

## FINAL AGENCY DECISION

Docket No. SD20V3126<sup>1</sup>

February 3, 2021

In response to the Notice of Appeal (“**Appeal**”) filed by East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative (“**Appellant**”) pursuant to and in accordance with Iowa Administrative Code rules 129—20.5(1) and (2), and following the Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa’s (“**Office**”) notification of and opportunity for input from affected persons and parties pursuant to and in accordance with Iowa Administrative Code rule 129—20.5(3), the Office has conducted an internal review of all relevant evidence and information both submitted in connection with this Appeal and otherwise available to the Office related to the United States Census Blocks (“**Census Blocks**”) forming the basis of this Appeal. *See* Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.5(4). Following its review of the entire record before it, the Office issues the following **FINAL AGENCY DECISION** (“**Decision**”). Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.5(5).

### I. ISSUE(S) ON APPEAL.

Whether the Office correctly determined that the Census Blocks forming the basis of this Appeal constitute Targeted Service Areas (“**TSAs**”) as defined by Iowa Code section 8B.1(13) and Iowa Administrative Code rule 129—20.1.

### II. BACKGROUND, LAW, AND PROCEEDINGS.

Iowa Code section 8B.11, as amended, creates programs the Office is responsible for or involved in administering, including a Broadband Grants Program and a Property Tax Exemption Program (Iowa Code section 427.1(40)). At a high level, these programs are designed to reduce or eliminate areas in the State that do not have access to Broadband service at minimally acceptable speed thresholds. *See* Iowa Code § 8B.11. In order to identify these unserved and underserved areas and best direct the incentives available through these programs, the Office is required to make determinations as to whether any Communications Service Providers already offer or Facilitate Broadband service at or above twenty-five megabits per second of download speed and three megabits per second of upload speed (“**25/3**”) as of July 31, 2020 (“**As of Date**”). The Office makes these determinations on an individual Census Block basis by referencing Broadband availability maps or data sources that are widely accepted for accuracy and available for public review and comment. Iowa Code § 8B.10. In October 2020, the Office documented and communicated its TSA determinations by publishing Version 3 (“**V3**”) of the Statewide Broadband

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<sup>1</sup>Appellant filed an “Affirmation, Attestation, and Certification of Service or lack of Service in Census Block Broadband Grants Program Broadband Availability Map Challenge Process” (“**Certification**”) to initiate this Appeal. The Office considers this Certification to constitute a proper Notice of Appeal that comports with the form and content requirements of Iowa Administrative Code rule 129—20.5(1).

Availability Map (“**Map**”). Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.3, 20.4.

On October 28, 2020, the Office published V3 of the Map. V3 of the Map is based on maps and data sources made available by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and/or developed or produced by contractors or third parties retained or utilized by the Office for such purpose. Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.3. Data representing the status of fixed Broadband in Iowa is as of July 31, 2020. Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.1, 20.3, 20.4(1); *see Broadband Availability Map - Version 3 Challenge Process*, at OCIO.IOWA.GOV (<https://ocio.iowa.gov/broadband-availability-map-version-3-challenge-process>). In publishing V3 of the Map, the Office triggered a statutorily-required challenge period whereby “[w]ithin 20 days after [October 28], any person or party aggrieved or adversely affected by such determination may challenge the office’s finding by filing a notice of appeal with the office” and “provid[ing] the office with all evidence and information necessary to support the appeal.” Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.5(1); *see also* Iowa Code § 8B.10(2) (“The office shall establish procedures to allow challenges to the office’s finding on whether an area meets the definition of targeted service area.”). After the expiration of this initial twenty-day appeal window, the Office was to post any notices of appeal received by the Office online at [ocio.iowa.gov/broadband](https://ocio.iowa.gov/broadband). *Id.* r. 20.5(3). From the date of such posting, any other persons or parties affected by a challenge received by the Office would “have 20 calendar days to submit evidence and information in support of, or in opposition to, such appeal” to the Office. *Id.* After expiration of this second twenty-day submission window, the Office would “consolidate all appeals involving the same census block[s] and conduct an internal review of the evidence and information submitted by all appellants related thereto, in conjunction with any other evidence and information submitted by any affected persons or parties . . . , the maps and data sources originally utilized [by the Office], and any other information deemed relevant by the office.” *Id.* r. 20.5(4). Thereafter, the Office would issue a final agency decision stating the reasons for the Office’s decision concerning the census block(s) in question. *Id.* r. 20.5(5).

