

For Immediate Release

Ute Indian Tribe Business Committee Engages Aquila Cubed Consulting, LLC, to Expand Economic Development Opportunities on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation with FCC Spectrum License

Ft. Duchesne, UT; April 28, 2021

Ft. Duchesne, Utah (April 28, 2021) — The Ute Indian Tribal Business Committee is pleased to announce that it has engaged Aquila Cubed Consulting, LLC, to assist the Ute Indian Tribe (“Tribe”) with further development of its 2.5 GHz spectrum license, which was issued by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) under the FCC’s Tribal Priority Window last October. The Tribal Business Committee had long supported the intertribal initiative for the FCC to extend these licenses to tribes, which has now established a process by which the Tribe can maintain ownership over spectrum within its sovereign territory. The FCC’s Tribal Priority Window, which, subject to certain restrictions, provided Indian tribes the first opportunity to procure a license for spectrum within their tribal lands – and do so at no cost to tribes.

Aquila Cubed Consulting is a majority Native American-owned and woman-owned business that provides engineering, design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of all outdoor wireless solutions, and has experience working with multiple Native American tribes. The Tribe’s new FCC spectrum license will open a wide range of valuable opportunities on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. Further development of this project will unlock these opportunities in furtherance of the Tribal Business Committee’s commitment to expand economic development opportunities for the Tribe and its membership.

With the 2.5 GHz band spectrum license, the Tribe can deploy 5G networks within tribal lands that can support many wireless technology services such as cellular phones, precision agriculture, cloud storage, and wireless internet. Aside from its commercial uses, the 2.5 GHz band can be used for educational, public health, and governmental purposes, as well as household use. The Tribe’s new license could be used to broadcast educational programs, utilize telemedicine applications, and improve emergency response services.

Under FCC regulations for the spectrum license, the Tribe is required to provide service coverage to at least 50% of the Tribe’s reservation population within two years, and coverage to at least 80% within five years. Utilizing the expertise of Aquila Cubed Consulting, the Tribe is identifying potential uses of the broadband network that will best serve the Tribe and its members. The Business Committee is excited to bring these new opportunities to the Tribe’s membership and will provide further information as additional progress is made on the development of this project.

About the Ute Indian Tribe-The Ute Indian Tribe resides on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation in northeastern Utah. Three bands of Utes comprise the Ute Indian Tribe: the Whiteriver Band, the Uncompahgre Band and the Uintah Band. The Tribe has a membership of more than three thousand individuals, with over half living on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. The Ute Indian Tribe operates its own tribal government and oversees approximately 1.3 million acres of trust land, which contains significant oil and gas deposits. The Tribal Business Committee is the governing council of the Tribe.