

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

- **Partnerships**
- **South Dakota Network, LLC Support**
- **Vendors & Contractors**
- **Tribal Support**
- **Schools (K-12, Community Colleges, & Higher Ed)**
- **Public Safety and Health Care**
- **City, County, and Other Businesses**
- **ISP Commitment & Non-Member ILEC Support**

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

- **Nebraska Library Commission Partnership**
- **Elkhorn Valley Economic Development Council**

# Nebraska Library Commission

The Atrium • 1200 N St. • Suite 120 • Lincoln NE 68508-2023 • 402-471-2045 • Fax 402-471-2083 • nlc.nebraska.gov



March 10, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the Nebraska Library Commission, I am writing in full support of the application of NebraskaLink, LLC under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The Nebraska Library Commission's mission is to provide statewide promotion, development and coordination of library and information services. As the state library agency, the Commission advocates for the library and information service needs of all Nebraskans. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will allow Nebraska libraries, through the use of broadband services, the appropriate technology to access and deliver online library and information services more efficiently.

There is growing demand and need for high-speed broadband services among all Nebraska libraries. Libraries are vital links to local, regional, state and global information resources. As such, they are valuable community and state assets. Nebraska libraries have made significant strides in acquiring and implementing information technology. However, large gaps remain between needed technology resources and access to those resources. NebraskaLink's project will improve Nebraska libraries access to broadband services and provide network options that are redundant and reliable. The NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provide choice in our rural locations across Nebraska.

The Nebraska Library Commission is committed to being involved in the general planning, development, and execution of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of the Nebraska libraries and the communities they serve.

Thank you for your consideration of NebraskaLink's project proposal and its benefits for improving access to high-speed broadband services for Nebraska libraries.

Sincerely,

Rod Wagner  
Director

March 15, 2010

**Arnie Robinson, President**  
**Elkhorn Valley Economic Development Council**  
309 Madison Ave.  
Norfolk, NE 68701  
402.371.1810  
arobinson@norfolkiron.com

Re: Letter Agreement Concerning Broadband Funding Opportunity

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

This Letter Agreement memorializes the understanding between NebraskaLink, LLC ("NebraskaLink") and **Elkhorn Valley Economic Development Council**, ("EVEDC") a three county **economic development organization**, located in **Norfolk**, Nebraska (together, "the Parties") with respect to supporting NebraskaLink's efforts to secure a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program ("BTOP") grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA") for a broadband infrastructure project (the "Project"). It is anticipated that this Project will benefit **EVEDC** and its three county community constituents, and in attempting to obtain a BTOP award, the Parties hope to leverage **EVEDC's** experience and expertise with respect to community needs for broadband services **for industrial attraction and retention** and NebraskaLink's technological capabilities as a broadband provider.

Responsibilities

NebraskaLink will be solely responsible for submitting an application for a BTOP grant to NTIA for the Project (the "Application"). NebraskaLink, as the recipient of any BTOP grant, will have sole responsibility for proposal development, proposal management, and any and all negotiations with NTIA. NebraskaLink shall be the sole point of contact for communications with NTIA relating to the Project, and **EVEDC** will apprise NebraskaLink of any contacts it may have with NTIA.

**EVEDC** will play an integral and ongoing role in both the Application and the Project by, among other things: (a) participating in planning team meetings with respect to the Project; (b) providing input on the needs of the community and its key anchor institutions with respect to broadband services during the Application process and throughout the life of the Project if an award is granted; (c) providing information, assistance and cooperation to NebraskaLink as needed for the Application and to comply with BTOP program requirements thereafter; (d) assisting with successful implementation and operation of the project if an award is granted to NebraskaLink; and (e) executing additional documentation as may be reasonably necessary for the parties to implement this LOI and the Project.

Costs

NebraskaLink and **EVEDC** will each bear their own costs incurred in the performance of their responsibilities in connection with the Project. All costs associated with preparation and submission of the Application will be borne solely by NebraskaLink.

### Confidential Information

It is understood that certain information will be exchanged between the Parties that the disclosing party considers proprietary and confidential (hereinafter "Proprietary Information"). During the Application preparation process, each Party shall treat all non-public information exchanged as Proprietary Information. Prior to submission of the Application, each Party shall clearly designate any of its Proprietary Information that is included in the Application. Each Party agrees to use the same efforts to protect such information as are used to protect its own proprietary information.

"Proprietary Information" includes, but is not limited to, technical data, knowledge, patents, marketing data or techniques, cost or pricing information, and ideas that a Party treats as and considers to be unique, valuable, and proprietary, including, without limitation, any information protected under the Trade Secrets Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1905, and information exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

### Termination

This Agreement shall terminate upon any of the following conditions: (a) cancellation or expiration of the relevant BTOP funding opportunity by NTIA; (b) failure of NebraskaLink to receive an award for the Project; or (c) by the mutual written agreement of the Parties.

### Relationship

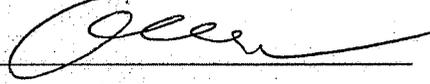
This Agreement shall not constitute, give effect to or otherwise imply a joint venture, pooling arrangement, partnership or formal business organization of any kind. This Agreement concerns only the submission of a BTOP Application, and potential arrangements relating to the Parties' cooperative efforts in response to the BTOP opportunity, and to no other work undertaken by the Parties, whether jointly or separately. NebraskaLink shall be the sole applicant with respect to any BTOP Application contemplated herein, and any and all rights with respect to any BTOP grant that is awarded shall vest solely and exclusively in NebraskaLink. No guarantee of delivery of services is provided in connection with this Agreement.

Miscellaneous

Each Party agrees that in performance of its obligations under this Agreement it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations. Neither Party will be liable for any indirect, special or consequential damages arising out of the performance or nonperformance of this Agreement. This Agreement shall be constituted in accordance with and governed by the laws of the state of Nebraska, except as to its principles of conflicts of laws. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the Parties and supersedes any previous understandings, commitments or agreements, oral or written, with respect to the Project. No alteration of or amendment to this Agreement shall be effective unless in writing and signed by an authorized officer of each Party.

Sincerely,

NebraskaLink, LLC

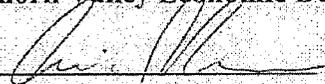
By: 

Name: Gary Wainwright

Title: Chairman

Approved and Agreed:

**Elkhorn Valley Economic Development Council**

By: 

Name: Arnie Robinson

Title: President

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

- **South Dakota Network, LLC Letter of Support**



March 17, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of SDN Communications (SDN), a statewide network headquartered in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink, LLC under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

SDN has served the state of South Dakota for over 20 years. We connect people with our cutting edge transport network made up of over 21,000 miles of fiber optics. SDN provides the connection for Critical Anchor Institutions such as banks, hospitals, local government offices, schools, colleges, and everything in between. NebraskaLink's proposed middle mile project will allow us to improve the service offerings to our customers by providing them connectivity to numerous communities throughout Nebraska.

SDN is a successful network provider and an expert in the telecommunications industry for providing fiber optic transport facilities, Internet access, and business services throughout the region. We offer the assistance of our experienced staff to assist NebraskaLink with their deployment of the proposed Middle Mile network. This proposed project is needed by the state of Nebraska to grow broadband services, provide economic growth, and stimulate job creation.

If the proposed network is funded, SDN intends to interconnect with NebraskaLink as soon as possible. With this partnership, residents of Nebraska and South Dakota will benefit from the collaboration of the two statewide networks. Working together, an abundance of Critical Community Anchor Institutions will be connected and ready for the future of what broadband has to offer, all on a redundant and reliable state of the art network.

We appreciate your time and consideration of SDN's full support on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Shlanta".

Mark Shlanta, CEO  
SDN Communications

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

- **Vendor Commitment/Support Letters**



March 4, 2010

Mr. John Greene  
Chief Network Engineer  
Nebraska Link, LLC  
1600 Great Plains Centre  
Blair, NE 68008

Dear John,

As a US based telecom equipment provider, Cyan is pleased to support Nebraska Link, LLC in scaling your networks to support broadband services and expanding those services in conjunction with the Broadband Stimulus provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

An innovator in the optical transport space, Cyan provides the telecommunications equipment which aggregates the services of broadband access networks and provides transport of those services across local metropolitan markets as well as across regional networks providing backbone connectivity to the global internet and 3'd party service providers. As broadband access increases, both in terms of the number of subscribers and the speed of those access networks, the transport capacity of these services will become a limiting factor in overall performance and satisfaction. Cyan's innovative optical transport products have the ability to create dramatically greater transport capacity - almost like dynamically adding more lanes on congested highways as traffic increases.

Cyan is gaining considerable traction in the market and as a relatively new company in Northern California's "Telecom Valley". Being one of only a few US based transport equipment suppliers, we are excited about the benefits that the Broadband Stimulus initiatives present to the nation and to innovative new companies such as Cyan. Roughly 3.5 years ago, Cyan was little more than a creative concept; today, the company is a significant employer of engineering, operations, marketing, sales and administrative personnel - representing great hope for the local high tech market that has directly been impacted by the global recession.



By partnering with capable and innovative companies such as Nebraska Link, LLC to fulfill the objectives of the Broadband Stimulus plan, Cyan stands to benefit from increased revenues, leading to more local jobs as we scale the company and ultimately more downstream jobs as we create additional revenues and product/service demands from the hundreds of suppliers of the various components we use in our technologies and across our business. I have also forwarded you an official letter from our local mayor who recognizes the import job creation and additional potential that Cyan brings to Petaluma, CA.

In summary, Cyan stands ready, willing and able to assist Nebraska Link, LLC in building, scaling and growing your overall network capacity in support of the Broadband Stimulus plan and beyond. We thank you for your past business and the opportunity to continue and grow our customer-supplier partnership!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Clelland".

Eric Clelland  
Co-Founder  
Cyan



# CITY OF PETALUMA

POST OFFICE BOX 61  
PETALUMA, CA 94953-0061

Pamela Torliatt  
Mayor

Re: Cyan Optics, Inc.

Dear NTIA / RUS Commissioners and Proposal Evaluators:

As the Mayor of Petaluma, California, an area known for communications technology innovation, it is my pleasure to endorse and request your full consideration of the associated broadband stimulus proposal which incorporates innovative Middle-Mile transport equipment from Cyan Optics, Inc.

I believe the inclusion of broadband transmission technologies from innovative U.S.-based companies such as Cyan represents the full intent of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and the associated Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP) and Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP); to create US jobs and enrich our communications infrastructure for continued educational, community and commerce benefits.

Cyan represents a truly uncommon opportunity to meet the full spirit of the ARRA. This Petaluma-based startup currently has 100% of their employees based in the US. Cyan does have a handful of consultants in other countries and plans for international market expansion, however the further acceleration of success through the broadband stimulus will lead to the direct creation of more U.S.-based jobs at Cyan and the companies which manufacture Cyan's equipment (currently all U.S.-based) as well as those providing components, supplies and services to Cyan.

In addition to job creation, Cyan's products represent the state of the art for Middle-Mile transport applications. Their systems are recognized for providing industry leading capacity expansion with dramatically lower costs than prior generation systems.

I believe this particular proposal is extremely worthy of consideration for many reasons including its inclusion of U.S.-based innovation.

