



# Telecommunications Strategic Planning Collaboration

A partnership between Oncor and Alcatel-Lucent

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## **Presentation Topics**



- Who is Oncor?
- Current State Challenges
- Planning for the Future
- Key Results were Surprising!
- Questions and Answers

## Who is Oncor Electric Delivery?



Energy Future Holdings

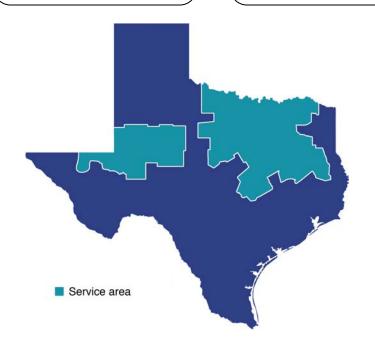
Oncor Electric Delivery

TXU Energy (Retail)

Luminant (Generation)

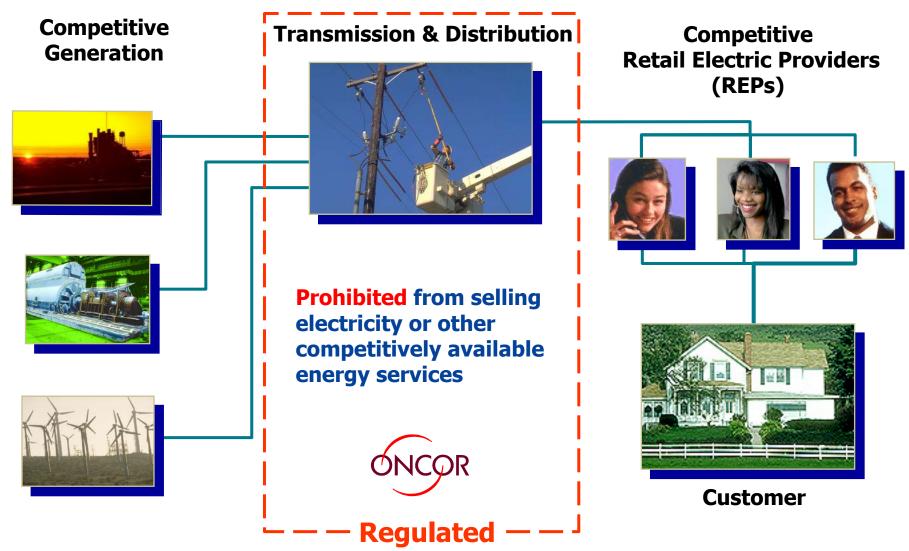
Luminant (Trading)

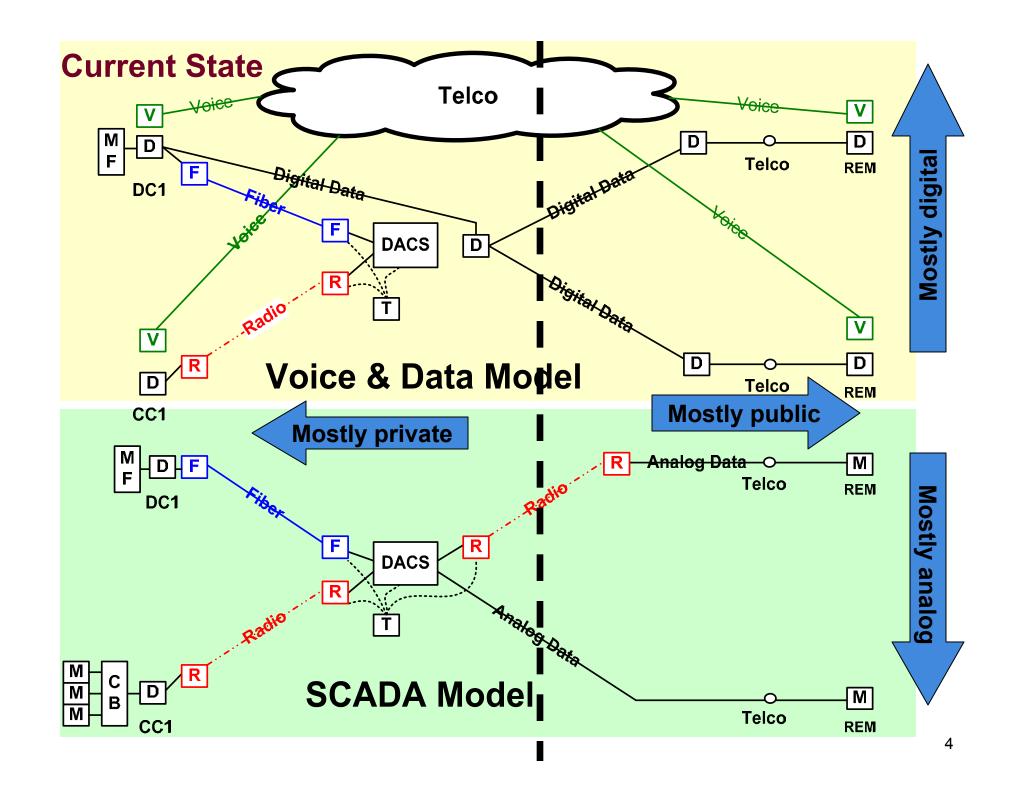
- "Wires" company in Texas electric market
- 3.1 million electric meters
- ~115k miles of T&D lines
- 6<sup>th</sup> largest T&D company in US
- Serve ~65 Competitive Retailers
- Regulated by Texas PUC