The period for appeals closed November 16, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. In accordance with Iowa Administrative Code rule 129—20.5(5), the Office is considering the evidence and information submitted to or otherwise available to the Office, and issuing final decisions concerning all of the Census Blocks forming the basis of appeals received by the Office.

### **III. FACTUAL BACKGROUND.**

On November 16, 2020, within the initial twenty-day window, Appellant filed this Appeal (Docket 20OCIO126).<sup>2</sup> Therein, Appellant challenged the Office’s determination with respect to the following seventy (70) Census Blocks:

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<sup>2</sup> Appendix A - East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative

190199501001091	190199506001078	190199506001179
190199501001100	190199506001079	190199506001182
190199501001102	190199506001080	190199506001185
190199501001103	190199506001081	190199506001187
190199501001104	190199506001082	190199506001197
190199501001105	190199506001087	190199506001198
190199501001107	190199506001088	190199506002008
190199501001117	190199506001090	190199506002009
190199501001131	190199506001091	190199506002037
190199501003002	190199506001092	190199506002040
190199501003003	190199506001093	190199506002051
190199501003029	190199506001094	190199506002053
190199501003092	190199506001096	190199506002055
190199501003162	190199506001097	190199506002067
190199501003163	190199506001099	190199506002069
190199501003164	190199506001100	190199506002070
190199506001003	190199506001102	190199506002071
190199506001011	190199506001103	190199506002073
190199506001014	190199506001104	190199506002078
190199506001020	190199506001105	190199506002154
190199506001021	190199506001106	190199506002155
190199506001075	190199506001108	190199506002156
190199506001076	190199506001115	
190199506001077	190199506001172	

Supporting its Appeal, Appellant completed and submitted a Certification. Pursuant to this Certification, Appellant attested and certified under penalty of perjury that it offered or Facilitated 25/3 Broadband service in this Census Block, to the exclusion of all others, forming the basis of its Appeal as of July 31, 2020. With respect to this Census Block, Appellant explained:

Most census blocks are part of our CARES Act grant funding award and are being built with FTTH. The schools' census block is in error as they currently can get 100/10 speeds. Other census blocks shown as TSAs in this list are surrounded by ACAM-funded census blocks and are scheduled for a FTTH project slated for start in July 2021 after completion of CARES Act Grant project.

Appellant requested that this Census Blocks be designated as non-TSA.

As required by Iowa Administrative Code rule 129—20.5(3), the Office posted this Appeal online on November 16, 2020. *See Broadband Availability Map - Version 3 Challenge Process*, at OCIO.IOWA.GOV (<https://ocio.iowa.gov/broadband-availability-map-version-3-challenge-process>). Over the course of the next twenty days, “[no other] affected persons or parties . . . submit[ted] evidence and information in support of, or in opposition to, such appeal.” Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.5(3). The Office subsequently conducted an internal review of all relevant evidence and information submitted by

Appellant and otherwise available to the Office in connection with the Census Blocks forming the basis of this Appeal. *Id.* r. 20.5(4). Based on that review, the Office now issues the following Decision. *Id.* r. 20.5(5).

#### IV. DECISION(S) AND REASONING.

##### A. DECISION REGARDING BLOCK IDs (the “IV.A Blocks”):

190199501003164	190199506001096	190199506001197
190199506001011	190199506001097	190199506002053
190199506001021	190199506001099	190199506002067
190199506001076	190199506001100	190199506002069
190199506001078	190199506001102	190199506002070
190199506001079	190199506001104	190199506002071
190199506001080	190199506001106	190199506002073
190199506001081	190199506001115	190199506002078
190199506001082	190199506001179	190199506002154
190199506001094	190199506001182	190199506002155

