

I would like to comment on Category 1 drop down menu starting Funding Year 2021 as proposed in Appendix A. Specifically the removal of Leased Lit Fiber from previous year drop down menu and substituting it simply with Transport Service may lead to confusion since the “Transport Service” term is usually associated with providing internet transport from an internet service provider’s point-of-presence (POP) to service recipient’s premises. There needs to be an option available that clearly indicates that the applicant is requesting transport service (including leased lit fiber) to connect two or more of applicant’s sites. Combining “Transport Service” to mean transport for internet service to internet service provider’s POP as well as transport for data transmission between applicant’s eligible entities is confusing. I would suggest that there be two choices for Transport Service: 1. Transport Service to Internet Service Provider’s point-of-presence. 2. Transport Service (including leased lit fiber) to connect Applicant sites. Both of these options should not require a separate Request for Proposal (RFP) to be uploaded with the Form 470 but rather description of services requested in the Form 470 should suffice. Applicant’s however may choose to upload an RFP.