## **Restructured Electric Industry in Texas**

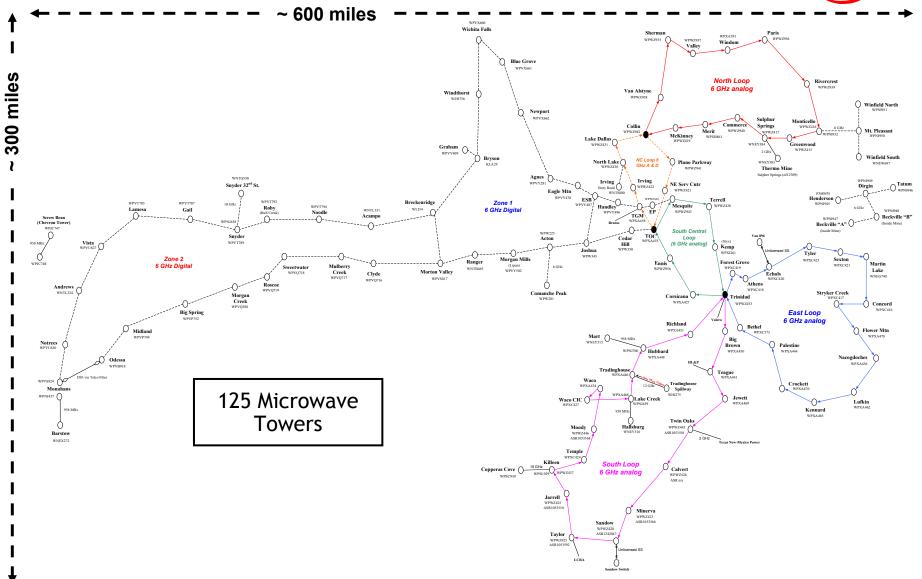






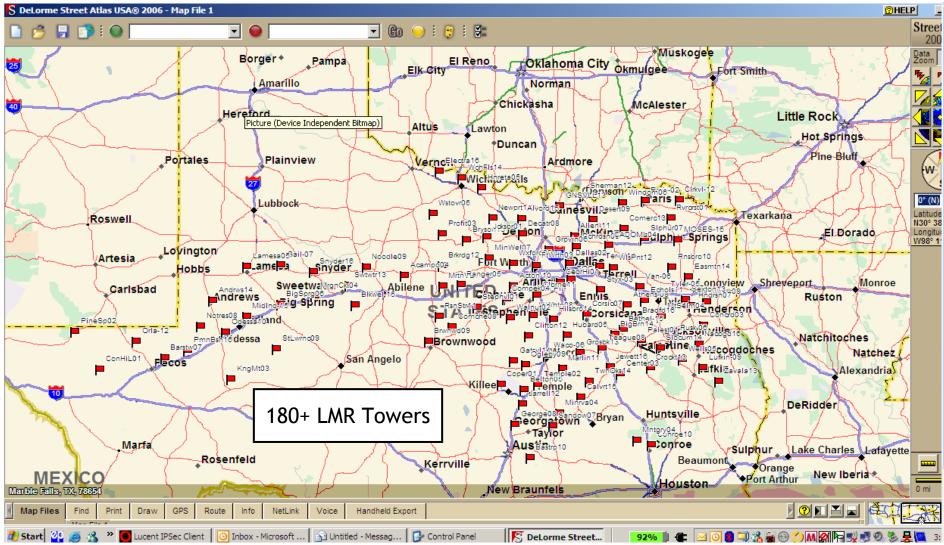
#### **Oncor's Microwave - Architecture Overview**





