

30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
SUSSEX COUNTY HIGH SPEED BROADBAND INITIATIVE

On March 8, 2018, the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission (Tobacco Commission) announced that Sussex County and the Prince George Electric Coop would receive a grant in the amount of \$1,250,000 to support a fiber to the home project in Sussex County.

Prince George Electric Cooperative has been serving Sussex County and other nearby communities for more than 80 years. Prince George Electric Cooperative has a long-standing relationship with the county, its residents and its businesses. The cooperative's commitment to providing infrastructure to the county and its organizational structure which benefits its customers instead of shareholders along with its proprietary and efficient broadband business model made this a clear-cut endeavor to support and implement as far as Sussex County is concerned.

PGEC Enterprises, LLC will be providing fiber to the home (FTTH) services with symmetrical speeds of 30Mbps download and 30Mbps upload capability. This service will be deployed through a shared distribution fiber-optic Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON). Through this initiative at least 500 houses as well as project area businesses and suitable suites will be served by high speed fiber. Residents will pay a \$75 application fee and a flat rate \$82/month for the service; business rates will range from \$110 -\$500/month based on capacity needs. This same service and fee structure is currently being deployed in Prince George County and has more than 200 new members in the broadband deployment area. PGEC's 80-year history serving Sussex, Prince George etc. illustrates its long-term and future minded commitment to its customers which are also its members.

PGEC is a part of the community in Sussex County. PGEC's deployment of electrical infrastructure throughout its service area has spurred both residential and business growth and they actively play a role in local and regional economic development efforts. PGEC Enterprises, LLC is using the same business model to deploy the broadband to the project area whereby internet service members will be cooperative members. PGEC Enterprises, LLC will provide more specific information regarding dates when the service will be available in each area and also information on how to sign up to access the new service. More information will also be forthcoming on future phases of the PGEC Enterprises, LLC broadband expansion in Sussex County.

Sussex County, Prince George Electric Cooperative and PGEC enterprises, LLC invite the public to offer any additional comments on the project over the next 30 days, including whether any other provider is currently offering broadband service in the project area. Any individual, group, or agency wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments may be mailed to either Shilton Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator, Post Office Box 1397, 20135 Princeton Road, Sussex, VA 23884 or Renee Chapline, Vice President for Communications and Government Affairs, Prince George Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 168, Waverly, VA 23890. Comments may also be emailed to either Shilton Butts at sricks@sussexcountyva.gov or to Renee Chapline at rchapline@pgec.coop. All comments received by the close of business on **August 3, 2018** will be considered by the County of Sussex and the Prince George Electric Coop prior to authorizing the request for release of funds.



Prince George Electric Cooperative

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