Sincerely,

Pamela Torliatt

Mayor, City of Petaluma

Petaluma City Hall  
11 English Street  
Petaluma, CA 94952

Home Phone (707)763-6825  
Home Fax (707) 769-4253

E-Mail [ptorliatt@aol.com](mailto:ptorliatt@aol.com)



Draka Communications - Americas  
2512 Penny Road  
Claremont, NC 28610

**Telephone**  
800-879-9862  
**Fax**  
828-459-8444

**Internet**  
[www.drakaamericas.com](http://www.drakaamericas.com)

3/15/2010

Great Plains Communication  
Travis Radnor  
1600 Great Plains Centre  
Blair, NE

**RE: Broadband Stimulus Application– Supply of Fiber Optic Cable**

First, I would like to thank Nebraska Link, LLC for your inquiry. We appreciate you taking early actions with Draka Communications to be “shovel ready”.

Draka Communications is one of the largest manufacturers of optical fiber and fiber optic cable in the world and operates a 1.2 million sq. foot facility in Claremont, North Carolina to supply fiber optic cable to hundreds of customers in North America. Draka’s fiber cable portfolio includes over 15,000 varieties of indoor and outdoor fiber cables, the vast majority of which are RUS listed.

In anticipation of the release of funds from the Broadband Stimulus Program, Draka is taking steps with key customers to ensure a supply of fiber optic cable is available. Nebraska Link, LLC will be providing forecasts and project build-out details to Draka on the Nebraska State Network project to proactively secure fiber cable in needed quantities and timeframes. Draka appreciates the working relationship we have developed with Nebraska Link, LLC and will use the demand information from Nebraska Link, LLC to plan our production and delivery schedules.

For further questions, contact:

Greg Williams  
Director of Marketing  
Draka Communications-Americas  
Claremont, NC 28601  
828-459-8230

[Greg.Williams@Draka.com](mailto:Greg.Williams@Draka.com)  
[www.DrakaAmericas.com](http://www.DrakaAmericas.com)



Corporate Office  
901 Explorer Blvd.  
Huntsville, AL 35806

U.S. Mail  
P.O. Box 140000  
Huntsville, AL 35814-4000

Toll Free: 1 800 9ADTRAN  
Telephone: 256.963.8000  
<http://www.adtran.com>

February 27, 2010

John Greene  
Chief Network Engineer  
Great Plains Communications  
1600 Great Plains Centre  
Blair, NE 68008

RE: Broadband Stimulus project

Dear Mr. Greene:

ADTRAN is pleased to provide this letter of commitment to Nebraska Link in preparation for the application process to secure Economic Stimulus funds. ADTRAN currently supplies the equipment necessary for these projects to Nebraska Link through distribution channels.

ADTRAN commits to providing and supporting Nebraska Link's requirements for terminal/multiplexing equipment within the proposed project timeframe. In the event that Nebraska Link is awarded funding for the project, we can immediately finalize project parameters allowing us to ship the requisite equipment in an expedient manner.

Thank you for considering ADTRAN as a partner in this process. If you have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact me at (256) 963-8028 at any time.

Sincerely,

Joia Thompson  
Director, Business Operations  
ADTRAN

cc: Jay Wilson, ADTRAN  
Steven Locke, ADTRAN  
David King, ADTRAN



February 26, 2010

Mr. Travis Radnor  
OSP Engineering Manager  
Nebraska Link, LLC  
1600 Great Plains Centre  
Blair, NE 68008

Dear Mr. Travis Radnor,

Upon successful award of your RUS Broadband Initiative Program project funding, we look forward to helping you realize your project objectives by partnering our sales and support teams with your staff. Our goal is to meet your product and logistics needs, and make you successful in the timely completion of your Broadband Initiative.

Power & Tel offers:

- **Excellent nationwide product delivery through our strategically positioned distribution centers**
- **District Sales Managers and Account Managers teaming to serve you**
- **Industry recognized leadership in maintaining experienced and knowledgeable employees**
- **Strong partnerships with top manufacturers to ensure that our product portfolio is technologically current**
- **An Applications Engineer team to help answer your product questions**
- **Proven logistical capabilities ranging from high-end material management projects to everyday shipments**
- **ISO / TL quality standards to make certain you receive a consistent level of outstanding service**
- **A long track record of financial stability**

Power & Tel's 46 years of industry leading product availability and supply chain expertise is ready to serve you.

Thank you,

*Heath Sheffield*

Heath Sheffield  
Inside Sales Manager  
Power & Telephone Supply Company  
(901)866-3267



## MIDWEST CONTRACTORS, INC.

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912 N. STATE ST. • P.O. BOX 243 • NORTON, KANSAS 67654  
(785) 877-3565 • FAX (785) 877-2014

March 23, 2010

Mr. Warren  
NebraskaLink  
1001 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren,

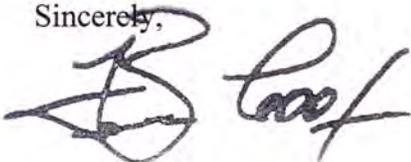
Thank you for the invitation to provide a letter of interest regarding your anticipated fiber network project.

Midwest Contractors, Inc. has been in business since 1980. We are a full-service telecommunications construction contractor and are capable of an entire turn-key FTTH project, including the plow trains, horizontal directional drilling, customer service drops, fiber splicing and testing, and premises installation and cutover.

We are a growing company and feel blessed to live and work in Northwest Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa. Our crews travel extensively in this region, and we take pride in meeting the telecommunication needs of this area.

We look forward to the opportunity to meet with you and to assist you with your telecommunication projects.

Sincerely,



F. Bodie Cooper  
President

# *Tunnel Mill Polymer, Inc*

- 103 Main St, P.O. Box 23
  - Alden, IA 50006
  - Office 515-859-7629
  - Fax 515-859-7706
- 

February 25, 2010

Travis Radnor  
Design Engineer  
Nebraska Links, LLC  
135 Front Street  
Blair, NE 68008

Re: Nebraska Link LLC Project

Dear Travis;

I'm writing today to confirm our earlier conversation. As we discussed, Tunnel Mill would be pleased to be included as a supplier of materials for the Nebraska Link LLC project. We have appreciated the business we have done with members of Nebraska Links LLC in the past, and would be happy to be part of this work. If you have need for splicing vaults, slack storage units, equipment foundations, or any other item in our product line, please let me know.

Regards,

Steve Day  
President  
Tunnel Mill Polymer

3-1-10

To Whom It May Concern:

Since becoming a vendor to Nebraska Link, LLC., several years ago, Windsor Communications, Inc. has enjoyed an excellent vendor-customer relationship. Not only have they paid all invoices as per our terms, employed excellent customer-vendor communications, they have been very instrumental helping Windsor Communications develop product that addresses their applications of large fiber counts being employed to more rural populations thus offering advanced communications possibilities to more rural type areas.

If there should be some sort of economic stimulus available for this type of enhancement and furthering of the Nebraska communication infrastructure, certainly in more rural type areas, I'm certain Nebraska Link, LLC., would be an excellent candidate for any such stimulus available in that they currently are and have been expanding their fiber network for several years. Incorporating 6 Nebraska telephone companies, Nebraska Link, LLC, would appear to be an excellent way of bringing top notch communication services to areas where such services are currently unavailable.

We feel very fortunate to be a supplier to Nebraska Link, LLC., of fiber optic splice enclosures and other accommodating apparatus. We look forward to a continuing relationship with them on their current and any future projects. If Nebraska Link, LLC., should receive some form of stimulus funding, Windsor Communications would be very happy to supply further product for whatever projects are generated from said stimulus.

If I can furnish any further information or explanation, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jim Simmons  
Pres.



G R E A T P L A I N S  
UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION

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March 10, 2010

NebraskaLink  
1001 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

Great Plains Underground Construction, Inc. offers a full-service, one-stop construction shop for our customers. Rural and urban telecommunications projects are our specialty and we hope that NebraskaLink will consider our services.

We construct OSP (Outside Plant) telephone systems, coaxial cable, and fiber optic systems throughout Nebraska using internal or RUS specifications. We have worked with several Nebraska-based Engineering firms and have maintained those relationships over the years. We have also worked with state, county and local officials throughout Nebraska.

Our multiple plowing trains and horizontal directional drilling rigs allow us to install systems with minimal impact on congested streets and environmentally-sensitive areas. We typically install 200 to 300 miles of cable per year and can install several hundred additional miles utilizing sub-contractors if needed.

The bottom line is that Great Plains Underground Construction, Inc. will dedicate itself to providing personalized construction services to NebraskaLink and will strive to implement a long-term relationship based on safety, quality, confidentiality, and timely service now and in the future.

Sincerely,



Craig Hagge  
General Manager

1408 West Main St.  
PO Box 103  
Creighton, NE 68729  
402.358.5300  
402.358.5330  
[www.gpunderground.com](http://www.gpunderground.com)



March 10, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

Thanks for asking our company to be a consideration in your stimulus plans to build a state of the art State of Nebraska Fiber Ring Network.

We are familiar with the construction and laying of fiber. We have always completed projects in a timely manner and to the customer's satisfaction.

Your proposed Fiber Ring project shows 385 total miles of outside plant to construct the backbone for this project. The estimate for this project is \$8,700,000.00. We feel that we will have to add 10 new employees or sub-contractors and some new equipment. We are committed to providing the OSP Construction crews and complete the OSP construction in accordance with the proposed OSP Budget (or lower) in the allotted time frame.

If Hartelco aka Hartington Telecommunications Co. Inc. is awarded this project, I feel that we can finalize our contract in a short period of time, allowing us to begin construction to meet the project timelines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Wm. D. Dendinger'.

Wm. D. Dendinger  
General Manager

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

### **Tribal Letters of Support**

- **Tribal**

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Omaha Nation Public Schools, and our education facilities in Macy, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

The Omaha Nation Public Schools serves the city of Macy and surrounding reservation lands on the Omaha Reservation in Northeastern Nebraska. Our bandwidth needs are limited due to the limited availability of Ethernet capacity and facilities.

Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project may impact access and use of broadband service for our ~~education~~ facilities.

The demand by Omaha Nation Public Schools and the surrounding community for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our facilities, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our local facilities and citizens. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will improve the Schools access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for at our facilities.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Omaha Nation Public Schools perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Mr. Morris Bates, Superintendent

Omaha Nation Public Schools  
100 Main Street  
Macy, NE 68039  
(402) 837-5622

March 5, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the Winnebago Public Schools, and our education facilities in Winnebago, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

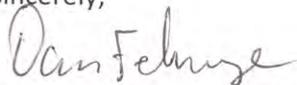
The Winnebago Public Schools serves the city of Winnebago and surrounding reservation lands on the Winnebago Reservation in Northeastern Nebraska. Our bandwidth needs are limited due to the limited availability of Ethernet capacity and bandwidth.

Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project may impact access and use of broadband service for our school system.

The demand by Winnebago Public Schools and the surrounding community for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our campus, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our local institutions and citizens. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will improve the Schools access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for our community and it's citizens.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Winnebago Public School's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Mr. Dan Fehringer, Superintendent  
Winnebago Public Schools  
206 Osborne Street  
Winnebago, NE 68071  
(402) 878-2224





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Nebraska Indian Community College  
Office of the President  
Macy Campus  
P.O. Box 428 • Macy, Nebraska 68039  
(402) 494-2311 ext 2568 • [moltrogge@thenicc.edu](mailto:moltrogge@thenicc.edu)

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March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Nebraska Indian Community College, and our campus in Macy, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

The campus serves a community of 5,227 people on the Omaha Reservation in Northeastern Nebraska. Higher internet speeds and access to Ethernet lines give us the capability of connecting to other learning centers and provides enhanced learning tools for our students. Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project will impact access and use of broadband service for our campus facility.