- 1. SUMMARY: APPEAL DENIED.** The Office will maintain the current designation as TSAs for the thirty (30) Census Blocks identified in Section IV.A due to insufficient evidence or information to the contrary.
- 2. DETAILED RESPONSE:** With respect to the IV.A Blocks, the Office has reviewed the evidence and information submitted by Appellant related thereto, in conjunction with the maps and data sources originally utilized in determining whether these Census Blocks are or are not TSAs. Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.5(4). In reviewing this evidence and information, the Office’s specific objective is to determine whether it should change its original determination of “whether a communications service provider offers or facilitates broadband service” at or above 25/3 in the Census Blocks forming the basis of this Appeal as of July 31, 2020, based on the additional evidence and information now available to it, or whether its original determination based on the Broadband Availability Map V3 should stand. Iowa Code §§ 8B.1(13), 8B.10(1-2); Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.1, 20.3, 20.4, 20.5.

Here, the map data representing the status of fixed Broadband in Iowa as of July 31, 2020, and originally relied on by the Office in generating V3 of the Map indicates that no Communications Service Provider offered or Facilitated 25/3 Broadband as of July 31, 2020. Appellant completed and submitted a Certification on forms provided by the Office attesting under penalty of perjury that Appellant offered or Facilitated 25/3 Broadband in the IV.A Blocks forming the basis of this Appeal as of July 31, 2020. While the Office generally considers this Certification to be particularly probative evidence of 25/3 Broadband service, the Office may

additionally consider “any other information deemed relevant by the office.” *See* Iowa Admin. Code r. 129–20.5(4). Such additional relevant information may include but is not limited to prior Certifications and applications provided to the Office under previous State incentives programs or Notices of Funding Availability.

In this instance, IV.A Blocks were previously identified as unserved Broadband Units in Exhibit B of Appellant’s Core Application to Notice Of Funding Availability #003, Control No. 368079 (“**NOFA #003 Application**”).<sup>3</sup>

Under the terms of NOFA #003, in order for the applicant to be eligible for an award they must have affirmed that their proposed infrastructure project was “shovel ready, meaning both that the Project **ha[d] not yet commenced into active buildout phases**, but [was] ready for rapid deployment...” NOFA #003, Section 1.4.7 (Emphasis ours). Furthermore, “Applicants must [have] certifi[ed] that no portion of the proposed Infrastructure Project ha[d] already commenced construction or buildout...” NOFA #003, Section 1.4.7.2. Furthermore, pursuant to NOFA #003, Section 2.2.6.1.1.3, and as part of Exhibit B of the Core Application, Applicant was required to certify “that each of the unserved Broadband Units in the form of Homes, Businesses, and Schools located within Census Blocks forming the basis of the Project that will be Facilitated with 25/3 Broadband or 100/20 Broadband, as applicable, as a result of the Project **DO NOT currently have 25/3 Broadband service available**, meaning no other known Communications Services Provider currently Facilitates 25/3 Broadband or greater to the Broadband Unit.” (Emphasis ours.)

Appellant submitted their NOFA #003 Application, along with all necessary Certifications as required under NOFA #003, on August 5, 2020. (See attached.) Appellant was asked to recertify that the Homes, Schools, and Businesses (“HSBs”) within the Census Blocks of the project were not currently receiving 25/3 Broadband, to which Applicant sent certification on August 18, 2020.<sup>4</sup> Of the IV.A Blocks comprising a portion of Applicant’s NOFA #003 Application, a total of 399 HSBs were reported. Appellant’s proposed NOFA #003 project sought to provide service to all 399 of those HSBs. Accordingly, the Office may infer that no other service provider is facilitating 25/3 Broadband to these HSBs and, therefore, that the IV.A Blocks included in Appellant’s NOFA #003 Application were not receiving service as of the date of the NOFA #003 Application (August 5, 2020), or 5 days after the As of Date of V3 of the Map (July 31, 2020). Appellant thereafter was offered, and accepted an award under that State incentive program.

The purpose of the Office’s Decision is to determine “whether a communications service provider offers or facilitates broadband service” at or above 25/3 as of July 31, 2020. Based upon the Certifications provided to the Office by Appellant during

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<sup>3</sup> Appendix B - NOFA #003 application materials

<sup>4</sup> Appendix C - Applicant certification of HSBs

prior State incentives programs, the Office reasonably believes that no broadband service was available in the above-referenced Census Blocks as of August 5, 2020.