## 896 MHz LMR Two-way Radio System





## **Challenges facing Oncor in 2007**



- Legacy network systems (fiber, microwave, two-way radio, voice, data)
   were at or approaching end-of-life
  - Increasing costs for on-going operations and maintenance
  - Decreasing reliability for critical systems, increasing risks
- Little coordinated telecommunications decision making or spending control
- AMS (Advanced Metering System) and SmartGrid efforts beginning
- Increasing movement to IP digital communications across Oncor
- Need to separate Oncor from competitive affiliates (TXU Energy and Luminant)
- Increasing default dependence upon public networks
- Need to position the network infrastructure to meet the NERC "Implementation Plan for Cyber Security Standards CIP-002-1 through CIP-009-1"
- No overall telecommunications strategy was in place



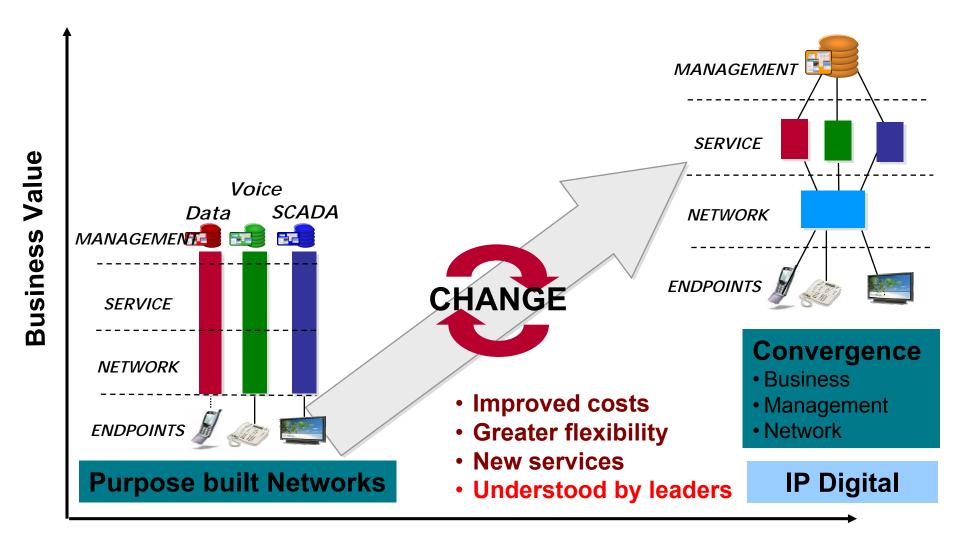
# Oncor reached out to Alcatel-Lucent for help in addressing our telecommunications challenges . . . .