The demand by Nebraska Indian Community College for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our facilities, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our institution. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will improve the college's access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our facilities.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Nebraska Indian Community College's Macy Campus perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My cell number is (402) 960-5176 and my e-mail is [moltrogge@thenicc.edu](mailto:moltrogge@thenicc.edu). Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Micheal Oltrogge  
President  
Nebraska Indian Community College

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Omaha Tribal Court., and our Court Offices located in Macy, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

The Omaha Tribal Court serves a community of 5,227 people on the Omaha Reservation in Northeastern Nebraska. We also have jurisdiction over three communities and 307 square miles of reservation land. Our bandwidth needs have grown along with the newer technology. Higher internet speeds and fiber availability is limited right now.

Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project may impact access and use of broadband service for our police and court facilities in Macy, NE.

The demand by the Omaha Tribal Court for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our court offices, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our institution. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will greatly improve the courts access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our Macy offices.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Omaha Tribal Court perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Cassandra Lovejoy, Court Administrator  
Omaha Tribal Court  
PO Box 508  
Macy, NE 68039  
(402) 837-5814

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, and our Tribal Council located in Macy, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

The Omaha Tribal Council serves a community of 5,227 people on the Omaha Reservation in Northeastern Nebraska. The Omaha Tribe has several facilities in Macy that are in need of access to higher internet speeds and data links to outside agencies.

We would also like to see our communities have access to higher internet speeds and the local institutions have access to Ethernet lines.

Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project may impact access and use of broadband services for our entire community.

The demand by Omaha Tribe of Nebraska for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our facilities, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our institution. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will improve Omaha Tribe of Nebraska's access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our facilities.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Amen Sheridan, Chairman  
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska  
PO Box 368  
Macy, NE 68039  
(402) 837-5391

# WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

P.O. Box 687 • Winnebago, Nebraska 68071 • PH: 402-878-2272 • Fax: 402-878-2963

March 4, 2010

Visit us at: [www.winnebagoTribe.com](http://www.winnebagoTribe.com)

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, and our Tribal Council located in Winnebago, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

The Winnebago Tribal Council serves a community of 2,600 people on the Winnebago Reservation in Northeastern Nebraska that encompasses over 120,000 acres. The Tribe has several facilities in Winnebago that are in need of access to higher internet speeds and data links to outside agencies.

We would also like to see our community and its businesses have access to higher internet speeds and the local institutions have access to Ethernet lines.

Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project may impact access and use of broadband services for our entire community.

The demand by Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our facilities, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our institution. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will improve the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska's access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our facilities.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



John Blackhawk, Chairman

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

TRIBAL COUNCIL

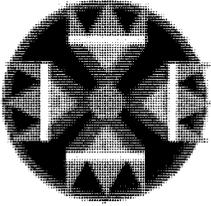
CHAIRMAN- JOHN BLACKHAWK

VICE-CHAIRMAN- KENNY MALLORY

SECRETARY- LOUIS C. HOUGHTON, JR.

TREASURER- BRIAN K. CHAMBERLAIN

MEMBERS: JULIE BASSETTE, LAWRENCE PAYER, VERN SMITH, DARWIN SNYDER, RAMONA C. WOLFE



# Ho-Chunk

Community Development Corporation

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March 10, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the Ho-Chunk Community Development Corporation, and our facilities in Winnebago, and Walthill Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

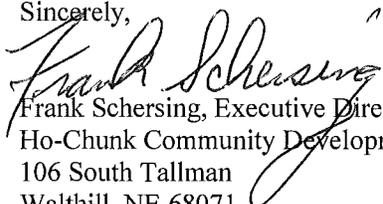
The Ho-Chunk Community Development Corporation works with the local communities and surrounding reservation lands on the Winnebago and Omaha Reservations in Northeastern Nebraska. The three areas of focus for our organization is housing development, commercial development and community youth development. Our bandwidth needs are limited due to the limited availability of Ethernet capacity and bandwidth.

Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project may impact access and use of broadband service for our communities.

The demand by Ho-Chunk Community Development Corporation and the surrounding communities for which we serve for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our campus, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our local institutions and citizens. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will improve the reservation and county's access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for our communities and its citizens.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Ho-Chunk Community Development Corporations perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

  
Frank Schersing, Executive Director  
Ho-Chunk Community Development Corporation  
106 South Tallman  
Walthill, NE 68071  
(402) 846-5353

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Omaha Tribal Police Dept., and our police station in Macy, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

The Omaha Tribal Police dept. serves a community of 5,227 people on the Omaha Reservation in Northeastern Nebraska. We also patrol three communities and 307 square miles of reservation land. Our bandwidth needs have grown along with the newer technology. Higher internet speeds and fiber availability is limited right now.

Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project may impact access and use of broadband service for our police and court facilities in Macy, NE.

The demand by the Omaha Tribe Police Dept. for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our facilities, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our institution. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will improve police and court access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our facilities.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Omaha Tribal Police Department's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

  
Ed Tyndall, Police Chief  
Omaha Tribe Police Department  
100 Indian Hills Drive  
Macy, NE 68039  
(402) 837-5906

March 10, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Little Priest Tribal College, and our campus in Winnebago, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of the NebraskaLink Stimulus Application under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for funding to construct a middle mile Comprehensive Community Infrastructure project.

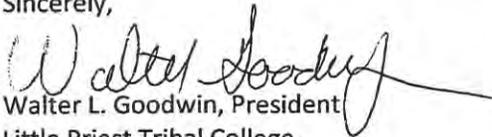
The campus serves over 7,800 people across several communities in Northeastern Nebraska. Higher internet speeds and access to Ethernet lines give us the capability of connecting to other learning centers and provide enhanced learning tools for our students

Given its proposed funded service area, NebraskaLink's middle mile project will impact access and use of broadband service for our campus facilities.

The demand by Little Priest Tribal College for broadband services such as those that would be provided by NebraskaLink is great and growing at a significant rate each year. We understand that the NebraskaLink middle mile network will be deployed near our campus, and we are hopeful and optimistic that extensions from this network will become available in the near future (either through Connect Nebraska or via a third party provider relying on the NebraskaLink network) to support enhanced broadband services for our institution. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will improve the college's access to and use of broadband services and could expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use in our communities.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Little Priest Tribal College's Winnebago Campus perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Walter L. Goodwin, President  
Little Priest Tribal College  
601 East College Drive  
Winnebago, NE 68071  
(402) 878-2380

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

### **School Letters of Support**

- **K – 12**
- **Community Colleges**
- **Higher Education**

February 25, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf Sidney Public Schools, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Sidney Public Schools serves a community of 6500 people in Cheyenne County Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a large portion of Cheyenne County

The demand by Sidney Public Schools for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Sidney's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Sidney Public Schools is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Sidney Public School's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

  
High School Principal

Sidney Public Schools  
2103 King St  
Sidney, NE 69192



76 Plaza Boulevard PO Box 850 Kearney NE 68848-0850  
308.237.5927 Fax 308.237.5920

*Our focus is on serving you!*

---

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Educational Service Unit 10, an educational service agency located in Kearney, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Educational Service Unit 10 primarily serves school districts in eleven rural counties in central and south central Nebraska with community populations ranging from 100 to 50,000 people. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will offer new broadband services and access opportunities for many of our rural community schools.

The demand by Educational Service Unit 10's service area school districts for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our served communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve the access to broadband services in our area beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide the much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Educational Service Unit 10 is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our service area more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Educational Service Unit 10's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ronald Cone  
Network and Information Services Director  
Educational Service Unit 10  
76 Plaza Blvd.  
Kearney, NE 68845  
308-237-5927  
rcone@esu10.org

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of North Platte Catholic Schools, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

North Platte Catholic Schools serves a community of 24,324 people in Lincoln County Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a large portion of Lincoln County

The demand by North Platte Catholic Schools for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve North Platte's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, North Platte Catholic Schools is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of North Platte Catholic School's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



North Platte Catholic Schools  
PO Box 970  
North Platte, NE 69103



March 5, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of North Platte Public Schools, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

North Platte Public Schools serves a community of 24,324 people in Lincoln County Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a large portion of Lincoln County

The demand by North Platte Public Schools for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve North Platte's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, North Platte Public Schools is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of North Platte Public School's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Engle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Engle

North Platte Public Schools  
301 West F Street  
P.O. Box 1557  
North Platte, NE 69101

February 25, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Valentine Community Schools, a K-12 grade educational facility in Valentine, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Valentine Community Schools serves a community of 2,598 in rural Cherry County Nebraska. Cherry County covers 5,961 square miles and has a population of 6,098. Currently, 698 students are enrolled in our institution.

The demand by Valentine Community Schools for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Valentine Community Schools access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project design will better enable us to connect with other educational entities and anchor institutions throughout Nebraska. And the planned facilities will also expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our facilities. To the extent requested, Valentine Community Schools is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our students and our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Valentine Community School's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Valentine Community Schools  
431 N Green St  
Valentine NE 69201  
Phone: (402)376-3237

# **McCook Public Schools**

## **District Administration**

**700 West 7th  
McCook, NE 69001**

**Phone 308/345-2510  
FAX 308/345-2511**

---

February 26, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of McCook Public Schools located in McCook, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

McCook Public Schools serves a community of 7,436 people in Red Willow County of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for large portion of our community.

The demand by McCook Public Schools for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve McCook Public School's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, McCook Public Schools is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of McCook Public School's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Grant Norgaard  
McCook Public Schools  
700 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
McCook, NE 69001

# O'NEILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Amy Shane, Superintendent  
P.O. Box 230 – 410 E. Benton  
O'Neill, NE 68763  
Phone: (402) 336-3775 FAX: (402)336-4890

Junior-Senior  
High School  
(402)336-1544  
(402) 3362812

Elementary  
School  
(402) 3361400

High School  
Guidance  
Counselor  
(402) 336-  
2667

Activities  
Director  
Phone/FAX  
(402) 336-  
1105

February 26, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of O'Neill Public School District, a K-12 grade educational institution located in O'Neill, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

O'Neill Public School District serves a community of 3309 people in rural Holt County of Nebraska, Holt County covers 2,413 square miles has a total population of 10,233. Currently, 737 students are enrolled in our institution.

The demand by O'Neill Public School District for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve O'Neill Public School District's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other educational and community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska. The planned facilities will also expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our facilities and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, O'Neill Public School District is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of O'Neill Public School District's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

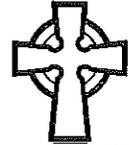
Sincerely,



O'Neill Public School District  
410 E Benton  
O'Neill, NE 68763-0230  
Phone:(402)336-3775  
Email: [oneill@esu8.org](mailto:oneill@esu8.org)



S A I N T M A R Y ' S  
C A T H O L I C S C H O O L S



February 26, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of St. Mary's School, a K-12 grade Catholic Parochial School located in O'Neill, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

St. Mary's School serves a community of 3309 people in Holt County, Nebraska. Currently, 223 students are enrolled in our institution.