In addition, the Office did not receive any conflicting evidence or information from other interested Communications Service Providers or members of the public as it relates to these Census Blocks during the period for input from affected persons or parties. Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.5(3). Considering Appellant’s Certification, and the lack of any competing evidence or information, the Office concludes 25/3 Broadband service was not available in these Census Blocks as of July 31, 2020, and that these Census Blocks should be designated as TSAs and thereby are eligible to receive State incentives under the programs administered by the Office.

**B. DECISION REGARDING BLOCK IDs (the “IV.B Blocks”):**

190199501001091	190199506001014	190199506001172
190199501001100	190199506001020	190199506001185
190199501001102	190199506001075	190199506001187
190199501001103	190199506001077	190199506001198
190199501001104	190199506001087	190199506002008
190199501001105	190199506001088	190199506002009
190199501001107	190199506001090	190199506002037
190199501001117	190199506001091	190199506002040
190199501001131	190199506001092	190199506002051
190199501003002	190199506001093	190199506002055
190199501003003	190199506001103	190199506002156
190199501003029	190199506001105	
190199506001003	190199506001108	

- 1. SUMMARY: APPEAL DENIED.** The Office will maintain the current designation as TSAs for the thirty-seven (37) Census Blocks identified in Section IV.B due to non-sufficient evidence.
- 2. DETAILED RESPONSE:** Utilizing the same processes and evidence more fully described in Section IV.A above, the Office does not find Appellant's assertion sufficient to change the status of the IV.B Blocks.

Appellant indicates that these blocks “are surrounded by ACAM-funded census blocks and are scheduled for a FTTH project slated for start in July 2021 after completion of CARES Act Grant project.” This statement implies that buildout has not yet commenced in these blocks, thereby leaving them without the benefit of 25/3 Broadband as of July 31, 2020. Again, V3 of the Map is a reflection of Broadband as of July 31, 2020 and does not account for future buildout to determine the status of any given Census Block.

Considering Appellant’s Certification, and the lack of any competing evidence or information, the Office concludes 25/3 Broadband service was not available in these Census Blocks as of July 31, 2020, and that these Census Blocks should be designated as TSAs and thereby are eligible to receive State incentives under the programs administered by the Office.

**C. DECISION REGARDING BLOCK IDs (the “IV.C Blocks”): 190199501003092, 190199501003162, 190199501003163.**

- 1. SUMMARY: APPEAL GRANTED.** The Office will change the designation for the three (3) Census Blocks identified in IV.C from TSAs to non-TSAs.
- 2. DETAILED RESPONSE.** Utilizing the same processes and evidence more fully described in Sections above, the Office recognizes that Appellant completed and submitted a Certification on forms provided by the Office certifying under penalty of perjury that 25/3 broadband was available in the IV.C Blocks identified by Appellant as of July 31, 2020. The Office considers this Certification to be particularly probative.

Accordingly, these IV.C Blocks will be changed from TSA to non-TSA, and shall not be eligible to receive State incentives under the programs administered by the Office.

**V. APPEALING FURTHER.** If you wish to appeal this Decision further, within thirty (30) days of the posting of this Decision at [ocio.iowa.gov/broadband](https://ocio.iowa.gov/broadband), you must notify us in writing by mailing a written request for a contested case proceeding to:

Office of the Chief Information Officer  
c/o Matt Behrens  
200 E. Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

In so doing, you must state the reason(s) you are appealing this Decision, specifically identifying the particular aspects of the Decision with which you disagree and the reasons why, whether factual or legal in nature. The request for a contested case proceeding should state the name and address of the requester; identify the specific Office action which is disputed; and, where the requester is represented by a lawyer, identify the provisions of law or precedent requiring or authorizing the holding of a contested case proceeding in the particular circumstances involved, and include a short and plain statement of the issues of material fact in dispute. Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—6.4.

