



NEK Broadband, PO Box 4012 St Johnsbury VT 05819

June 28, 2024

To: Town Clerk, Town Manager, Selectboard Members and Legislators

Re: Update to the Official Notification of Proposed Merger between NEK Broadband and CVFiber

NEK Broadband sent an official notification to your town on June 1 of the proposed merger under 30 V.S.A. 3052a between two Communications Union Districts (CUDs) NEK Broadband and CVFiber. On May 30th the Governing Boards of each CUD approved a Preliminary Merger Plan and Merger Agreement linked in this update. This update is to ensure that your town received the notice and to provide physical locations for the public hearing in addition to the electronic location (both provided at the end of this letter.)

Details of the merger: Parties Involved

- NEK Broadband, 123 Red Barn Rd, Danville VT 05828.
- CVFiber, 29 Main St., Ste 4, Montpelier, VT 05602.

Nature of the Merger: Communications Union Districts (CUDs) NEK Broadband and CVFiber announce our proposal to join forces to unite resources, expertise, and a commitment to deliver exceptional high-speed internet services to our communities. This initiative reflects our shared vision of fostering digital equity, economic growth, and community development across the Northeast Kingdom and Central Vermont.

The Process: There will be a public hearing on July 16th. Prior to the public hearing, special governing board meetings on July 11, 2024 will be held to discuss items identified in the agreement. The vote on the Final Merger Plan will be on August 15th. The merger will not take effect until after the next two Governing Board votes in July and August with affirmative votes of at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of a quorum. Towns do not need to take any action but are encouraged to share any concerns or questions with their delegate or the Chair of each Governing Board.

Public Hearing: A public hearing will be scheduled by each Communications Union District (CUD) for Tuesday July 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm EST. This will afford the member towns and residents an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

Location Details: This will be a hybrid meeting with a TEAMS link (link and instructions below) and several physical locations:

NEK Broadband Office and Warehouse, 306 Middle St, Brighton, VT
NEK Broadband Office and Warehouse, 123 Red Barn Rd, Danville, VT
Goodrich Memorial Library, 202 N Main St, Newport, VT



PSD Giga Conference Room, 3rd floor, 112 State Street, Montpelier, VT

Impact on the Community: NEK Broadband and CVFiber propose to work together under the new business entity name, Northeast Central Broadband. The pooling of resources allows us to leverage our infrastructure investments effectively, and optimize operational efficiencies. The respective financial, operations, and communications professionals will share lessons learned and create a more efficient workflow. An additional benefit will be to collaborate for grant applications that often benefit from a larger service area.

The following website page (<https://nekbroadband.org/about-us/public-documents/>) contains:

1. Merger Agreement: A copy of the signed pre-merger agreement between NEK Broadband and CVFiber.
2. Preliminary Merger Plan: Preliminary plan approved by both organizations governing boards on May 30th, 2024 and includes the proposed governance bylaws for the merged entity.

Also included is a [link](#) to S.199, Sec. 2. 30 V.S.A. § 3082a which codified the merger process.

We firmly believe that this merger will bring significant benefits to the community and stakeholders of both CUDs. We are committed to ensuring a smooth transition and are available to address any questions or concerns that may arise. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you want any further information or clarification. We would be happy to set up time with you and your local representative to answer questions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We would appreciate an acknowledgement of this notification via email. We have included in this email all town officials that are in our system. If our information is out of date please let us know by sending an email to clerk@nekbroadband.org and forwarding this email to any additional people.

Sincerely,

Nick Anzalone, Board Chair, NEK Broadband

preliminarymerger@nekbroadband.org

P.S. Below is a page you can use to post on your public bulletin board or share electronically.



PUBLIC HEARING ON MERGER - JULY 16TH

Communications Union Districts (CUDs) NEK Broadband and CVFiber announce our proposal to join forces to unite resources, expertise, and a commitment to deliver exceptional high-speed internet services to our communities. This initiative reflects our shared vision of fostering digital equity, economic growth, and community development across the Northeast Kingdom and Central Vermont.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday July 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm EST. This will afford the member towns and residents an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. Here is how to participate:

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 249 133 730 886

Passcode: 5oxCMY

Dial in by phone

+1 802-828-7667,,60097398# United States, Montpelier

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 600 973 98#

In Person Locations:

NEK Broadband Office and Warehouse, 306 Middle St, Brighton, VT

NEK Broadband Office and Warehouse, 123 Red Barn Rd, Danville, VT

Goodrich Memorial Library, 202 N Main St, Newport, VT

PSD Giga Conference Room, 3rd floor, 112 State Street, Montpelier, VT

Please email preliminarymerger@nekbroadband.org with any questions or concerns.