The demand by St. Mary's School for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve St. Mary's School access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other educational entities and community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improves our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, St. Mary's School is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of St. Mary's School perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Walt Dupre  
Principal - St. Mary's School  
300 N 4<sup>th</sup> St  
O'Neill, NE 68763  
Phone: (402)336-4455  
Email: [wdupre@esu8.org](mailto:wdupre@esu8.org)

Saint Mary's Catholic Grade School  
326 East Benton Street  
O'Neill, NE 68763-1561  
Phone: (402) 336-2664  
Fax: (402) 336-2055

Saint Mary's Catholic High School  
300 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
O'Neill, NE 68763-1520  
Phone: (402) 336-4455  
Fax: (402) 336-1281

Saint Patrick Catholic Church  
301 East Adams Street  
O'Neill, NE 68763-1535  
Phone: (402) 336-1602  
Fax: (402) 336-1533



**WESTERN  
NEBRASKA**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

March 5, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Western Nebraska Community College, I am writing in full support of the application of NebraskaLink, LLC under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Western Nebraska Community College serves a student base of 2,386 through three campuses. The Campuses are located in Scottsbluff, Alliance, and Sidney, Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services across our campuses.

The demand by our Community College for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institutions and their communities of interest will soon need ever expanding broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve the Community Colleges' access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations across the State.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions and Community Colleges throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Western Nebraska Community College's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eileen E. Ely'.

Dr. Eileen E. Ely  
Western Nebraska Community College  
1601 East 27<sup>th</sup> Street  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361  
308-635-6101  
elye@wncc.edu



801 East Benjamin Avenue • P.O. Box 469  
Norfolk, Nebraska • 68702-0469  
(402) 371-2020 • (800) 348-9033  
fax: (402) 844-7400 • northeast.edu

February 25, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

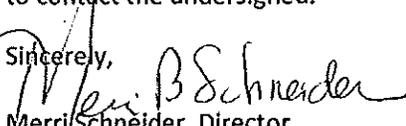
On behalf of Northeast Community College, an educational institution located in O'Neill, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The Northeast Community College O'Neill Education Center serves a community of 3309 people and a county population of 11,500 in rural Holt County Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project could impact access and use of broadband services for large percent of our community.

The demand by Northeast Community College students for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our students and community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve our students access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location, greatly benefiting our students in preparing for their courses and online coursework.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable our students and community to connect with other educational and community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Northeast Community College is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Northeast Community College's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,  
  
Merri Schneider, Director  
Northeast Community College  
O'Neill Education Center  
409 East Adams St  
O'Neill, NE 68763  
Phone: (402)336-3590  
Email: [merri@northeast.edu](mailto:merri@northeast.edu)

Northeast	409 East Adams Street	3309 Daniels Lane - PO Box 989	539 Decatur Street
Education	O'Neill, NE 68763-1537	South Sioux City, NE 68776	West Point, NE 68788-1515
Centers	(402) 336-3590 • (800) 421-6322	(402) 241-6400 • (888) 698-6322	(402) 372-2269 • (888) 794-6322



**Office of the President**

March 5, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Mid-Plains Community College located in West Central and Southwest Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Mid-Plains Community College serves a 20,500 square mile area in Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for large portion of our community.

The demand by Mid-Plains Community College for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Mid-Plains Community College's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Mid-Plains Community College is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Mid-Plains Community College's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Chipps".

Michael R. Chipps, Ph.D.

**Mid-Plains Community College**  
601 West State Farm Road  
North Platte, NE 69101  
308-535-3720  
800-658-4308, ext. 3720

**McCook Community College**  
North Platte Community College  
Broken Bow, Ogallala, Imperial and  
Valentine Extended Campuses

February 25, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf Western Nebraska Community College, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

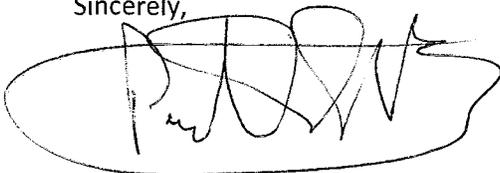
Western Nebraska Community College in Sidney Nebraska serves the Panhandle Region Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a large portion of Cheyenne County.

The demand by Western Nebraska Community College for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Sidney's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Western Nebraska Community College is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Western Nebraska Community College's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lawrence E. Strickling', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST

Western Nebraska Community College  
371 College Drive  
Sidney, NE 69162



Toll-free, all locations:  
1-877-CCC-0780  
www.cccneb.edu

March 8, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the Central Community College, I am writing in full support of the application of NebraskaLink, LLC under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Central Community College serves a student base of about 26,000 through three full-service campuses and three learning centers. The Campuses are located in Columbus, Grand Island, and Hastings and we have Centers in Holdrege, Kearney, and Lexington. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services across our campuses.

The demand by Central Community College for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institutions and their communities of interest will soon need ever expanding broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve the Community Colleges' access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations across the State.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions and community colleges throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Central Community College is committed to involvement in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves our needs.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Central Community College perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg P. Smith".

Greg P. Smith  
President

*Administrative Office*  
3134 West Highway 34  
Post Office Box 4903  
Grand Island, NE 68802-4903  
Phone: (308) 398-4222  
Fax: (308) 398-7399

*Columbus*  
4500 - 63rd Street  
Post Office Box 1027  
Columbus, NE 68602-1027  
Phone: (402) 564-7132  
Fax: (402) 562-1201

*Grand Island*  
3134 West Highway 34  
Post Office Box 4903  
Grand Island, NE 68802-4903  
Phone: (308) 398-4222  
Fax: (308) 398-7398

*Hastings*  
550 South Technical Blvd  
Post Office Box 1024  
Hastings, NE 68902-1024  
Phone: (402) 463-9811  
Fax: (402) 461-2454

*Holdrege*  
1308 - 2nd Street  
Post Office Box 856  
Holdrege, NE 68949-0856  
Phone: (308) 995-8133  
Fax: (308) 995-5695

*Kearney*  
3519 - 2nd Avenue  
Kearney, NE 68847-2911  
Phone: (308) 338-4000  
Fax: (308) 338-4022

*Lexington*  
608 North Lincoln  
Post Office Box 827  
Lexington, NE 68850-0827  
(308) 324-5936  
Fax: (308) 324-5885

March 8, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Southeast Community College, I am writing in full support of the application of NebraskaLink, LLC under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Southeast Community College serves a student base of more than 11,000 students through three campuses located in Lincoln, Milford and Beatrice.

The demand by community colleges across the state for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institutions and their communities of interest will soon need ever expanding broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve the Community Colleges' access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in rural locations across the State.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions and Community Colleges throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Southeast Community College is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves our needs.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Southeast Community College's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Jack J. Huck, President  
301 S. 68 Street Place  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
402 323-3415  
jhuck@southeast.edu

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Nancy A. Seim, Chair, Lincoln; Lynn Schluckebier, Vice Chair, Seward; Robert J. Feit, Secretary, Pickrell; Jacki Allensworth, Treasurer, Lincoln; Darryl Baker, Beatrice; Kathy B oellstorff, Johnson; James J. Garver, Lincoln; Helen E. Griffin, Lincoln; Ed C. Heiden, Sterling; Carl R. Humphrey, Waverly; Ruth M. Johnson, Lincoln; Steve Ottmann, Faculty Representative, Lincoln



Dennis G. Baack, Executive Director  
dennisgb@neb.rr.com  
601 South 12th Street, Suite 200  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
Phone: 402-471-4685

March 8, 2010

Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information Lawrence E. Strickling  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the Nebraska Community College Association and its member colleges, I am writing in full support of the application of NebraskaLink, LLC under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The Nebraska Community Colleges serve a student base of 30,000 full time students utilizing 15 campuses and over 200 community based sites. The campuses are located in communities throughout the State of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services across our campuses.

The demand by our community colleges for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institutions and their communities of interest will soon need ever expanding broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve the community colleges' access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations across the State.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, the Association and its member colleges are committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community colleges and the communities they serve more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the Nebraska Community College Association and its member's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis G. Baack". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

DENNIS G. BAACK  
Executive Director

# CHADRON STATE COLLEGE

---

February 26, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Chadron State College, located in Chadron, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

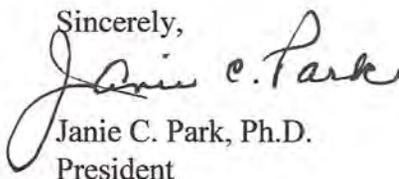
Chadron State College serves a community of 5500 people in the Pine Ridge Region of Northwest Nebraska. Currently, 2800 students are enrolled in our institution.

The demand by Chadron State College for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Chadron State College's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project design will better enable us to connect with other educational entities and anchor institutions throughout Nebraska. And the planned facilities will also expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our facilities. To the extent requested, Chadron State College is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our students and our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Chadron State College's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Janie C. Park, Ph.D.  
President

March 2, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

The University of Nebraska Kearney serves a community of 30,000 people in Buffalo County of Nebraska. Currently, 6,500 students are enrolled in our institution.

The demand for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. Multiple projects will no doubt be proposed for BTOP funding in Nebraska. The University of Nebraska Kearney cannot endorse one project over the other, but recognizes the ultimate recipient of the project will be able to provide improved access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, and provide network options that are redundant and reliable.

The planned facilities will expand public access to broadband services and enhance broadband capacity for public use at our facilities. The University of Nebraska Kearney is committed to being involved in the planning of any recipient of BTOP funding in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our students and our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the projects proposed for BTOP funding. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Tim Obermier, Ph.D. Chair and Professor  
Department of Industrial Technology  
Representing the following programs:  
Aviation Systems Management  
Construction Management  
Industrial Distribution  
Telecommunications Management



Debbie Schroeder, Assistant Vice Chancellor  
Information Technology Services

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

I am writing with regard to the application of NebraskaLink, LLC under NITA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The University supports and encourages robust broadband service in rural Nebraska and we are currently working with the state and other partners to support this goal. Since this is the kind of project we might be asked to review in that collaborative priority setting capacity, we cannot specifically endorse this project. We are very encouraged by the interest and commitment of private firms in Nebraska to meet this need.

The University of Nebraska serves a student base of nearly 50,000 students through four campuses, the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis, several research sites in greater Nebraska, and extension outreach in all 93 counties. Projects such as the middle mile project would improve our access and use of broadband services across our campuses, but in particular this would provide additional broadband access to connect our Kearney campus and our agricultural campus in Curtis, Nebraska.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the University of Nebraska's perspective. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely yours,



James B. Milliken  
President

JBM;jbs

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

### **Public Safety and Healthcare Letters of Support**

- **Public Safety**
- **Healthcare**



**BUFFALO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**P.O. Box 1270  
Kearney, NE 68848**



March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Buffalo County Sheriff's Office, a law enforcement/911 agency, located in Kearney, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

---

Buffalo County Sheriff's Office serves a community of 15,000 people over a 1,000 square mile area in central Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for public safety purposes in 35% percent of our community.

The demand by Buffalo County Sheriff's Office for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our entity and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Buffalo County Sheriff's Office access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other public safety entities and anchor institutions throughout Nebraska, enabling better coordination with our state partners. To the extent requested, Buffalo County Sheriff's Office is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to make our service levels are the best for those we protect and serve.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Buffalo County Sheriff's Office's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Neil A. Miller".

