**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

**Quintillion – GMT2 to Utqiagvik Terrestrial Fiber Project**

**Outside Plant (OSP) Construction**

Owner: Quintillion, 3601 C St, Suite 1000B, Anchorage, AK 99503

RFP No.: QNT‑GMT2‑UTQ‑OSP‑[20250912]

Issue Date: [9/12/2025] Due Date: [10/8/2025 at 5:00 PM Alaska Time]

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Email Subject: 2025.09.12\_Quintillion RFP GMT2–Utqiagvik\_Outside Plant Construction\_[Company Name]

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# 1) Purpose

Quintillion is soliciting turnkey winter construction services to install approximately 171 miles of terrestrial fiber optic cable (FOC) from ConocoPhillips’ GMT2 facility to Utqiagvik (Barrow). Work includes winter mobilization, cable deployment on snow/ice‑covered tundra, stream/river crossings, splicing and testing, documentation, and demobilization. The objective is to establish a resilient overland route that hardens North Slope connectivity.



# 2) Background

The route generally follows the North Slope Borough Community Winter Access Trail (CWAT) within a one‑mile design corridor (½‑mile either side), with deviations to optimize crossing locations and avoid deep lakes. Construction is planned as a single ~120‑day winter campaign with staging at Utqiagvik and Deadhorse. The FOC will be laid directly on snow/ice‑covered tundra (no trench) to settle naturally after breakup, a method used successfully nearby by other telecommunications companies.

# 3) Scope of Work

## 3.1 Mobilization, Staging & Winter Access

* Mobilize tracked winter‑approved vehicles (e.g., rolligons, snowcats), mobile camp assets, and fuel trailers with secondary containment; comply with tundra travel windows and authorizations.
* Stage materials/equipment at Utqiagvik and Deadhorse; manage refueling logistics along the CWAT.

## 3.2 Fiber Deployment & Crossings

* Deploy ~171 route miles of FOC; approximately 30 reels at ~40,000 ft each; splicing ~every 7–8 miles and at designated water gaps; place/mark splice cases with flexible markers.
* Execute water-gap crossings using three modes per site conditions: (a) non‑elevated lay, (b) non‑elevated plow/trench (up to ~18" into non‑permafrost sediments), (c) elevated aerial spans at ~20 ft with bird diverters, marker balls, poles, guys, and anchors,.

## 3.3 Huts (Bid Alternate A)

* Bid Alternate A: furnish/install up to two trailer‑mounted amplifier huts (approx. 8’×10’, insulated, heaters/fans, generator, ≤500 gal fuel, batteries) on existing pads or approved locations.

## 3.4 Testing & Turn‑Up

* Perform OTDR, insertion loss/return loss and continuity tests end‑to‑end; provide final acceptance test reports with traces and summary tables.

## 3.5 Documentation & As‑Builts

* Provide as‑built GIS (ESRI shapefile, NAD83), splice map, crossing photos, and redlines; furnish ROW as‑built package for BLM submission.

## 3.6 Demobilization & Site Restoration

* Remove temporary works, camps, and waste; document cleanup and tundra protection activities as required.

# 4) Technical Requirements & Deliverables

## 4.1 Means & Methods (Minimum)

* Tracked winter vehicles (e.g., Pisten Bully/Tucker Terra, rolligons), sleighs, splice trailers, fuel trailers with secondary containment; ice cutting saws; cable plow; small tracked excavator for bank stabilization.

## 4.2 Crossings

* Execute crossing mode per site‑specific design to minimize disturbance; use anchors/bank embedment as needed; limit machine passes at crossings.

## 4.3 Water Withdrawal (if used)

* Obtain ADF&G Title 16 authorizations and use screened intakes compliant with NMFS criteria when mixing sand slurry for pole backfill.

## 4.4 Safety & Wildlife

* Implement bear‑aware program with bear guards and deterrence protocols; comply with MBTA/BGEPA and USFWS LOA for polar bear harassment (Level B, non‑lethal).

## 4.5 Reporting

* Pre‑season work plan to BLM; polar bear observation forms; season closeout reports; NSB completion report; provide as‑built corridor dataset (NAD83).

