

## Brazil's National Broadband Plan Delayed One Week



President Luiz Inácio Lula Da Silva has delayed one week receiving the official proposals for the National Broadband Plan, due to his already congested diary. The meetings are now scheduled to take place sometime between November 17-23 with his announcement, of the regulations and infrastructure that will be mandated, expected sometime shortly thereafter.

While the basic plan is to use the former Telebrás as the managing entity for this new Public Broadband Network that will use the fiber networks of the State Energy companies (Furnas, Eletronorte, Chesf and Petrobras) as the principle backbone, the Ministry of Communications is proposing the public access network by way of a partnership with the telephony concessionaires that would be compensated through the reduction of taxes and public incentives, since a project of this magnitude cannot be achieved by the public administration only.

Some of the State Energy companies, notably Eletronorte, are not so keen to hand over their fiber networks to the government, whereas others in this sector would be happy to enter the project as "official suppliers" of the government thus almost ensuring the establishment of the fiber backbone, as envisaged. However, the telephone operators under the [Telebrasil](#) banner led by Antonio Carlos Valente da Silva, President of Telefonica do Brasil, are attempting to portray themselves as the ideal operating entity without the need for Telebrás, but their costs for the project have not been divulged and they are said to be working to finalize the numbers, nevertheless, this concept has not so far garnered favor with the President's [Chief of Staff](#), Dilma Rousseff.

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