Neil A. Miller  
Buffalo County Sheriff  
P.O. Box 1270  
Kearney, NE 68848  
(308) 236-8555  
[sheriff@bcso.kearney.net](mailto:sheriff@bcso.kearney.net)



McCook City and Volunteer Fire Department  
Marc A. Harpham, Fire Chief  
PO Box 1059 - 526 West B Street  
McCook, NE 69001

Telephone: (308) 345-5710  
Fax: (308) 345-4369  
firechief@mccooknet.com

March 5, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the City of McCook Fire Department located in McCook, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

City of McCook Fire Department serves a community of 7,436 people in Red Willow County of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for large portion of our community.

The demand by City of McCook Fire Department for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve City of McCook Fire Department's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, City of McCook Fire Department is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of City of McCook Fire Department's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Harpham  
Fire/EMS Chief  
City of McCook Fire Department

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the McCook Police Department located in McCook, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

McCook Police Department serves a community of 7,436 people in Red Willow County of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for large portions of our community.

The demand by McCook Police Department for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve McCook Police Department's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, McCook Police Department is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of McCook Police Department's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Isaac S. Brown  
Chief of Police  
McCook Police Department  
526 West B Street  
McCook, NE 69001  
308-345-3450  
ibrown@cityofmccook.com

# *Office of the County Sheriff*

*Lincoln County, Nebraska*

*Jerome Kramer – Sheriff*

Dean Sparks – Chief Deputy

302 North Jeffers Street

North Platte, Nebraska 69101-3961

Telephone: 308-535-3550

Office Fax: 308-535-3529 Jail Fax: 308-535-3530

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling

Assistant Secretary for communication and information

Administrator, National Telecommunications and information Administration

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812

1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Lincoln County Sheriff's Office located in North Platte, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

LCSO serves a community of 36,000 people in central Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for our community.

The demand by Lincoln County for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Lincoln County's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Lincoln County Sheriff Office is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

*"To Serve and Protect"  
Putting Service First*

We appreciated your time and consideration of Lincoln County Sheriff Office's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome Kramer". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Jerome Kramer  
Lincoln County Sheriff Office  
302 North Jeffers Street  
North Platte, NE 69101-3961

*"To Serve and Protect"*  
*Puttina Souvaco First*



March 1, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Valley Medical Management Services, a medical billing, transcription, and teleradiology support business located in Kearney, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Valley Medical Management Services provides transcription services to 33 rural hospitals and clinics in Nebraska and Kansas. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services.

The demand by Valley Medical Management Services for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our business and the communities we serve will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Kearney's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with our hospital clients and remote employees throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with them. Finally, to the extent requested, Valley Medical Management Services is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of our perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Dwiggins".

Janet Dwiggins, CEO  
308-865-2230



PLAINS RADIOLOGY SERVICES, P.C.

Rodney L. Johnson, M.D.  
Jeffrey P. Lee, M.D.

Associates:  
C. James Kifer, M.D.  
Nancy Zefo, M.D.  
Tim O'Connell, M.D.

March 1, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Plains Radiology Services, a single-specialty medical practice located in Kearney, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Plains Radiology Services provides diagnostic teleradiology services to about 40 rural hospitals and clinics in Nebraska and Kansas. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services.

The demand by Plains Radiology Services for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our business and the hospitals we serve will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Kearney's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with our hospitals throughout Nebraska and maintain a high standard of care for our patients. Finally, to the extent requested, Plains Radiology Services is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of our perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey P. Lee, MD  
308-865-2231



February 25, 2010

*J.D. Akerson, MD.*  
*C.W. Cutright, MD.*  
*C.B. Dorwart, MD.*  
*M.L. Matthews, MD.*  
*M.L. Shaw, MD.*  
*Angie Robb, PAC.*  
*Mitch Muhs, PAC.*  
*Melissa Muhs, PAC.*

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Sidney Medical Associates, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Sidney Medical Associates in Sidney Nebraska serves a community of 6500 in Cheyenne County Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a large portion of Cheyenne County.

The demand by Sidney Medical Associates for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Sidney's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Sidney Medical Associates is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Sidney Medical Associates perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Brauer", written over a horizontal line.

Craig Brauer, President/CEO  
Sidney Medical Associates  
1625 Dorwart Dr.  
Sidney, NE 69162-2505  
308-254-5544

Sidney Clinic  
1625 Dorwart Drive  
PO Box 379  
Sidney, NE. 69162

Tel: 308-254-5544  
Fax: 308-254-2672

Chappell Clinic  
CAMS Medical Clinic  
562 Vincent Ave.  
Chappell, NE. 69129

Tel: 308-874-2255  
Fax: 308-874-2854



Date: 3/1/10

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On Behalf of Memorial Health Center, I write in support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Memorial Health Center in Sidney Nebraska serves a community of 10,000 in Cheyenne County Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a large portion of Cheyenne County.

The demand by Memorial Health Center for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Sidney's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Memorial Health Center is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Memorial Health Center's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

  
Danielle Gearhart  
Chief Executive Officer

dg/ms



## **Kearney Clinic, P.C.**

Kearney Urgent Care

211 West 33rd Street  
P.O. Box 670  
Kearney, NE 68848  
Tel. (308) 865-2141  
FAX (308) 865-2150  
www.kearneyclinic.com

### **Family Practice**

R. D. Scott, M.D.  
M.J. Hanich, M.D.  
L.D. Helmick, M.D.  
B.D. Rodgers, M.D.  
C.C. Jones, M.D.  
B.M. Ernst, M.D.  
D.A. Sokolowski, M.D.  
M.K. Anderson, M.D.  
T.L. Potthoff, M.D.  
D.M. Murray, M.D.  
T.A. Becker, M.D.  
C.S. Murray, M.D.  
D.R. Sughroue, A.P.R.N.-C.

### **General Surgery**

L. E. Bragg, M.D.  
W.T. Sorrell, M.D.  
J.T. Merz, M.D.  
B.J. O'Hare, M.D.

### **Vascular and Thoracic Surgery**

B. L. Steffen, M.D.

### **Pediatrics**

K. L. Shaffer, M.D.  
P.A. Gasseling, M.D.  
K.A. Keifer, M.D.  
S. L. Greenwald, M.D.  
D.K. Psota, M.D.  
M. C. Howe, M.D.  
S.C. Haskett, M.D.

### **Office Gynecology**

C. L. Jensen, M.D.

### **Clinical Psychology**

M. C. Renner, Ph.D.

### **Mental Health**

B.J. Koch, L.M.H.P., L.A.D.C.

### **Administrator**

Peggy K. Dobish

March 3, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Kearney Clinic, P.C. a physician owned medical clinic in Kearney, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Kearney Clinic, P.C. serves a community of 30,417 in central Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for 25 percent of our community.

The demand by Kearney Clinic, P.C. for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Kearney Clinic, P.C.'s access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Kearney Clinic, P.C. is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Kearney Clinic, P.C.'s perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.



## **Kearney Clinic, P.C.**

Kearney Urgent Care

211 West 33rd Street  
P.O. Box 670  
Kearney, NE 68848  
Tel. (308) 865-2141  
FAX (308) 865-2150  
[www.kearneyclinic.com](http://www.kearneyclinic.com)

### **Family Practice**

R. D. Scott, M.D.  
M.J. Hanich, M.D.  
L.D. Helmick, M.D.  
B.D. Rodgers, M.D.  
C.C. Jones, M.D.  
B.M. Ernst, M.D.  
D.A. Sokolowski, M.D.  
M.K. Anderson, M.D.  
T.L. Potthoff, M.D.  
D.M. Murray, M.D.  
T.A. Becker, M.D.  
C.S. Murray, M.D.  
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L. E. Bragg, M.D.  
W.T. Sorrell, M.D.  
J.T. Merz, M.D.  
B.J. O'Hare, M.D.

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B. L. Steffen, M.D.

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K.A. Keifer, M.D.  
S. L. Greenwald, M.D.  
D.K. Psota, M.D.  
M. C. Howe, M.D.  
S.C. Haskett, M.D.

### **Office Gynecology**

C. L. Jensen, M.D.

### **Clinical Psychology**

M. C. Renner, Ph.D.

### **Mental Health**

B.J. Koch, L.M.H.P., L.A.D.C.

### **Administrator**

Peggy K. Dobish

Sincerely,

Peggy K. Dobish, Administrator  
Kearney Clinic, P.C.  
211 West 33<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Kearney, NE 68845  
(308) 698-1308  
[peggy@kearneyclinic.com](mailto:peggy@kearneyclinic.com)

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

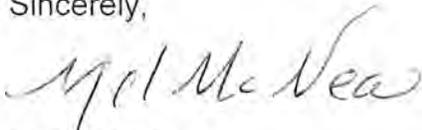
Great Plains Regional Medical Center, a 116-bed hospital in west central Nebraska, is supportive of Nebraska telephone company efforts to establish fiber rings throughout the state. NebraskaLink combines the commitment of seven Nebraska telephone companies to construct fiber rings throughout the State of Nebraska to deploy Middle Mile broadband infrastructure that will serve community, anchor institutions such as community colleges, universities and other four year colleges, hospitals and medical clinics, public safety answering points, city and county governments and key businesses and industries in Nebraska.

The NebraskaLink project will provide community anchor institutions with substantially upgraded service to meet their increasing broadband access needs well into the future and will also provide community anchor institutions with competitive carrier options and the provision of a redundant, survivable network that is critical to providing the technology essential to providing medical outreach in a remote area of Western Nebraska.

The deployment of fiber rings will help with the timely transfer of medical information and allow the medical center to employ technology for transfer of medical information and facilitate physician interaction with patients unable to travel long distances to see physician by employment of telehealth services.

Please give serious consideration to this request.

Sincerely,



Melvin McNea  
Chief Operations Officer

# Saint Francis Medical Center

March 1, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Saint Francis Medical Center, a hospital located in Grand Island, Nebraska, I am writing in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

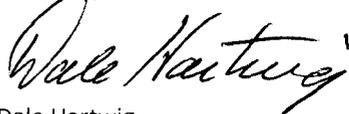
As a designated regional referral center, Saint Francis Medical Center provides a variety of health services to a primary service area population of 65,000 and an additional 125,000 secondary / tertiary market. The hospital offers 126 acute, 36 skilled, 10 in-patient rehab, and 23 substance abuse licensed beds and anchors a growing medical community of 100 physicians and healthcare practitioners.

The demand by our hospital and the community of Grand Island, Nebraska for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve our access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other hospitals and educational institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Saint Francis is willing to be involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our hospital and the community of Grand Island.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Saint Francis Medical Centers perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Dale Hartwig  
Vice President for Ancillary Services  
Saint Francis Medical Center  
2620 West Faidley Ave  
Grand Island, NE. 68803  
308 / 398-5554      [dhartwig@sfmc-gi.org](mailto:dhartwig@sfmc-gi.org)



February 26, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Community Hospital located in McCook, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

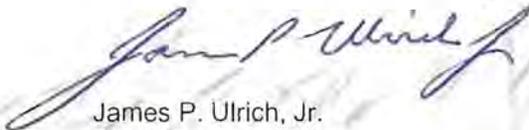
Community Hospital serves a community of 7,436 people in Red Willow County of Nebraska as well as over 20,000 people in a surrounding service area of five other Nebraska and three Kansas counties. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a large portion of our community.