## Why?

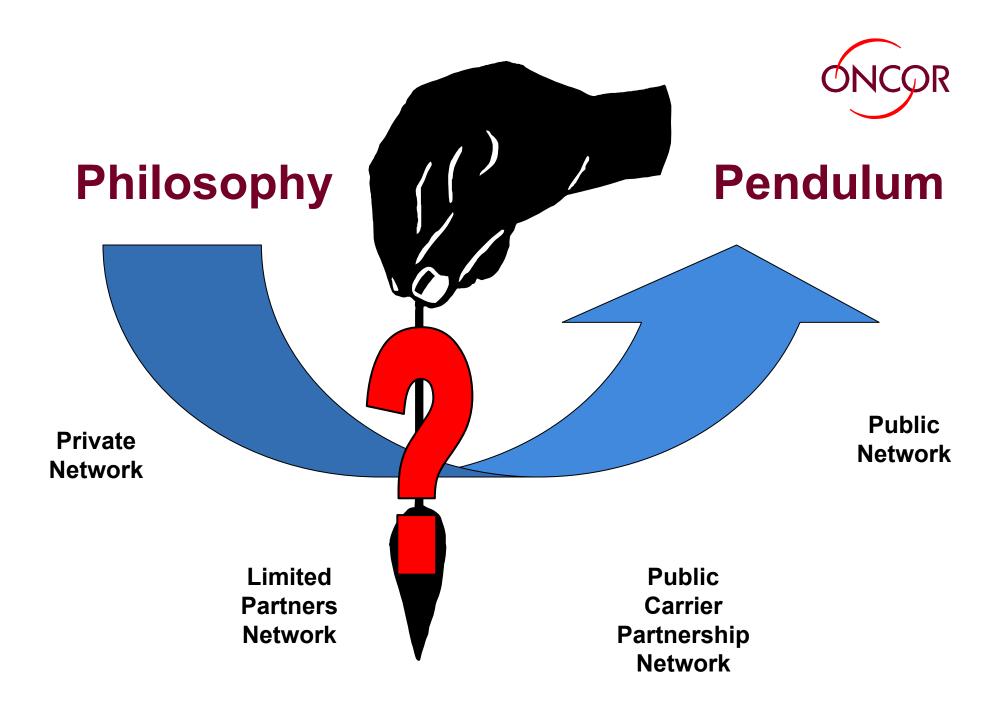
- Significant industry presence and breadth across telecommunications
- Depth of knowledge of both telecom and utility industries globally
- Professional consulting practice <u>plus</u> equipment and systems leadership
- Close relationship with Oncor, knowledge of our telecom infrastructure

## **Current State challenge: Converged Networking**





Time/Results



## **Oncor's Prevailing Assumption Set**



# Public carriers have attractive advantages over a private Oncor network

- Lower cost to implement
- Frequent opportunity for technology refresh
- Expanding competition to drive down prices
- Voice/data convergence
- Private network more costly to maintain
- Oncor slow to adopt new technologies in their private network
- New technology requires maintenance of internal skills foreign to Oncor

## Public carriers do have some disadvantages

- May be less reliable under certain conditions
- May not have coverage in all Oncor areas
- Private networks offer greater
   Oncor control and makes it
   possible to cover service
   territory with a single approach

## **Oncor's Prevailing Assumption Set**



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Surprised? We certainly were!

### **Telecom Strategy – Key Deliverables**

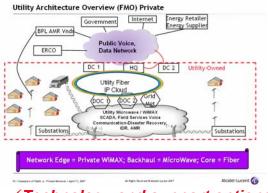




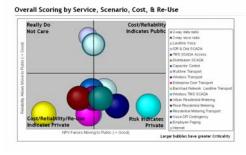
√ Telecom operational requirements assessed



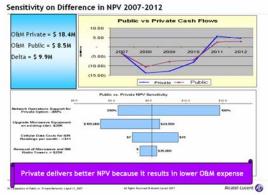
Risks and Mitigation Strategies analyzed



√ Technology and support options evaluated



✓ Strategic Approaches Scored



√ Economic forecast performed



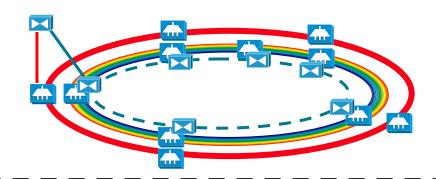
 Telecom Governance Model Developed

✓ Alcatel-Lucent is providing value to Oncor by combining its deep knowledge of wireline and wireless networking technologies with its business acumen in understanding the challenges and opportunities faced by Oncor

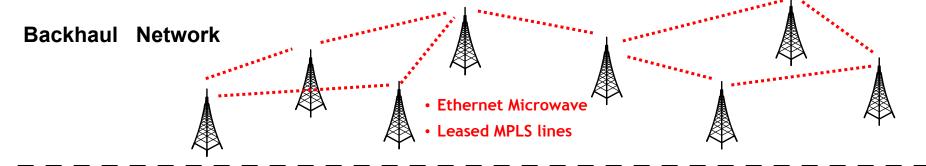
## **Physical Network Layers**



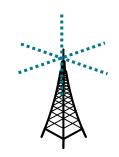
**Core Network** 



• CWDM / MPLS Ring

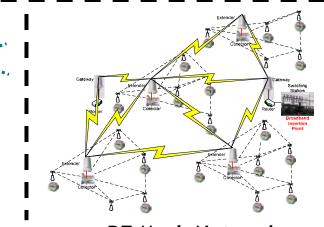


#### **Access Network**



RF private wireless network several options:

