



Interconnection Policy

ION's proposed middle mile fiber backbone project will meet and comply with the NOFA non-discrimination and network interconnection policies.

Non-discrimination - ION will meet or exceed the requirements set forth by the FCC's Internet Policy Statement, FCC 05-151, adopted August 5, 2005 regarding non-discrimination and actively encourages broadband deployment and the preservation and promotion of the open and interconnected nature of the public Internet.

Interconnection - ION's predominantly middle mile service offering will be high-capacity, point-to-point private line transport services. ION will not manage or limit the content of communications traffic transiting ION's network, except to the extent necessary to maintain reliable service. ION's network management practices will not involve preferential routing of traffic on the basis of content or provider. As it does now, ION will utilize neutral traffic routing, and will enable connections to other carriers and to the public Internet. ION will display its network management policies in a prominent location on its Web page, and will provide notice to customers of changes to these policies.

ION currently provides points of interconnection at several incumbent LEC Class 5 and Class 4 (tandem) central offices, as well as multiple Tier 1 Internet POP locations. ION's proposed project will increase the number of locations at which ION's network will interconnect to other carriers and services providers.

ION will continue to interconnect with other carriers to exchange traffic at these locations and other network nodes. ION will negotiate with bona fide requesting parties to use facilities constructed to support this project to sell those parties wholesale transport services on negotiated, commercially-reasonable terms and conditions. The only significant limitation on ION's commitment to interconnect is that, at some network nodes, ION will also provide Internet bandwidth to other carriers at negotiated, market-based rates.