The demand by Community Hospital for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our service area will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve McCook's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Community Hospital is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Community Hospital's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



James P. Ulrich, Jr.  
President and CEO  
Community Hospital  
1301 East H Street; PO Box 1328  
McCook, NE 69001  
PH: 308-344-8303  
[julrich@chmccook.org](mailto:julrich@chmccook.org)

1301 East H St. P.O. Box 1328 McCook, NE 69001-1328  
308.344.2650 Fax 308.344.8358 [www.chmccook.org](http://www.chmccook.org)

# McCOOK CLINIC, P.C.

1401 East H Street, P.O. Box 1207 • McCook, NE 69001 • 308-344-4110

Mark W. Serbousek, M.D.  
Richard F. Klug, M.D.  
Corinne Phillips-Ward, M.D.  
John W. West, M.D.  
Lori L. Reece, M.D.  
Wade E. Fornander, M.D.

Roselyn M. Remington, M.D.  
Adam B. Brosz, M.D.  
Jason J. Blomstedt, D.O.  
Brett Schmitz, PA-C  
Charles Krysl, PA-C  
Lindsay Taylor, PA-C

February 26, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of McCook Clinic, a medical clinic located in McCook, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. McCook Clinic serves a community of 7,436 people in Red Willow County of Nebraska as well as 18,000 additional residents in surrounding counties. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for large portion of our community.

The demand by McCook Clinic for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. As we enhance our use of electronic medical records it will be essential that we have connectivity to other healthcare providers. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve McCook Clinic's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, McCook Clinic is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of McCook Clinic's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Wade E. Fornander, M.D.  
President  
McCook Clinic, P.C.

- Long-Term Care
- Medicare Skilled Care
- Special Care for Memory Loss



- Assisted Living
- Adult Day Care
- Childcare Center

February 26, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Hillcrest Nursing Home located in McCook, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

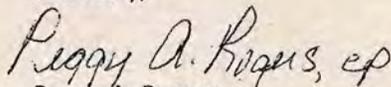
Hillcrest Nursing Home serves a community of 7,436 people in Red Willow County of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for large portion of our community.

The demand by Hillcrest Nursing Home for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Hillcrest Nursing Home's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Hillcrest Nursing Home is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Hillcrest Nursing Home's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

  
Peggy A. Rogers  
Administrator

February 25, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

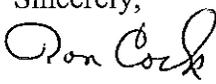
On behalf of Avera St. Anthony's Hospital located in O'Neill, Nebraska, I am writing in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Avera St. Anthony's Hospital's primary service area is around 15,000 and it includes people in several counties. NebraskaLink's middle mile project could impact access and use of broadband services for a large percent of our primary service area.

The demand by Avera St. Anthony's Hospital for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our facility will soon need expanded broadband capabilities to handle an expanded campus. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other healthcare entities and community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Avera St. Anthony's Hospital is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Avera St. Anthony's Hospital's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,  
  
Ronald J. Cork  
President/CEO



March 18, 2010

Lawrence E Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA), our 85 hospital members and the 41,000 individuals they employ, I am writing in full support of the application of NebraskaLink, LLC under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve access and use of broadband services across the state, but in particular this will provide additional broadband to interconnect regional networks, access to computerized medical records and deliver online insurance forms.

The demand by Nebraska medical facilities for broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institutions and our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve NHA members hospitals' access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. The NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable NHA member hospitals to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve their ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent, the NHA is committed to doing what it can to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our member institutions and the communities we serve more broadly.



We appreciate your time and consideration of the NHA's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me at (402) 742-8140.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Rieker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "R".

Bruce Rieker, JD  
Vice President, Advocacy



# WILLOW RIDGE

## Senior Living Community

March 4, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Willow Ridge Retirement Community located in McCook, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Willow Ridge Retirement Community serves a community of 7,436 people in Red Willow County of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a large portion of our community.

The demand by Willow Ridge Retirement Community for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Willow Ridge Retirement Community's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Willow Ridge Retirement Community is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Willow Ridge Retirement Community's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Linda Dixon

Willow Ridge Administrator  
admin@WillowRidgeslc.com

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

### **City, County, and Other Businesses and Healthcare**

#### **Letters of Support**

- **City & County**
- **Other Businesses**

Mayor Stanley A. Clouse  
City of Kearney  
18 East 22<sup>nd</sup> Street  
P. O. Box 1180  
Kearney, NE 68848-1180



TELEPHONE · (308) 233-3216  
FAX · (308) 234-6399  
E-MAIL · [mayor@kearneygov.org](mailto:mayor@kearneygov.org)  
WEBSITE · [www.cityofkearney.org](http://www.cityofkearney.org)

March 5, 2010

**Lawrence E. Strickling**  
**Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information**  
**Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration**  
**Broadband Technology Opportunities Program**  
**U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812**  
**1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington, DC 20230**

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

As Mayor of the City of Kearney, Nebraska, we fully support the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The City of Kearney serves a community of approximately 30,000 residents and, as such, the NebraskaLink's Middle Mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services in our community.

The demand by the City of Kearney for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Kearney's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, the City of Kearney is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the City of Kearney's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

**CITY OF KEARNEY**

*Stanley A. Clouse*

**Stanley A. Clouse**  
**Mayor**



## City of North Platte

---

March 8, 2010

211 West Third Street  
North Platte, Nebraska 69101  
(308) 535-6724  
Fax: (308) 535-6720

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the City of North Platte located in Lincoln County Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

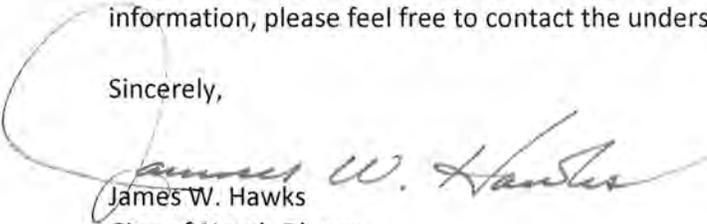
North Platte is a community of 24,324 located on I-80 in West-Central Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a majority of Lincoln County.

The demand by the City of North Platte for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve North Platte's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, the City of North Platte is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the City of North Platte's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

  
James W. Hawks  
City of North Platte



March 16, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The City of Alliance is a community of 8,109 people, located in Box Butte County in the Nebraska Panhandle. NebraskaLink's middle mile project could impact access and use of broadband services for most of our community.

In recent years the demand by The City of Alliance for broadband services has grown rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our institution and our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve Alliance's access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provide choice in our rural location.

Enhanced network options are important for Alliance's Economic Development future. Alliance has the second highest unemployment rate in the state, and Box Butte County is considered economically distressed. For our community to attract and retain job creating organizations we must be in a position to offer the tools necessary to compete in the global market place. Without question, broadband is necessary to accomplish this goal.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, the City of Alliance is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of our community.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Alliance's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry L. Miller".

Larry L. Miller  
Interim City Manager  
City of Alliance  
Alliance, NE 69301  
(308) 762-5400  
lmiller@cityofalliance.net





**SMALL TOWN VALUES**

1115 13TH AVENUE PO BOX 79  
SIDNEY NEBRASKA 69162

**BIG TIME OPPORTUNITIES**

PHONE (308) 254-5300 FAX (308) 254-3164  
[www.cityofsidney.org](http://www.cityofsidney.org)

February 26, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the City of Sidney located in Cheyenne County Nebraska, I write in support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Sidney is a community of 6,443 people in the high plains region of western Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for a majority of Cheyenne County and our employers. We are actually a community of about 12,000 people on any given day as approximately 6,000 jobs are located in our community with 50 percent of our work force commuting here and our industrial community is expanding even more. In addition 600 motel rooms are established at Sidney, located on Interstate-80. Wireless communication is a huge deal to our economy.

The demand by the City of Sidney for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest we are already in need of expanded broadband capabilities. The NebraskaLink project will not only improve Sidney's access to broadband services beyond current available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve our ability to exchange information with those institutions. Finally, as the extent requested, the City of Sidney is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the growing needs of our community.

We appreciate your time and consideration of the City of Sidney's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Gary Person, City Manager  
P.O. Box 79, Sidney, NE 69162  
[garyperson@cityofsidney.org](mailto:garyperson@cityofsidney.org)  
308-254-4444



"THE BEST OF AMERICA'S LIFESTYLES & OPPORTUNITIES" • BOUND TOWN USA



# Keith County Board of Commissioners

511 North Spruce St Suite 102

Ogallala NE 69153

(308) 284-4726



March 17, 2010

**Lonnie Peters**

**Board Chairman**

924 Road West D

Ogallala NE 69153

(308) 284-6890

lpeters@keithcountyne.gov

**C.W. Baltzell**

1710 West 4 St

Ogallala NE 69153

(308) 284-3380

cbaltzell@keithcountyne.gov

**Rex Christensen**

PO Box 106

Keystone NE 69144

(308) 726-2332

rchristensen@keithcountyne.gov

**W.E. O'Connor**

2199 Keystone-Sarben Rd

Paxton NE 69155

(308) 239-4439

boconnor@keithcountyne.gov

**Doug Teaford**

320 East B St

Ogallala NE 69153

(308) 284-3072

dteaford@keithcountyne.gov



Lawrence E. Strickling

Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information

Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812

1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Keith County, a local government in southwest Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Keith County has a 911 dispatch center with a service area that includes all of seven (7) counties of Nebraska. These counties are Arthur, Deuel, Grant, Hooker, Keith, Logan and McPherson. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve our access and use of broadband services for public safety purposes in most of these areas.

The demand by law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes and existing technology will mandate expanded broadband capabilities. Due to the large geographical area served through our 911 center, it is becoming increasingly important for all response agencies to be able to receive data. At the present time, we are waiting for broadband capabilities in many of our counties so that they can have immediate and direct access to calls for service real time information. Additionally, when the broadband capabilities improve, these agencies will then have access to archived call data and statistics. At the present time, that information is only available by regular mail and occasionally by fax if needs are immediate.

As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve all public safety agencies access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide network options that are redundant and reliable. At present, we maintain and operate two way radio links with many of these counties without any backup capability. With improved broadband services, it would be possible to upgrade some of our equipment so that the broadband connectivity could become either our primary or backup means of voice communication. We believe the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural location.

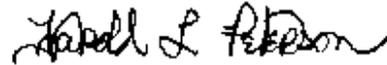
Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable us to connect with other public safety entities and anchor institutions throughout Nebraska,

Strickling  
March 17, 2010  
Page 2

enabling better coordination with our state partners. To the extent requested, the Keith County Communications Center is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to make our service levels are the best for those we protect and serve.

We appreciate your time and consideration of our perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Harold "Pete" Peterson  
Keith County Emergency Management/911  
501 N Spruce St  
Ogallala NE 69153-2138  
308.289.0155  
[ppeterson@kc911.net](mailto:ppeterson@kc911.net)



# CITY OF FREMONT NEBRASKA



400 E. Military • P.O. Box 1266 • Fremont, NE 68026-1266 • (402) 727-2630 • FAX (402) 727-2667 • TDD (402) 727-2619

March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

I am writing in support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The benefits of this proposal are numerous. It would permit our smaller communities and rural areas to have the same options that larger communities have in obtaining high speed internet access at a reasonable cost. It would generate a number of new jobs in Northeast Nebraska and generate revenue for local businesses in the area through contracting work. Telecommuting options would increase with the improved service. New businesses would have yet another reason to locate in our area due to the enhanced network capabilities.

