of the submitted proposals, all applicants will be notified no later than **Monday, February 9, 2026**, of the status of the response. Failure to respond in a timely fashion may lead to rejection of the proposal and selection of a different consultant. It is expected that the consultant will negotiate in good faith. Pricing must be held for 90 days from the closing date of the RFP submission. The proposals are non-binding; the negotiated and signed agreement will dictate the terms of the work. The selected applicant should be aware that resulting contract will be solely with Standing Rock Telecom, Inc.