

# Texas issues Request for Proposal for Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network (ESInet)

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On December 15, 2010, the Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) released a solicitation (RFP# 477.1.00064) for an **Emergency Services IP Network (ESInet)**. This project aims to migrate the entire state onto a Next Generation 911 (NG-911) platform. Planning to determine the transition of all Texas Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) from the current 911 system to the NG-911 system began in January 2008. This project will be an incremental, multiyear effort aligned with the **National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Functional and Interface Standards** for NG-911. Full implementation of the Texas NG-911 system will require the commission and all (76) 911 entities to coordinate and collaborate to form regional ESInets, and transition 573 PSAPs to the Texas NG-911 system. In the final state, a minimum of eight and a maximum of 14 regional ESInets are anticipated.

Planning for this project has been in the works for many years. The state contracted with L. Robert Kimball & Associates to help develop a plan for NG-911. This project will be utilizing grant funding under the **Ensuring Needed Help Arrives Near Callers Employing 911 Act (ENHANCE 911 Act)**. These funds will be used for the acquisition of goods and services requested for this project, along with the acquisition of geospatial database management systems and radio over IP equipment. GovWin estimates this effort could cost tens of millions of dollars given the scope and size of the state.

The request for proposals (RFP) timeline is as follows:

- December 15, 2010 - Publish RFP
- January 5, 2011- Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference
- February 16, 2011- Questions due date
- March 9, 2011- Proposals due
- April 11-22, 2011- Oral Interviews/Presentations
- May 9, 2011- Negotiations and Contract Award