



NEWS RELEASE

Date: August 16, 2018

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PGEC Enterprises, LLC announces R⁴URALBAND launching in Southern Virginia

In the same cooperative spirit of serving the rural areas with electricity in the late 1930's, Prince George Electric Cooperative's (PGEC) broadband project is proving to be a fan favorite with its' members. Following the mantra of providing service to those who need it. PGEC Enterprises, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of PGEC is now providing last mile broadband service to the home. By mid-2019, including the initial pilot program connections, PGEC estimates their internet project will have connected over 650 homes to reliable high-speed internet services, enhancing educational opportunities and fostering workforce development which supports economic growth, including home-based businesses.

This new member service, R⁴uralband or R⁴ fiber broadband is launching in Southern Virginia with high-speed internet offerings for Prince George Electric Cooperative's (PGEC) residential and commercial accounts. R⁴uralband will provide Gigabit speed internet service to its members.

With the addition of a fiber network, PGEC will be able to better incorporate smart grid technology into its daily operations, improve integration of distributed energy resources, and help lower power costs through interactive energy management programs. By increasing bandwidth for communications within its system, PGEC will improve efficiency, increase reliability, and expand security. The Cooperative is planning to build a system wide fiber optic network that will eventually connect all distribution equipment on the PGEC grid.

When asked about how the name for this new high-speed internet service was created, CEO Mike Malandro explained "R⁴uralband or R⁴ will be deployed across the rural countryside and it seemed fitting to have the name reflect the landscape of our territory. R⁴ stands for Rural, Reliable, Revolutionary and most of all Responsible. R⁴ will be the high-speed internet service to points across the rural area. Our goal is to make Ruralband the long-awaited solution for equal access for rural Virginia."

As the schedule for construction is set, new substation areas to be served will be announced over coming months. Updates on service area construction are provided through Social Media channels and other member communication protocols.

About PGEC - Prince George Electric Cooperative: Headquartered in Waverly Virginia, Prince George Electric Cooperative is a not-for-profit member-owned energy provider that serves over 12,000 homes,

farms and businesses in Dinwiddie, Prince George, Southampton, Surry, Sussex and Isle of Wight counties. PGEC Enterprises, LLC a cooperative subsidiary, has begun offering broadband service Ruralband within the cooperative's service territory. For more information, visit www.pgec.coop and www.pgecfiber.com.