Upon receipt, your appeal will be forwarded to the Department of Inspections and Appeals where an Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) will perform an independent review. Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.6(1); Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—6.6. At that time, you will have an opportunity to make a presentation, in person or over the telephone, to an ALJ regarding the nature of your concerns. If you do not exercise your appeal right within thirty (30) days of the posting of this Decision at



[ocio.iowa.gov/broadband](http://ocio.iowa.gov/broadband), this Decision shall become final and no longer subject to challenge. Iowa Admin. Code r. 129—20.5(5).

Sincerely,

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Matt Behrens  
Deputy Chief Information Officer  
State of Iowa



## Appendix A



KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR  
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF IOWA

ANNETTE DUNN  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

### Affirmation, Attestation, and Certification of Service or Lack of Service in Census Blocks Broadband Grants Program Broadband Availability Map Challenge Process

A. COMPANY INFORMATION (if submitted on behalf of an entity)			
Company Name:	East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative		
Address:	214 Third Street North		
City:	Winthrop	State:	IA Zip: 50682

B. DESIGNATED CONTACT INFORMATION			
Contact Name	Mike Becker	Phone #	319-935-3011
Email:	<a href="mailto:Mike.becker@eastbuc.hanan.com">Mike.becker@eastbuc.hanan.com</a>		

C. CERTIFICATION/ATTESTATION/AFFIRMATION
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In signing and submitting this form, the above-identified company, and its duly authorized representative signing on behalf thereof, hereby affirms, attests, and certifies under penalty of perjury that, as represented in its submission:

1. Company, consistent with the representations made in this form, and regardless of whether your company's prior reporting to the FCC and/or Connected Nation was correct or in error, either:
  - a. Offered or Facilitated material Broadband service at or above twenty-five (25) megabits per second of download speed and three (3) megabits per second of upload speed ("25/3 Broadband") in the identified census blocks as of July 31, 2020; or
  - b. Did **NOT** offer or Facilitate 25/3 Broadband in the identified census blocks as of July 31, 2020;

**OR**

2. Another unaffiliated company, consistent with the representations made in this form, either:
  - a. Offered or Facilitated material Broadband service at or above twenty-five (25) megabits per second of download speed and three (3) megabits per second of upload speed ("25/3 Broadband") in the identified census blocks as of July 31, 2020; or
  - b. Did **NOT** offer or Facilitate 25/3 Broadband in the identified census blocks as of July 31, 2020;

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Choose One</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response Concerns Your Company or An Affiliated Company (#1 above)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Response Concerns An Unaffiliated Company (#2 above)</p>
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200 E. GRAND AVE, DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

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[CIO@IOWA.GOV](mailto:CIO@IOWA.GOV)


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CENSUS BLOCK ID IN WHICH 25/3 BROADBAND OFFERED OR FACILITATED (OR NOT)	PRIOR REPORTING TO FCC or Connected Nation				25/3 Broadband materially FACILITATED AS OF July 31, 2020		
(Please attach exact spreadsheet listing additional census blocks and making corresponding representations to column for the right X)	In Error means data was reported incorrectly to FCC or Connected Nation. Revised census data was reported correctly to FCC or Connected Nation. No Response means data was not reported to FCC or Connected Nation. Unknown means data is incorrect for unknown reasons				Yes means 25/3 broadband was available as of July 31, 2020. No means 25/3 broadband was not available as of July 31, 2020		
190199501001091	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501001100	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501001102	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501001103	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501001104	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501001105	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501001107	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501001117	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501001131	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501003002	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501003003	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501003029	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block surrounded by ACAM-funded CBs. Build-out in July 2021.
190199501003092	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Schools can get 100/10 speeds now.
190199501003162	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Cemetery. 25/3 is available
190199501003163	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	No business located in this census block/cemetery. 25/3 is available.
190199501003164	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001003	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001011	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001014	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001020	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001021	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001075	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001076	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001077	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001078	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001079	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001080	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001081	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001082	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001087	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001088	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001090	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001091	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001092	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001093	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001094	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001096	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001097	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001099	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001100	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001102	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001103	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001104	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001105	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001106	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001108	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001115	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001172	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001179	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001182	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001185	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001187	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001197	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506001198	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002008	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002009	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002037	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	FTTH Project slated for July 2021.
190199506002040	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	FTTH Project slated for July 2021.
190199506002051	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	FTTH Project slated for July 2021.
190199506002053	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002055	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	FTTH Project slated for July 2021.
190199506002067	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002069	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002070	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002071	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002073	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002078	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002154	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002155	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.
190199506002156	<input type="checkbox"/> In Error	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Census block is part of EBTC CARES Act Grant funding award 368079.