## 4.6 Deliverables (Minimum)

* Project Execution Plan; HSE Plan (SPCC, HazMat contingency, Waste Mgmt, Bear‑Human Interaction Plan).
* Quality Plan; Logistics Plan; Daily/Weekly progress reports.
* Test Plans and Final Reports; As‑builts (GIS, stationing, splice map); Photo log of crossings; Closeout documentation.

# 5) Permitting & Compliance

Owner responsible for securing fundamental land access/ROWs (BLM ROW through NPRA; ConocoPhillips/Kuukpik LNOs at GMT2; UIC/ASRC land use/ROW approaching Utqiagvik) and coordinating a USFWS LOA for polar bear interactions.

Contractor is responsible for activity‑specific permits driven by means/methods (e.g., ADF&G Title 16 fish habitat and water use, temporary structures at crossings) and compliance with USACE Nationwide Permit 57 and NSB development permits as applicable. Contractor shall operate consistent with NPRA ROPs and include method statements evidencing compliance.

# 6) Assumptions and Exclusions

**Assumptions**

* Construction will occur fully within agency‑defined winter travel windows.
* OSPE route, crossing schedule, and typicals will be provided under NDA.
* Helicopters are not planned for winter deployment; O&M helicopter access occurs post‑deployment as needed.

**Exclusions**

* Permanent gravel work or trench burial along tundra segments (design is tundra lay to settle naturally).
* Summer heavy equipment access unless specifically approved for repairs/settling/alignment.

# 7) Proposal Requirements

1. Cover Letter & authorized signatory.
2. Understanding & Approach to tundra lay and three crossing modes;
3. Execution Plan & Schedule (Gantt) for a ~120‑day winter campaign; staging and mobilization trains; reel/splice plan.
4. Equipment & Staffing Plan (vehicles, camps, fuel logistics with secondary containment; splicing crews; bear guards).
5. Quality Plan (FOC testing—OTDR/IL/RL, acceptance thresholds, defect remediation); sample test report.
6. HSE Plan (SPCC; HazMat contingency; waste mgmt; Bear‑Human Interaction Plan; wildlife avoidance and MBTA/BGEPA compliance).
7. Permitting Strategy aligned to the permit matrix; roles & responsibilities.
8. Community & Local Hire Plan (coordination with local organizations; cultural practices).
9. Past Performance (remote Arctic winter OSP projects; stream/river crossings; NPRA/BLM experience).
10. Commercial Proposal: Lump Sum for base scope; Unit Prices by crossing type, splices, anchors, bank stabilization, extra mobilizations, reel handling; Bid Alternate A (amplifier huts).
11. If T&M components are proposed, include full rate sheet and a not‑to‑exceed value.
12. Subcontracting plan (identify subs, scope split, experience).
13. Compliance Attestations: Signed Exhibit C (Debarment) and Exhibit D (Lobbying) certifications.

**Partial Bids & Subcontract Teaming (Optional).** Quintillion will accept proposals for **discrete portions** of the Work and **constructability/value** suggestions. If submitting a partial bid, clearly identify: (i) the **specific scope/discipline** covered, (ii) **interfaces** and assumptions, (iii) **deliverables**, and (iv) **pricing** (lump sum and/or unit rates). Indicate your **availability to perform as a subcontractor** to the selected prime contractor and list any key capabilities, crews, and equipment you would provide.

# 8) Evaluation Criteria

* Technical approach & constructability in Arctic winter and on tundra; crossing methodology.
* Schedule realism for a ~120‑day winter window; readiness for staging and contingencies.
* Experience with NPRA/BLM projects, Title 16 fish‑habitat work, river/aerial crossing systems, and OSP splicing/testing.
* HSE & Wildlife plans (SPCC, bear plan, MBTA/BGEPA) and performance metrics.
* Quality (testing program; as‑built GIS deliverables).
* Community engagement & local hire plan.
* Value (price, unit costs, risk sharing) and commercial terms.

