

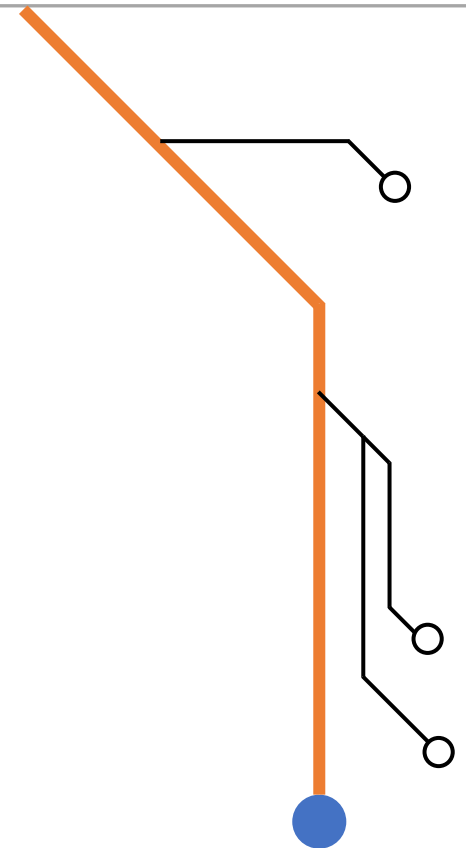
*Office of Broadband Access and Expansion*

# Connect New Mexico Pilot Program

Wave Three

Mapping Review Process to Validate Eligible Service Areas

May 2023



# Agenda

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## Agenda

- Purpose of Mapping Challenge Process
- Relevant NOFO Guidelines
- Wave Three: Projects Overview
- Wave Three Map (Demonstration)
- Process to File Mapping Challenge

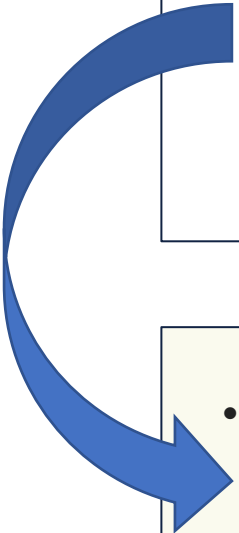
# Purpose of Mapping Challenge Process

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The Mapping Challenge process complements the Merit Review process.

## Review Process: Two Distinct but Complementary Tracks

- Merit review that applies a scoring rubric to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the applications
  - Project impact; Community Engagement; Economic Efficiency; Project Readiness; Organizational Qualifications; Marketing/Services Strategy; Adoption Assistance Programs; Sustainability
- Mapping review that closely examines the eligibility of the proposed projects' service area
  - Designed to ensure that an applicant's service areas only involve unserved or underserved areas

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- Unserved Premise: A household or business location that lacks access to a wireline-based broadband connection with a reliable data rate of at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload
  - Underserved Unit: A household or business location that has access to a wireline-based broadband connection that reliably offers at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload but less than 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload

# Threshold for Unserved and Underserved Premises

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The 80% threshold allows for overbuild in limited circumstances.

## Purpose of 80% Threshold

### ➤ **NOFO Definition**

- Areas in which 80% of the household and business locations in the applicant's Project Area are either unserved and/or underserved.

### ➤ **Purpose**

- The 80% threshold aims to accommodate scenarios that do not involve intentional overbuild but provide flexibility when required. This includes several scenarios, for example:
  - Served premises which are inevitably passed by the wireline path on its way to connect unserved and/or underserved units
    - ❑ Example: A wireline network has to pass served households on the way to unserved premises because those served units stand at the entry point of a neighborhood.
    - ❑ Example: The network's middle-mile span crosses served units, and while the budget does not fund drops, the middle-mile infrastructure is funded.
  - A wireless network propagates into served areas as the signals inevitably permeate across a broad project area.
  - Issues exist regarding the merit/accuracy of the data which indicates served – e.g., reliability concerns about the speeds offered.
  - The served premise(s) -- e.g., especially a business or community institution -- may significantly enhance the business case (e.g., anchor client).
  - Other reasonable cases based on consideration of engineering, financial, or operational assessments

# Challenges Pertain to Both Existing and Planned Broadband Services

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The mapping challenge process invites feedback from service providers with an existing or planned network. Please see the NOFO for the Connect New Mexico Pilot Program.

