



State Radio Enhancements

Bureau of Information and Telecommunications

Overview

Governor Noem's recommended budget includes \$3.2 million in one-time funding to enhance coverage for communication for first responders throughout South Dakota. Governor Noem has recommended investments in this system over the last two years, and this additional investment will further improve the state radio system and ensure that first responders can continue to serve and protect residents and visitors.

Black Hills

The budget recommends \$2.4 million for the Black Hills to allow the state to partner with Pennington County for the addition of three towers in Rockerville, Keystone, and Hill City. The Black Hills is a challenging topographic area, so this system of three sites will work together to provide the coverage needed for this highly trafficked area.

Hot Springs

The budget recommends \$400,000 for Hot Springs to allow the state to leverage the existing Battle Mountain tower to cover areas in Fall River County. This amount would pay for additional electronics and an antenna system that would be added to the Battle Mountain tower. Expanding coverage in this area is especially critical as there have been numerous issues with fires in the dry months.

Reliance

The budget recommends \$400,000 for Reliance to leverage an existing South Dakota Public Broadcasting (SDPB) tower in northern Lyman County and along with Missouri River Valley. This amount would pay for additional electronics and an antenna system that would be added to the SDPB tower. The lack of reliable communication in this area has had an impact on state, local, and tribal first responses.



GOVERNOR
KRISTI NOEM