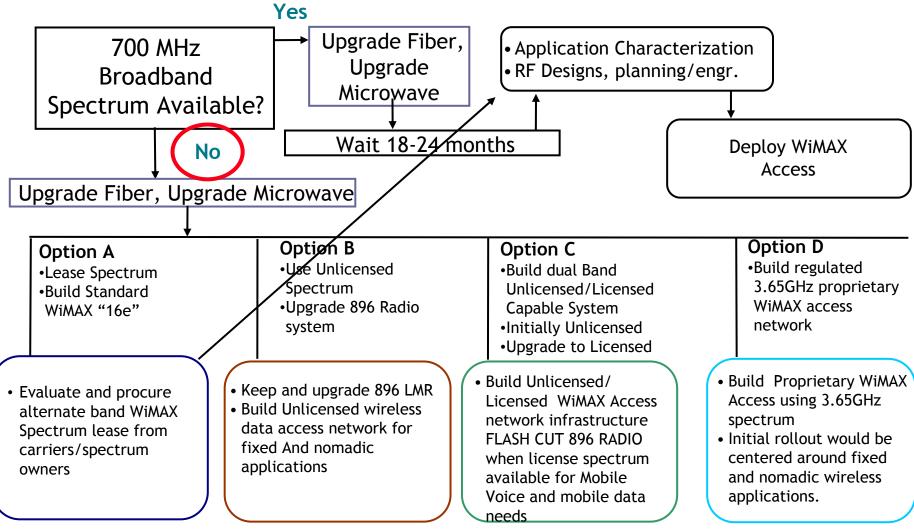
- WiMAX
- RF Narrowband
- Public Safety/Utility partnership



**RF Mesh Network** 

## **Strategy Output Example: Decision Tree**

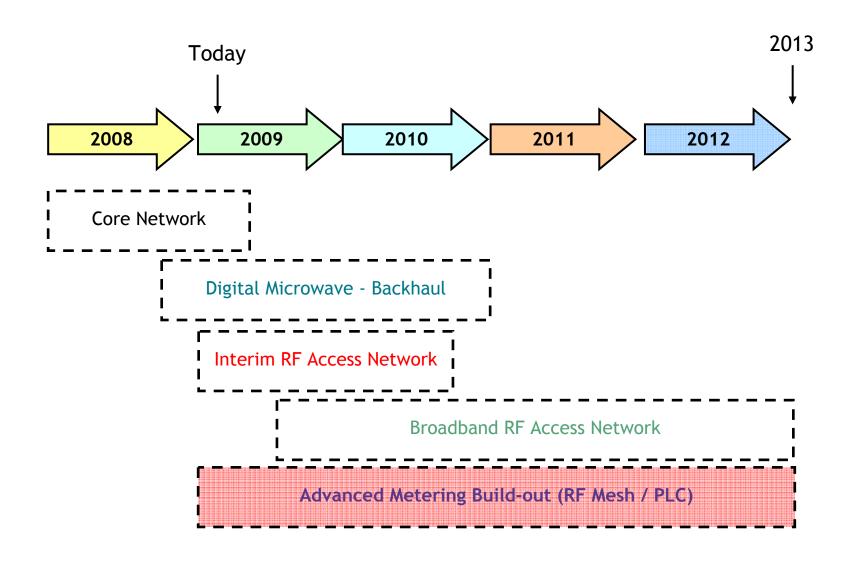




Regardless of path, 1st Step is to Upgrade Fiber and Microwave Networks

## Five Year Timeline – Integrated Communication System Build-outs





### **Key Lessons Learned**



- Core Network refresh is now nearing completion
  - Construction projects must be carefully planned and closely managed
  - New technologies require new skills (CWDM / MPLS)
  - Work doesn't end with fiber transport, refresh key network elements too
  - Expect the unexpected during project completion!
- Oncor is changing and internal culture must be brought along
  - Traditional electric delivery business is growing more telecom dependent
  - Delivery of energy and energy related information to the market participants
  - Oncor IS a telecommunications company too!
- No strategy IS a default strategy, you aren't managing your journey



# Thank you!