## NOFO Guidelines

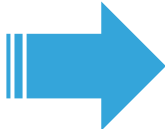
- Existing service providers which can provide evidence that the Project Area is currently served
- Awardees and beneficiaries from another federal or state funding program that plan to deploy a broadband network and make commercial services available within a reasonable time period from the NOFO issuance date (e.g., two years);
- Entities that have made substantiated progress in launching a network.
  - This includes the demonstration of: a) comprehensive business and technical plan; b) funding secured; c) detailed budget; d) detailed project plan that supports the launch of commercial services within two years of the NOFO issuance date.

# Overview of Wave Three Projects

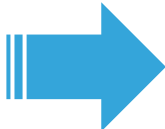
OBAE received applications for 28 projects.

28 Projects

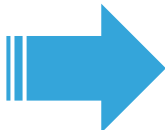
- \$133.5M in grant requests leveraged by \$49.7M in match contributions for a total budget size of \$183M
- Over 43,000 unserved and underserved premises
- Over 1,100 fiber miles



Technology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 22 fiber</li><li>• 4 fixed wireless</li><li>• 1 tower infrastructure</li><li>• 1 hybrid fiber/fixed wireless</li></ul>



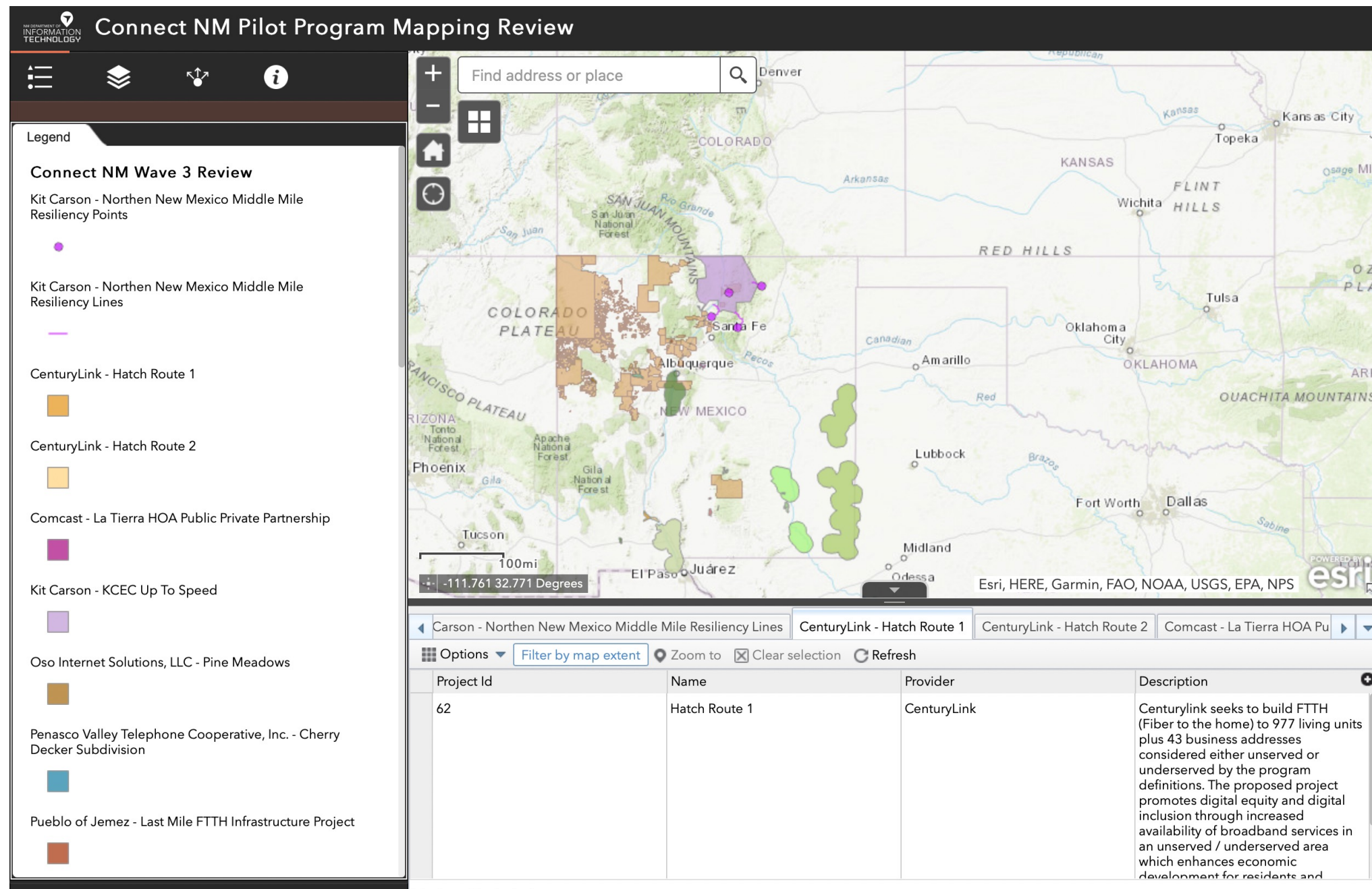
Geographic Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 11 Southern Region</li><li>• 9 Northern Region</li><li>• 7 Central Region</li><li>• 1 Statewide</li></ul>



