

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT RURAL TELEPHONE BANK PROGRAM  
LOANS ANNOUNCED JULY 15, 2003**

**North Dakota - \$20,274,850**

**Consolidated Telcom, Dickinson, North Dakota.** A \$20,274,000 loan package to Consolidated Telcom headquartered in Dickinson. Consolidated Telcom serves the counties of Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, McKenzie, Hettinger, and Slope. The USDA Rural Development funds will be used to connect 185 new customers, deploy 136 new route miles of fiber and copper cable, offer two way broadband services, and upgrade hardware and software in the central office. Funds are provided from the USDA Rural Development Rural Telephone Bank Program.

**South Dakota - \$19,688,550**

**Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Herreid, South Dakota.** A \$19,688,550 loan package to Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association headquartered in Herreid. Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association serves the counties of Brown, Campbell, Edmunds, McPherson, and Walworth. The USDA Rural Development funds will be used to connect 193 new customers, deploy 270 new route miles of fiber and copper cable, upgrade a plant in Eureka and exchanges in Ipswich, and upgrade the central office and toll terminal equipment. Funds are provided from the USDA Rural Development Rural Telephone Bank Program.

**Texas - \$20,462,750**

**Border to Border Communications, Kerrville, Texas.** An \$11,710,800 loan package goes to Border to Border Communications headquartered in Kerrville, Texas. Border to Border Communications serves the county of Zapata. The USDA Rural Development funds will be used to connect 2,492 new customers, deploy 424 new route miles of fiber and copper cable, upgrade equipment and buildings. Funds are provided from the USDA Rural Development Rural Telephone Bank Program.

**Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Vernon, Texas.** An \$8,751,950 loan package goes to Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative headquartered in Vernon, Texas. Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative serves the Texas counties of Archer, Baylor, Childress, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hall, Hardeman, Haskell, King, Knox, Motley, Stonewall, Wichita, and Willbarger, and the Oklahoma counties of Cotton and Jackson. The USDA Rural Development funds will be used to connect 2,588 new customers, deploy 663 new route miles of fiber and copper cable, upgrade equipment and buildings. Funds are provided from the USDA Rural Development Rural Telephone Bank Program.