Our educational institutions and healthcare facilities would also benefit from this project. Students and school districts would have more opportunities for distance learning activities. Healthcare facilities could better communicate with experts located in urban areas regarding patient-specific consultations.

For our area specifically, Public safety would improve with this project. The extended broadband network would help link county and city law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and other emergency responders to each other in order to communicate seamlessly and effectively.

For all of these reasons, I hope you give strong consideration to the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Sincerely,

Patrick Dix  
IT Manager  
City of Fremont/Department of Utilities

Easygrants ID: 6002

Project Title: Connecting Nebraska Communities – A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska

## **18.6 Government and Key Partnerships**

- **ISP Commitments**
- **Non-Member ILEC Support**

March 4, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of Hamilton Wireless, Inc., a Last Mile broadband service provider located in Aurora, Nebraska, I write in commitment of utilizing the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network where available. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network to obtain internet access, special access, and Ethernet to feed our 3G radio nodes that are used to provide broadband internet access to the citizens of rural Nebraska. We trust any terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of at or before that time and look forward to connecting NebraskaLink's network in the near future.

**Hamilton Wireless, Inc.** provides last mile broadband internet access to roughly 9% of Nebraska's geographic surface area. Communities covered in this area include larger towns such as Grand Island, Kearney and North Platte and many smaller towns such as Ord, Central City and Maxwell. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with a state-of-the-art network that will allow us to expand our broadband offerings to an even larger number of particularly rural areas. Currently Hamilton Wireless' greatest barrier to providing service in these new areas is the lack of affordable, redundant and reliable network services. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed state of the art network that will meet many Nebraskan broadband needs of today and beyond.

The demand for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,



Dan Molliconi  
Vice President  
Hamilton Wireless, Inc.  
1001 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Aurora, NE 68818  
Phone: 402.694.5101  
Email: [dan.molliconi@hamiltontel.com](mailto:dan.molliconi@hamiltontel.com)

March 5, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

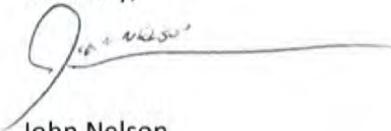
Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of Hamilton.net, Inc., a Last Mile broadband service provider located in Aurora, Nebraska, I write in commitment of utilizing the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network where available. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network to obtain internet access, special access, and Ethernet connections for our customers. We trust any terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of at or before that time and look forward to connecting NebraskaLink's network in the near future.

Hamilton.net serves a large number of communities and rural areas from Aurora in south central Nebraska to Sidney in the panhandle. Hamilton currently has roughly 5,100 subscribers, 4,400 of which utilize one of our several broadband solutions. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with a state-of-the-art network that will allow us to improve our broadband offerings throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable network. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed state of the art network that will meet many Nebraskan broadband needs of today and beyond.

The demand for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,



John Nelson  
President  
Hamilton.net, Inc.  
1001 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Aurora, NE 68818  
Phone: 402-694-5101  
Email: [john.nelson@hamiltontel.com](mailto:john.nelson@hamiltontel.com)

March 12, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of the Arlington Telephone Company, a Last Mile broadband service provider headquartered at 1638 Lincoln St., Blair, Nebraska, I write concerning the use of the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network for middle mile transport in conjunction with traditional special access circuits and opportunities to provision Ethernet services that serve businesses and community anchor institutions. We trust that terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of before the time that the network becomes operational and we look forward to interconnecting with NebraskaLink's network as soon as possible.

The Arlington Telephone Company currently serves the community of Arlington, Nebraska, and serves 525 high speed internet end user subscribers (end of year 2009). NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with access to a state-of-the-art middle mile Gigabit transport network that will allow us to offer improved broadband offerings to community anchor institutions and businesses throughout Arlington on a redundant and reliable basis. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed and highly advanced network that will meet a significant portion of rural Nebraska's current and future broadband requirements.

The demand for broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,



Shawn Hanson  
President & GM  
Arlington Telephone Company  
1638 Lincoln St.  
Blair, NE 68008

March 12, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of the Blair Telephone Company, a Last Mile broadband service provider headquartered at 1638 Lincoln St., Blair, Nebraska, I write concerning the use of the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network for middle mile transport in conjunction with traditional special access circuits and opportunities to provision Ethernet services that serve businesses and community anchor institutions. We trust that terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of before the time that the network becomes operational and we look forward to interconnecting with NebraskaLink's network as soon as possible.

The Blair Telephone Company currently serves the communities of Blair, Kennard and Fort Calhoun in Nebraska, and serves 3,932 high speed internet end user subscribers (end of year 2009). NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with access to a state-of-the-art middle mile Gigabit transport network that will allow us to offer improved broadband offerings to community anchor institutions and businesses throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable basis. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed and highly advanced network that will meet a significant portion of rural Nebraska's current and future broadband requirements.

The demand for broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,



Shawn Hanson  
President & GM  
Blair Telephone Company  
1638 Lincoln St.  
Blair, NE 68008

# Consolidated

---

March 13, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of Consolidated Internet, a Last Mile broadband service provider located in Lincoln, Nebraska, I write in commitment of utilizing the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network where available. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network to obtain internet access, special access, and Ethernet connections for our customers. We trust any terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of at or before that time and look forward to connecting NebraskaLink's network in the near future.

Consolidated serves the communities of Anselmo, Arthur, Ashby, Bingham, Brady, Brewster, Curtis, Dunning, Eustis, Halsey, Hyannis, Madrid, Maxwell, Maywood, Merna, Moorefield, Mullen, Paxton, Purdum, Seneca, Stockville, Thedford, Wallace and Whitman, in Nebraska and has over 2,500 customers. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with a state-of-the-art network that will allow us to improve our broadband offerings throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable network. We expect that volume purchasing and access to more internet backbone providers will reduce Consolidated's internet access cost by up to 66%. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed state of the art network that will meet many Nebraskan broadband needs of today and beyond.

The demand for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,



Charles Fast  
Vice President

March 12, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of the Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company, a Last Mile broadband service provider headquartered at 1638 Lincoln St., Blair, Nebraska, I write concerning the use of the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network for middle mile transport in conjunction with traditional special access circuits and opportunities to provision Ethernet services that serve businesses and community anchor institutions. We trust that terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of before the time that the network becomes operational and we look forward to interconnecting with NebraskaLink's network as soon as possible.

The Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company currently serves the communities of Belden, Macy, Meadow Grove, Osmond, Rosalie, Walt Hill, and Winnebago in Nebraska, and serves 728 high speed internet end user subscribers (end of year 2009). This serving area includes the Omaha and Winnebago Reservations that have a significant number of Federally recognized Tribal Anchor Institutions. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with access to a state-of-the-art middle mile Gigabit transport network that will allow us to offer improved broadband offerings to community anchor institutions and businesses throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable basis. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed and highly advanced network that will meet a significant portion of rural Nebraska's current and future broadband requirements.

The demand for broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,



Shawn Hanson  
President & GM  
Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company  
1638 Lincoln St.  
Blair, NE 68008



March 17, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of Great Plains Communications, a Last Mile broadband service provider located in Blair, Nebraska, I write in commitment of utilizing the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network where available. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network to obtain internet access, special access, and Ethernet connections for our customers. We trust any terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of at or before that time and look forward to connecting NebraskaLink's network in the near future.

Great Plains Communications serves the communities shown on the attached list of communities in Nebraska and has over 14,000 subscribers. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with a state-of-the-art network that will allow us to improve our broadband offerings throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable network. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed state of the art network that will meet many Nebraskan broadband needs of today and beyond.

The demand for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,

Mike Huggenberger, Director – Information Technology and Internet Services  
Great Plains Communications  
1600 Great Plains Centre – P.O. Box 500  
Blair, NE 68008  
402-426-6543  
[mhuggenberger@gpcom.com](mailto:mhuggenberger@gpcom.com)

Attachment



1600 Great Plains Centre  
PO Box 500  
Blair, NE 68008  
1.888.343.8014  
[www.gpcom.com](http://www.gpcom.com)

## Great Plains Communications List of Communities Served

Archer	Hamlet	Ragan
Arnold	Hay Springs	Red Cloud
Bancroft	Hayes Center	Reynolds
Beemer	Herman	Riverton
Belgrade	Hubbell	Rushville
Bloomfield	Huntley	Saint Edward
Broken Bow	Imperial	Saint Helena
Byron	Indianola	Santee
Callaway	Kilgore	Scribner
Cedar Rapids	Lamar	Snyder
Center	Magnet	S Byron
Chadron	McCook	S Chester
Champion	Merriman	S Red Cloud
Chapman	Mirage Flats	Spalding
Chester	Neligh	Stapleton
Cody	Niobrara	Stratton
Cotesfield	North Bend	Sutherland
Creighton	N Cody	Trenton
Crofton	N Crookston	Tryon
Crookston	N Gordon	Venango
Culbertson	N Kilgore	Verdigre
Deshler	Oakdale	Walnut
Dodge	Oconto	Wausa
Eddyville	Oshkosh	W Venango
Elgin	Page	Wilcox
Enders	Palisade	Winnetoon
Ewing	Petersburg	Wisner
Fordyce	Plainview	Wolbach
Gordon	Ponca	Wood Lake
Grant	Primrose	Wynot



March 9, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of Hartelco aka Hartington Telecommunications Co. Inc., a Last Mile broadband service provider located in Hartington, Nebraska, I write in commitment of utilizing the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network where available. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network to obtain internet access, special access, and Ethernet connections for our customers. We trust any terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of at or before that time and look forward to connecting NebraskaLink's network in the near future.

Hartelco aka Hartington Telecommunications Co. Inc. serves the community of Hartington in Nebraska and has over 650 Subscribers. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with a state-of-the-art network that will allow us to improve our broadband offerings throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable network. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed state of the art network that will meet many Nebraskan broadband needs of today and beyond.

The demand for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,  
Hartelco aka Hartington Telecommunications Co. Inc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Wm. D. Dendigner'.

Wm. D. Dendigner, CEO/Gen. Mgr.  
103 West Centre  
Box 157  
Hartington, NE 68739  
402-254-3901  
billd@hartel.net

1605 Washington Street  
P.O. Box 400  
Blair, Nebraska 68008-0400

Main 402.533.1000  
Fax 402.426.6300

[www.HunTelCableVision.com](http://www.HunTelCableVision.com)

March 12, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

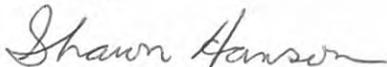
Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of HunTel CableVision, a Last Mile CLEC, video and broadband service provider headquartered at 1638 Lincoln St., Blair, Nebraska, I write concerning the use of the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network for middle mile transport in conjunction with traditional special access circuits, video transport, and opportunities to provision Ethernet services that serve businesses and community anchor institutions. We trust that terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of before the time that the network becomes operational and we look forward to interconnecting with NebraskaLink's network as soon as possible.