Organization Type
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7 private ISP's (accounting for 20 projects)</li><li>• 5 tribal affiliated</li><li>• 1 telephone cooperative</li><li>• 1 electric cooperatives (accounting for two projects)</li></ul>

# Wave Three Map

OBAE has updated the Map with all provided application polygons from the proposed project service areas as of May 12, 2023.



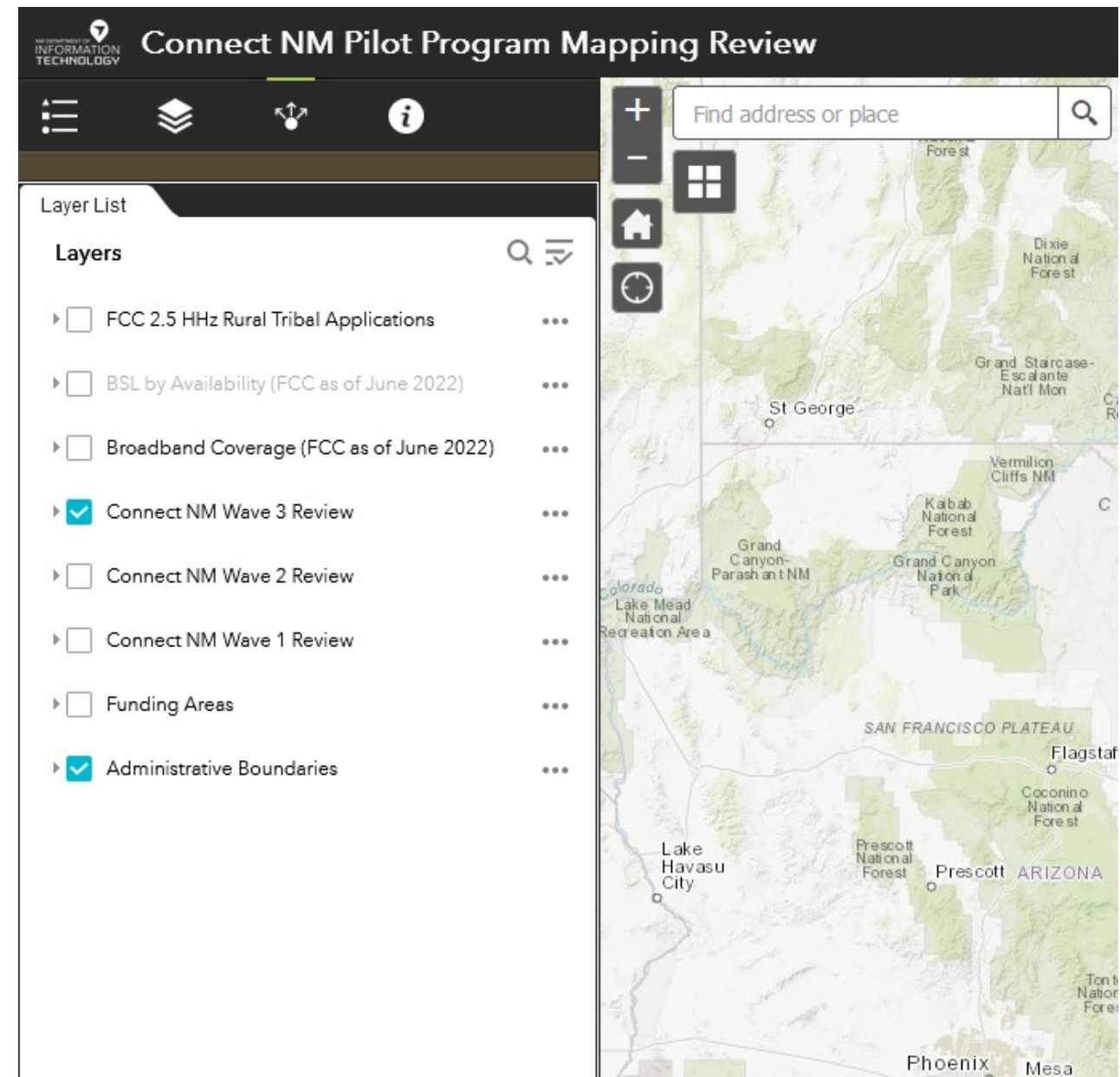
- Website: <https://nmdoit.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a94bf13b899c4993aad03dda921723d6>



