



## **PEG Channels Awarded State Grants**

### ***The e-NC Authority administers funds for capital expenditures***

**Raleigh, N.C. (April 22, 2008)** –The e-NC Authority announces today the award of \$90,000 in grant funding for capital expenditures at five PEG channels across North Carolina. Funds for these grants came from a \$1 million appropriation from the N.C. General Assembly. PEG channels are public, educational or governmental access channels provided to a county or city. PEG channels are a critical medium for local programming and citizen awareness of community resources.

Administered by the e-NC Authority, the Capital Expenditure Grant Program for Qualified PEG Channels was created by the N.C. General Assembly to help replace cable franchise fee revenues that were lost by local communities as a result of recent changes in the state video franchise system. Local governments with PEG channels that are certified with the N.C. Department of Revenue were given the opportunity to apply for the grant and each applicant was eligible to request up to \$25,000 in funding per fiscal year. The legislation requires that local governments receiving funds for PEG channel support must match the e-NC Authority's award dollar-for-dollar.

The grant program is designed to boost programming efforts through capital improvements. Many applicants plan to use the funding as a resource for equipment and software that will aid in the federally mandated transition to digital broadcasting by Feb. 17, 2009. Applicants may receive no more than one grant per fiscal year.

The following counties and municipalities are awarded grant funds in this cycle.

Town of Chapel Hill Channel 18 – \$25,000  
 City of Greensboro Channels 13 and 8 – \$25,000  
 Town of Knightdale East Wake TV-22 – \$15,000  
 New Hanover County NHCTV – \$25,000

The e-NC Authority was created by the N.C. General Assembly under Session Law 2003-425, with a legislative mandate to work with all 100 counties to bring the benefits of broadband technologies to their communities. The organization also focuses on assisting counties with Internet connectivity planning and coordinating technology-based economic development initiatives. Its efforts are technology-neutral and do not advocate any specific vendor or type of connectivity.

#### **About the e-NC Authority:**

Devoted to connecting people to the Internet and a better future, the e-NC Authority works with all 100 of North Carolina's counties with a focus on rural and distressed urban areas. Created by the N.C. General Assembly, the e-NC Authority is dedicated to increasing prosperity for North Carolina citizens and businesses by creating jobs through technology-based economic development, which requires a broadband Internet platform for success. The e-NC Authority is based in Raleigh, N.C., and is supported through contributions from foundation, nonprofit, public and private entities. For more information, visit [www.e-nc.org](http://www.e-nc.org) or call 1-866-627-8725.

MEDIA CONTACT: Cary Edgar, (919) 250-4314 x4252 or [cedgar@e-nc.org](mailto:cedgar@e-nc.org).

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