# 9) Insurance Requirements

* Workers’ Compensation (statutory).
* Employers’ Liability $1,000,000.
* Automobile Liability $1,000,000 CSL.
* Commercial General Liability $1,000,000 occurrence incl. contractual liability & completed operations.
* Umbrella/Excess $5,000,000.
* Professional Liability $2,000.000
* Contractors Pollution Liability $1,000,000
* Except Workers’ Compensation, name Quintillion as Additional Insured with waiver of subrogation; Contractor’s insurance primary & non‑contributory.

# 10) Contract Terms & Federal Requirements

* NDA prior to sharing OSPE design and route packages (Exhibit A).
* Federal provisions in Exhibit B apply if the project uses federal funding; Exhibits C and D certifications required with the proposal.
* Performance assurance (e.g., performance bond or letter of credit) may be required based on award size and risk profile.
* Condition precedent to NTP**.** Contractor shall not mobilize for field work until Owner issues NTP confirming that all required permits, approvals, and rights of entry/land access necessary for the applicable work have been secured.

# 11) RFP Timeline

* Proposals due: [10/8/2025, 5:00 PM Alaska Time]
* Selection target: [10/10/2025]
* NTP target: [10/17/2025—aligned to winter travel window opening]

Quintillion reserves the right to select or reject any and all proposals for any reason, waive irregularities and waive minor deviations from the specifications.

Proceeding contingency: Award may be made; however, issuance of any Notice to Proceed (NTP) is contingent upon the Owner obtaining all required permits, approvals, and rights of entry/land access. If such approvals are delayed or not granted, the Owner may postpone NTP, adjust the schedule, or cancel without liability to bidders.

# 12) Submission Procedures

Submit proposals by email to the addresses listed on the cover (single PDF plus native schedule files).

File name format: 2025.MM.DD\_Quintillion RFP GMT2–Utqiagvik\_Outside Plant Construction\_[Company Name].

Proposals must be signed by an authorized representative and remain irrevocable for 30 days after the submission deadline.

**Partial bid submissions.** Use the subject line/file name tag **“*Partial Bid – [Discipline]*”** (e.g., …\_Partial Bid – Splicing\_[Company]). Quintillion **may share partial bids** with shortlisted or awarded **prime contractors** solely to facilitate teaming discussions; submission **does not obligate** Quintillion to make an award.

# 13) Questions

All questions must be submitted in writing to the submission email addresses. Answers will be provided as questions are received and be distributed to all known recipients without attribution.

# Exhibits

# Exhibit A – OSPE & Route package

OSPE & Route Package (under NDA): route KML/ESRI files (NAD83), stationing, crossing list, and typicals for elevated/anchored crossings.

# Exhibit B – Required Federal Provisions (2 CFR Part 200 Appendix II, etc.)

* Administrative, contractual, or legal remedies for contracts over the simplified acquisition threshold.
* Termination for cause and convenience for contracts over $10,000.
* Equal Employment Opportunity (41 CFR 60‑1.4(b)) for federally assisted construction contracts.
* Davis‑Bacon Act and Copeland Anti‑Kickback Act where required by federal program legislation.
* Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701–3708), where applicable.
* Rights to Inventions (37 CFR Part 401) when applicable.
* Clean Air Act and Federal Water Pollution Control Act compliance for awards > $150,000.
* Debarment and Suspension (2 CFR 180) – SAM verification.
* Byrd Anti‑Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352) – certification & disclosures.
* Procurement of Recovered Materials (40 CFR Part 247) where applicable.
* Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance equipment (Pub. L. 115‑232 §889).

# Exhibit C – Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility & Voluntary Exclusion (Lower‑Tier)

**Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion Lower Tier Covered Transactions Instructions for Certification**

1. By signing and submitting this contract or proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. The term “principals” includes, but is not limited to, officers, directors, owners, partners, and principal investigators. You may contact the person to which this proposal or contract is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by signing and submitting this contract or proposal that should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion Lower Tier Covered Transaction,'' without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, review the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-procurement Programs.

8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

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**Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility an Voluntary Exclusion**

**Lower Tier Covered Transactions**

1. The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by signing and/or submission of this proposal or contract, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

2. Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Name of Vendor, Contractor, or Subgrantee: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Authorized Signatory: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Exhibit D – Certification Regarding Lobbying

**Certification Regarding Lobbying**

**Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements**

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying,” in accordance with its instructions.
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date