HunTel CableVision provides broadband services in the communities of Emerson, Lyons, Pender, Oakland, Tekamah, Wakefield and Wayne in Nebraska, and serves 3,163 high speed internet end user subscribers (end of year 2009). NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with access to a state-of-the-art middle mile Gigabit transport network that will allow us to offer improved broadband and video offerings to residents, community anchor institutions and businesses throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable basis. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed and highly advanced network that will meet a significant portion of rural Nebraska's current and future broadband requirements.

The demand for broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,



Shawn Hanson  
President & GM  
HunTel CableVision  
1638 Lincoln St.  
Blair, NE 68008





# Nebraska Central Telephone Company

PO Box 700 \* Gibbon, Nebraska 68840-0700 \* 308.468.6341

March 12, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of Nebraska Central Telephone Company's Internet Service Provider "ISP", a Last Mile broadband service provider located in Gibbon, Nebraska, I write concerning the use of the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network where available. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network for backbone Internet access. To the extent that our data requirements extend beyond Internet backbone access for end user special access circuits and opportunities to provision Ethernet services to our end users, we will also acquire those services from NebraskaLink. We trust any terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of at or before that time and look forward to connecting NebraskaLink's network in the near future.

Nebraska Central's ISP currently serves the communities of Ansley, Arcadia, Ashton, Boelus, Burwell, Comstock, Dannebrog, Elba, Ericson, Gibbon, Litchfield, Mason City, North Loup, Ord, Ravenna, Rockville, Sargent, Scotia, Shelton, and Taylor in Nebraska, and has over 2,500 RedLine High Speed Internet subscribers. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with a state-of-the-art network that will allow us to improve our broadband offerings throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable network. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed state of the art network that will meet many Nebraskan broadband needs of today and beyond.

The demand for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew D. Jader". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrew D. Jader  
Nebraska Central Telephone Company  
22 LaBarre St  
Gibbon, NE 68840  
308-468-6341  
ajader@nctc.net



March 5, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of CenCom, Inc, a Last Mile broadband service provider located in Jackson, Nebraska, I write in commitment of utilizing the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network where available. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network to obtain internet access, special access, and Ethernet connections for our customers. We trust any terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of at or before that time and look forward to connecting NebraskaLink's network in the near future.

CenCom serves the communities of Allen, Bartlett, Bristow, Butte, Clarks, Clearwater, Coleridge, Concord, Craig, Decatur, Dixon, Hubbard, Jackson, Linwood, Long Pine, Malmo, Martinsburg, Maskell, Morse Bluff, Newcastle, Obert, Prague, Spencer, Staplehurst, Stuart, Ulysses, Waterbury, Weston and Winside, in Nebraska and has over 3,500 subscribers. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with a state-of-the-art network that will allow us to improve our broadband offerings throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable network. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed state of the art network that will meet many Nebraskan broadband needs of today and beyond.

The demand for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,  
CenCom, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emory Graffis".

Emory Graffis  
PO Box 40, 110 East Elk St.  
Jackson, NE 68743  
402-632-4811  
egraffis@nntc.net

March 12, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of the Rock County Telephone Company, a Last Mile broadband service provider headquartered at 1638 Lincoln St., Blair, Nebraska, I write concerning the use of the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network for middle mile transport in conjunction with traditional special access circuits and opportunities to provision Ethernet services that serve businesses and community anchor institutions. We trust that terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of before the time that the network becomes operational and we look forward to interconnecting with NebraskaLink's network as soon as possible.

The Rock County Telephone Company currently serves the communities of Basset and Newport in Nebraska, and serves 335 high speed internet end user subscribers (end of year 2009). NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with access to a state-of-the-art middle mile Gigabit transport network that will allow us to offer improved broadband offerings to community anchor institutions and businesses throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable basis. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed and highly advanced network that will meet a significant portion of rural Nebraska's current and future broadband requirements.

The demand for broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska.

Sincerely,



Shawn Hanson  
President & GM  
Rock County Telephone Company  
1638 Lincoln St.  
Blair, NE 68008

# *K & M Telephone Company, Inc.*

P.O. Box 187

Chambers, NE 68725-0187

Telephone: 402 482-5220

March 17, 2010

Gary Warren, Chairman  
NebraskaLink, LLC  
c/o Hamilton Telecommunications  
1001 12th Street  
Aurora, NE 68818

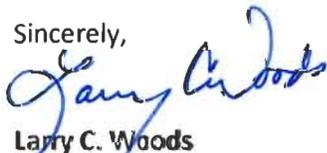
Dear Mr. Warren:

On behalf of K & M Telephone Company, a Last Mile broadband service provider located in Chambers, Nebraska, I write in commitment of utilizing the Middle Mile components of the NebraskaLink network. Once your network is up and operational in the areas we serve, we commit to using the NebraskaLink, LLC network to obtain internet access, special access, and Ethernet connections for our customers. We trust any terms, commitments and other conditions of service will be taken care of at or before that time and look forward to connecting to NebraskaLink's network in the near future.

K & M Telephone Company serves the communities of Chambers, Inman and Amelia in Nebraska and has about 260 Internet customers. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will provide our company with a state-of-the-art network that will allow us to improve our broadband offerings throughout the communities we serve on a redundant and reliable network. Our company is excited to participate in a much needed state of the art network that will meet many Nebraskan broadband needs of today and beyond.

The demand for the planned broadband services is growing rapidly. We look forward to working with you in order to connect us throughout Nebraska. Of course the final determination to use the NebraskaLink network will be based on financial considerations, network availability and performance.

Sincerely,



**Larry C. Woods**  
General Manager  
402-482-5220  
kmmgr@kmtel.net



Neil K. Classen  
Manager  
PO Box 66  
Lynch, NE 68746

March 16, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Three River Telco, a telecommunications provider located in Lynch, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Three River Telco serves communities of 1,300 people in the north central part of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Three River Telco is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Three River Telco's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Neil K Classen  
General Manager  
Three River Telco

Phone  
(402) 569-2666  
Fax  
(402) 569-4455  
Email  
info@threeriver.net



March 18, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc., a telecommunications provider located in Falls City, Nebraska, I write in support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Southeast Nebraska Communications serves approximately 3,400 subscribers in rural, southeast Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Currently, Southeast Nebraska Communications is undergoing an extensive fiber-to-the-home build in Falls City, the largest community in our service area. While we will not initially have a direct interface to the NebraskaLink fiber ring, we are supportive of the NebraskaLink project and will, in the interim, examine indirect interconnection alternatives to the NebraskaLink network in order to bring the benefits of the NebraskaLink project to the areas we serve.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Southeast Nebraska Communications' perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beth Sickel', is written over a horizontal line.

Beth Sickel  
Vice President/General Manager



P O Box 645 • 607 Chief • Benkelman, NE 69021

March 17, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of BWTelcom., a telecommunications provider located in Benkelman, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

BWTelcom, Inc serves Dundy County , portions of Chase, Hitchcock and Hayes and Red Willow counties in Nebraska and others adjacent with an approximate population of 1800 people in the southwest corner of Nebraska. We believe that NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, BWTelcom is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

Your time and consideration of BWTelcom's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Randall J Raile, GM'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Randall J Raile, GM

RJR/wpp

March 17, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company, a telecommunications provider located in Hershey, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company serves the community of Hershey consisting of 1862 people in Lincoln County, a rural area of Nebraska. The company's footprint covers approximately 145 square miles. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Rex Woolley  
General Manager / CEO  
Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company  
110 S Lincoln Ave.  
Hershey, NE 69143  
308-368-5561  
rwoolley@hersheytel.net



March 18, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Mainstay Communications a telecommunications provider located in Henderson, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Mainstay Communications serves a community of **989** people in the south central part of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our community will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Mainstay Communications is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Mainstay Communications perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Friesen".

Matt Friesen  
Mainstay Communications  
1000 North Main Street  
Henderson, NE 68371  
(402) 723-4448  
mrfriesen@mainstaycomm.net

March 11, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Pierce Telephone Co., Inc., a telecommunications provider located in Pierce, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Pierce Telephone Co., Inc. serves communities of 1,564 people in the Northeastern part of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Pierce Telephone Co., Inc. is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Pierce Telephone Co., Inc.'s perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Mary Jane Fogle  
Pierce Telephone Co., Inc.  
112 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, P.O. Box 113  
Pierce, NE 68767  
402-329-6225  
info@piercetelephone.com



# PLAINVIEW TELEPHONE

March 16, 2010

SINCE 1903

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Plainview Telephone Co., Inc., a telecommunications provider located in Plainview, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Plainview Telephone Co., Inc. serves communities of 1200 people in northeast part of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Plainview Telephone Co., Inc. is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Plainview Telephone Co., Inc.'s perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Calvin L. Fluckey  
Plainview Telephone Co., Inc.  
112 S Main St  
PO Box 117  
Plainview NE 68769  
402 582 4242  
plvwtelco@plvwtelco.net



012 E. Third Street • PO Box 330 • Remsen, IA 51050 • Phone 712-786-1181 • Fax 712-786-2400

March 17, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Hooper Telephone Company d/b/a WesTel Systems a telecommunications provider located in Hooper, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Hooper Telephone Company serves communities of 1,000 people in Eastern and Northeastern Dodge County and Southeastern Burt County of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Hooper Telephone Company is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Hooper Telephone Company's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Gannon, CEO  
Hooper Telephone Company  
bgannon@westelsystems.com

March 17, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation, a telecommunications provider located in Blue Hill, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation serves communities of Blue Hill, Lawrence, Bladen, Campbell, Upland, Funk, Norman, Holstein and Roseland in Rural South Central population of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Stanley Rouse  
Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation  
510 West Gage  
Blue Hill, NE 68930  
402-756-3131  
manager@glenwoodtelco.net

**Diller Telephone Co.**

**P.O. Box 218  
318 Commercial Street  
Diller, Nebraska 68342  
402-793-5330  
1-877-668-9749**

**Diode** COMMUNICATIONS  
Your Local Link to the World!

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March 22, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Diller Telephone Company, a telecommunications provider located in Diller, Nebraska, I write in full support of the application of NebraskaLink under NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Diller Telephone serves communities of **Diller, Odell, Harbine and Virginia** of Nebraska. NebraskaLink's middle mile project will improve broadband access throughout the state of Nebraska.

The demand for planned broadband services is growing rapidly. Current forecasts of broadband data volumes suggest that our communities will soon need expanded broadband capabilities. As envisioned, the NebraskaLink project will not only improve access to broadband services beyond currently available levels, but will also provide state-of-the-art network options that are redundant and reliable. We believe that the NebraskaLink project, if funded, will provide much needed broadband service capacity and provider choice in our rural locations.

Additionally, the scope of NebraskaLink's project will better enable interconnection of community anchor institutions throughout Nebraska and improve the ability to exchange information between those institutions. Finally, to the extent requested, Diller Telephone is committed to being involved in the planning of the NebraskaLink project in order to ensure that the project best serves the needs of Nebraska communities more broadly.

We appreciate your time and consideration of Diller Telephone's perspective on the need for the project proposed by NebraskaLink. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Sandman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Randy Sandman  
Diller Telephone Company  
318 Commercial St  
Diller, NE 68342  
402-793-5330  
rsand@diodecom.net