



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Better Internet to Unserved Putnam County Residents and Businesses

Gainesboro, Tennessee – The Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development announced approval of a grant in the amount of \$10.4M to Twin Lakes for its proposed Putnam County broadband project.

The Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund – American Rescue Plan (TEBF-ARP) project calls for the construction of a 195-mile fiber network that will provide broadband access to approximately 2,400 unserved residents and businesses in Putnam County. With such a massive undertaking and supply chain issues prevalent throughout the world, the State’s contract stipulates construction must be completed within 36-months. However, due the critical nature of the project, Twin Lakes anticipates project completion 6-months prior to the State’s deadline.

In addition to TEBF-ARP funds, Putnam County will provide \$4.4M from federal ARPA funds allocated specifically for broadband, water and sewer infrastructure investments. “Access to high-speed Internet has never been more important,” says Randy Porter, Putnam County Mayor. “We are excited to be able to make this investment in the expansion and delivery of reliable broadband to unserved Putnam County residents and businesses.”

“Serving the unserved and underserved residents of the Upper Cumberland region has been the mission of Twin Lakes for over 70 years. Today we are thrilled to partner with Putnam County and TN-ECD to extend our world class fiber network to those without adequate service outside our Cooperative area,” said Jonathan West, General Manager and CEO at Twin Lakes. “Having access to reliable 10 Gb broadband service will ensure these Putnam County residents have the connectivity they need to succeed in today’s online world. The submitted testimonials that we received from hundreds of Putnam County residents made a huge difference in our application and we look forward to connecting those homes and businesses over the next 30 months.”

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About Twin Lakes:

Twin Lakes, established in 1951, is a customer-centric fiber optic telecommunications company, providing 100 percent fiber-to-the-premise (FTTP) gigabit broadband internet, voice, HDTV, and security to over 30,000 customers in Tennessee. For more information, please visit www.twinlakes.net.