**ADDITIONAL EXPLANATION** (To the extent you believe additional explanation is required to ensure that you are submitting full and accurate information, please use the below space to further explain, qualify, or substantiate your above certification/representation/affirmation. To the extent necessary, please feel free to attach additional explanation/supporting documentation. If you are a Communications Service Provider and indicated "No Error" or "No Response" in the "Prior Reporting to FCC" column for any census blocks shown, please elaborate.)

Most census blocks are part of our CARES Act grant funding award and are currently being built with FTTH. The schools' census block is in error as they currently can get 100/10 speeds. Other census blocks shown as TSAs in this list are surrounded by ACAM-funded census blocks and are scheduled for a FTTH project slated for start in July 2021 after completion of CARES Act Grant project.

<b>A. SIGNATURE:</b>	
Authorized Signature: 	Date: 11/16/2020
Printed Name: Mike Becker	
Title: General Manager	

## Appendix B


[Menu](#) | [Help](#) | [Log Out](#)
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## Application

### Instructions

Annotations records internal notes/comments that are visible to internal staff only. Feedback appends a new section to the bottom of the application that is visible to the applicant and anyone viewing the application.

### Application Details

[Print to PDF](#) | [Release for Review](#) | [Negotiation](#) | [Annotations\(0\)](#) | [Versions](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Withdraw](#)

### 365549 - Empower Rural Iowa Emergency Broadband Expansion Program (NOFA #003)

368079 - Emergency Broadband Grant Application for Winthrop and Quasqueton Iowa Rural Service Areas

Broadband Grant Program - Empower Rural Iowa

**Status:** Submitted  
**Signature:** Michael J. Becker  
**Submitted Date:** 2020-08-05 06:31:44  
**Submitted By:** Mike Becker

### Applicant Information

#### Project Officer

**AnA User Id** MIKE.BECKER@IOWAID  
**First Name\*** Mike  
**Title:**  
**Email:** mike.becker@eastbuchanan.com  
**Address:** 214 Third Street North  
 PO Box 100

**City:** Winthrop Iowa 50682  
**Phone:** 319-935-3011  
 City State/Province Postal Code/Zip  
 Phone Ext.

**Program Area of Interest:** Broadband Grant Program - Empower Rural Iowa  
**Fax:**  
**Agency**

#### Organization Information

**Organization Name:** East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative  
**Organization Type:** Non-Profit Organization  
**DUNS:**  
**Organization Website:** www.eastbuchanan.com  
**Address:** 214 Third Street North  
 PO Box 100

**City:** Winthrop Iowa 50682  
**Phone:** 319-935-3011  
 City State/Province Postal Code/Zip  
 Phone Ext.

**Fax:**  
**Benefactor Vendor Number**

### Cover Sheet-General Information

#### Authorized Official

**Name\*** Mike Becker  
**Title\*** General Manager  
**Organization\*** East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative  
 If you are an individual, please provide your First and Last Name.  
**Address\*** 214 Third Street North  
 PO Box 100  
**City/State/Zip\*** Winthrop Iowa 50682  
 City State Zip  
**Telephone Number\*** 319-935-3011  
**E-Mail\*** mike.becker@eastbuchanan.com

#### Fiscal Officer/ Agent

Please enter the "Fiscal Officer" for your Organization.

If you are an individual, please provide your First and Last Name.



