

# BUILD BROADBAND BETTER



## Sign The Petition



Broadband buildout funds should be put towards lasting infrastructure and creating good jobs.



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The federal *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's* Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program provides a once in a generation opportunity to ensure that everyone has access to high-quality broadband internet connections. The federal law contains strong guidelines for building broadband, but gives states options on how to implement the buildout.

**Communications Workers of America** members are working to make sure these funds are spent wisely so the job is done correctly and safely with a skilled and trained workforce, not shoddy contractors. **Sign the petition to join the fight!**

# Shoddy Broadband Contractor Work Endangers Workers and Communities

A shoddy contractor placed an old pole on wood blocks. If the pole falls, it will cause damage both to the cables above and whatever it falls on.



A shoddy contractor sits on a line away from the bucket truck and with no PPE. He could get injured or killed.



A shoddy contractor left a spool of wire hanging from a pole endangering anyone walking underneath.



When broadband construction goes wrong, there are serious consequences. For example, in April 2019, a subcontractor for Crown Castle in North Carolina hit a gas line and caused an explosion that killed two people, injured another twenty-five, destroyed a building including two businesses, and damaged nearby properties.<sup>1</sup>

We need labor standards across the country to keep communities and workers safe. **If companies use contractors with bad labor records and that don't train their technicians on OSHA safety standards, they should not qualify for federal funding to do the build out.**

1) <https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/counties/durham-county/article233713942.html>