# Connect NM Review Map – Federal/State Data

The Review Challenge Map showcases several data sets from federal and state sources.

- Broadband Availability (BSL/BDC)
- Federal Awards
  - ☐ FCC 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Applications
  - ☐ CAF I & II Areas
  - ☐ FCC RDOF Awards
  - ☐ USDA Reconnect Awards
  - ☐ HUBB Data (Deployment location data for Federal awards)
- State Awards
  - ☐ Connect NM Wave 3 Proposed Areas
  - ☐ Connect NM Wave 1 & 2 (awarded and proposed areas)
  - ☐ NM PRC
- Administrative Boundaries
  - ☐ County and Tribal boundaries





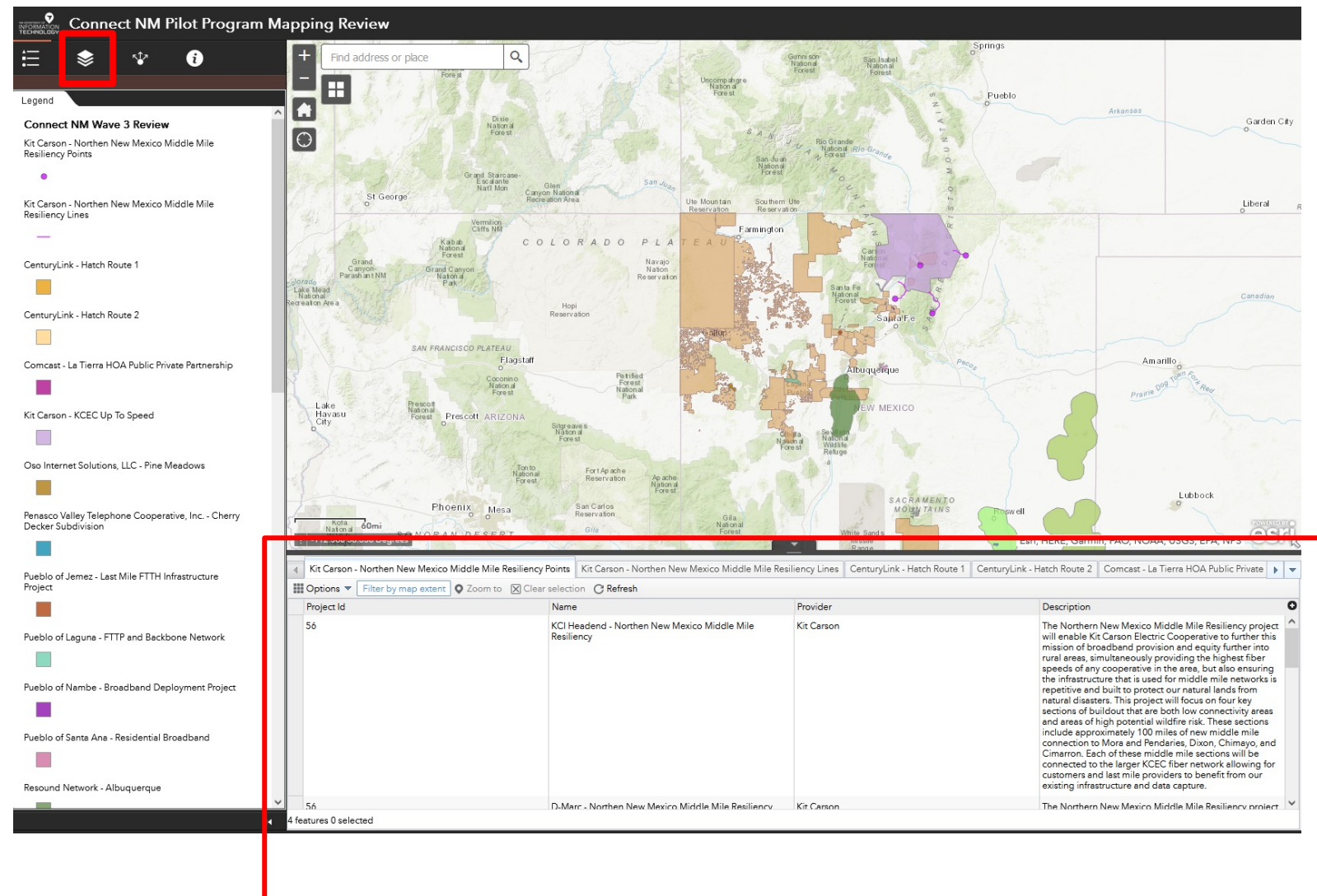
# Connect NM Grant Review Map – Project Data

The Review Challenge Map includes relevant project details.

- Individual project layers can be accessed via layer list from the left hand menu or from the table at the bottom of the map via tabs.

- Information includes:

- ☐ Project ID
- ☐ Project Name
- ☐ Applicant/ISP Name
- ☐ Project Description



# Process to File a Challenge

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Please adhere to the following procedural guidelines.

Content
<p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide OBAE with shapefiles and specific location addresses that have demonstrated wireline service at or above the program eligibility threshold of 100/20 Mbps.</li><li>• Please share the latest availability filings provided to the FCC in the Broadband Data Collection (BDC) system (as of December 31, 2022)</li><li>• Include the following in the header of your email: Project Name, Applicant, and Unique ID.</li></ul> <p><b>Address</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Send the challenge to: <a href="mailto:broadbandpilot@state.nm.us">broadbandpilot@state.nm.us</a></li><li>• Note: OBAE will confirm receipt of challenge.</li></ul> <p><b>Deadline</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• May 26, 2023 (5 p.m. MT)</li></ul> <p><b>Post-Challenge Next Steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OBAE team may invite your team to further discuss and understand the challenge.</li><li>• Invite the Applicant to remove overlapping areas if the challenge has merit -- i.e., reliable wireline-based services offering at least 100/20 Mbps.</li><li>• OBAE will notify the challenger if that challenged project is funded.</li></ul>

# Discussion

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Questions/Answers