**Name\*** Mike Becker  
**Title** General Manager  
**Organization** East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative  
**Address** 214 Third Street North  
 PO Box 100  
**City/State/Zip** Winthrop Iowa 50682  
City State Zip  
**Telephone Number** 319-935-3011  
**E-Mail** [mike.becker@eastbuchanan.com](mailto:mike.becker@eastbuchanan.com)  
**County(ies) Participating, Involved, or Affected by this Proposal\*** Buchanan County  
**Congressional District(s) Involved or Affected by this Proposal\*** 1st - Rep. Abby Finkenauer (D)  
Congressional Map  
**Iowa Senate District(s) Involved or Affected by this Proposal\*** 32, 48  
District Map  
**Iowa House District(s) Involved or Affected by this Proposal\*** 64, 95  
District Map

### Business Organization - NOFA #003

**Business Legal Name\*** East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative  
**Mailing Address**  
**Street \*** 214 Third Street North, PO Box 100  
**City\*** Winthrop  
**State\*** IA  
**Zip\*** 50682

#### Alternate Mailing Address (used for warrants and/or payments)

**Alternate Street**

**Alternate City**

**Alternate State**

**Alternate Zip**

### Additional Information

\* [Business Organization Final.docx](#)

*Is the Applicant a Communications Service Provider as defined by Iowa Code chapter 8B, including but not limited to private sector carriers, local governments, utilities, and other entities that provide or intend to provide Broadband service.*

**Communication Service Provider\*** Yes

### Executive Project Summary NOFA #003

*This section requires an Applicant to summarize, at a high level, its proposed Project, including but not limited to the geographic area in which the Project will occur, the primary deployment model (e.g., wireline versus wireless), and a general overview of how Applicant has/will comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of this NOFA #3. Please explain why CARES Act funds are necessary for the Project to proceed and how the Project will or will not proceed if the requested funds are not ultimately Awarded. Finally, please explain the current status of the Project, including the phase it is in, such as pre-planning, planning, or that building has commenced.*

**Executive Project Summary\*** [Executive Project Summary.pdf](#)

*The section requires Applicant to affirm whether or not CARES Act funds are necessary for the Project to proceed.*

**Are CARES Act Funds necessary for the Project to proceed?** Yes

*This section requires an Applicant to describe how the Project will or will not proceed if CARES Act funds requested are not ultimately awarded.*

**Describe how the Project will or will not proceed if CARES Act funds requested** This project will not proceed without CARES Act funding. EBTC has received

are not ultimately awarded.\*

ACAM funding for selected portions of their 3 service areas. The Aurora-Stanley rural area was fully funded and fiber deployment was completed in January 2020. Both the rural areas of Winthrop and Quasqueton exchanges are only partially ACAM-funded with Winthrop being 26% unfunded and Quasqueton 84% unfunded. Without additional CARES Act funding, our cooperative members will be underserved for the foreseeable future.

*Applicant certifies project completion dates as follows (select N/A if the Application does not include an Infrastructure component). For infrastructure projects, first 50% completion must be on or before December 30, 2020. The remaining 50% must be completed no later than July 1, 2021.*

**Infrastructure Completion Date Certification\*** Yes

*Applicant certifies project completion dates as follows (select N/A if the Application does not include an Adoption component). For adoption projects, completion date must be on or before December 1, 2020.*

**Adoption Project Date Certification\*** Yes

*Infrastructure Projects must be completed as soon as possible, but by no later than the deadlines set forth in Section 1.3 (Project Period/Contract Term). Applicants must certify that no portion of the proposed Infrastructure Project has already commenced construction or build out and that no portion of the proposed Infrastructure Project is related to existing Broadband expansion commitments or expenses that have been or will be reimbursed under any federal program or been awarded funding from. If your Project contains no Infrastructure Projects as defined in NOFA Section 1.1.1, answer N/A.*

**Certification that Infrastructure Project conforms with the statement above.\*** Yes

*For Projects with an adoption component, Applicant certifies that reasonable efforts will be taken to ensure Broadband subscription discounts are only made to Non-Adopters who meet the criteria set forth in NOFA #003 Section 1.4.8.1 and 1.4.8.2 concerning participation in the Lifeline Program and otherwise reasonably lack the ability to adopt 25/3 broadband without a subscription discount in connection with the COVID-19 public health disaster emergency.*

