



# MEMORANDUM

TO: Alaska Broadband Office

FROM: Theresa Dutchuk, Project Manager, DOWL

DATE: September 12, 2025

SUBJECT: Evaluation of whether all deployment related activities anticipated for projects within your state or territory are covered by the actions described in the relevant FirstNet Regional PEIS.

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According to Chapter 2 of the FirstNet PEIS, projects proposed by applicants are covered by the proposed action as described in 2.1.2. Technologies considered as the proposed action in Chapter 2 of the FirstNet PEIS include wired, wireless, and deployable projects:

## Wired

- New build and collocated buried or aerial cable
- Use of existing buried, submerged, or aerial cable (lighting up dark cable)
- New submarine cable deployment

## Wireless

- New towers or collocating equipment on existing towers
- Cell on wheels, cell on light truck, system on wheels, and aerial communications architecture

## Satellite

- Permanent equipment on existing structures or use of satellite technology such as satellite phones or video cameras
- Deployment of satellites<sup>[1]</sup>

ABO's Qualified NEPA Consultant reviewed each application and confirmed that the successful applicants' proposed projects were covered by either a categorical exclusion or covered by the proposed action in the FirstNet PEIS. Although the PEIS sufficiently covers projects proposed by applicants, ABO recommends adding "ground lay fiber optic cable" to the description under 2.1.2.1 "New Build – Buried Fiber Optic Plant" for clarity.

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<sup>[1]</sup> FirstNet does not anticipate launching satellites as part of the proposed action, rather what is included here is including equipment on satellites that are already being launched.