**Adoption Certification\*** Yes

### Demonstrated Experience NOFA #003

*This section requires information about Applicant's demonstrated experience in provisioning Broadband across the State of Iowa. Applicant shall include relevant information about their experience that has prepared them to deploy their Project, such as, for example, community partnerships and services; number of years in business; number of years of experience providing the types of services sought by this NOFA #003; if the Applicant is a relatively new provider/market entrant, an explanation of the benefits, if any, of being a newer provider/market entrant; the level of technical experience in providing the types of services sought by this NOFA #003; or any other information that would aid the Office in assessing whether Applicant is a Responsible Applicant.*

**Demonstrated Experience\*** [Demonstrated Experience Final.docx](#)

### References

Name  
Telephone Number  
Name  
Telephone Number  
Name  
Telephone Number

### Minority Impact Statement

#### Question # 1

**1. The proposed grant programs or policies could have a disproportionate or unique POSITIVE IMPACT on minority persons.\*** Yes

**If YES, describe the positive impact expected from this project**

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the telecommunications industry we have been hearing that in some families where both spouses typically work outside the home, more women are experiencing being the primary caretaker of school children who are home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Women who may normally work in a business office setting with co-workers have been sent home to telecommute and seemingly have been assigned the family's task of assisting their children with online homework and any associated technical challenges. Having a need to telecommute for work while also assisting with children's online schoolwork activities places a huge burden on women as well as broadband infrastructure. For example: We have multiple Letters of Support from women asking for better broadband speeds so they can work online while their children

study online. These women are extremely frustrated and emotionally stressed that only one person can work online because of limited broadband speeds.

Indicate the group(s) positively impacted.

Women

**Question # 2**

2. The proposed grant project programs or policies could have a disproportionate or unique **NEGATIVE IMPACT** on minority persons. \*

No

If YES, describe the negative impact expected from this project.

If YES, present the rationale for the existence of the proposed program or policy.

If YES, provide evidence of consultation with representatives of the minority groups impacted.

Indicate the group(s) negatively impacted.

**Question # 3**

3. The proposed grant project programs or policies are **NOT EXPECTED TO HAVE A DISPROPORTIONATE OR UNIQUE IMPACT** on minority persons. \*

No

If YES, present the rationale for determining no impact.

**Certification**

I hereby certify that the information on this form is complete and accurate, to the best of my knowledge. \*

Yes

Name of Person Submitting Certification. \*

Mike Becker

Title of Person Submitting Certification \*

General Manager

### **Broadband Grants Core Application CARES Version - Exhibits B, B.1,C, C.1, and D**

*Applicant requests that the contents of their application remain confidential in whole or in part, pursuant to Section 1.25 of the NOFA #003.*

**DISCLAIMER:** An applicant requesting confidential treatment of portions of an application must attach a redacted public copy of the application. If the applicant fails to attach a redacted public copy pursuant to Section 1.25.1.5 of the NOFA #003, the Office shall be relieved from any responsibility for maintaining the confidentiality of the application pursuant to 1.25.4 of the NOFA #003.

**NOTE:** Applicants are **ONLY** required to submit a Public Redacted Copy IF they are requesting confidential treatment with respect to an aspect of their Application. Further, the mere fact that an Applicant submits a Public Redacted Copy (or otherwise requests confidential treatment) does not ensure the aspects of the Application that are redacted (or for which confidential treatment is otherwise sought) will be treated as confidential; the Office will only afford confidential treatment to the extent requests comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of the NOFA #003.

Full Unredacted Copy\*

[East Buchanan Tele Coop Broadband\\_Grants\\_Core\\_Application\\_NOFA003.xlsm](#)

Core Application Forms Exhibits B-D  
(Public Redacted Copy)

*Note: If you need additional space to answer any of the below questions, please upload supplemental materials to the appropriate section of the Iowa Grants System ("Overflow Materials").*

**Exhibit C Overflow Materials**

**Exhibit C.1 Overflow Materials**

*In addition, in connection with any of the following factors, Applicants may provide evidence of need in support of their Project by uploading materials through the Iowa Grants System, which materials demonstrate how communities, households, businesses, schools, or hospitals are hindered in their ability to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 due to a lack of at least 25/3 Broadband ("Supplemental Materials of Need"). Such evidence, by way of example only, may include letters signed and endorsed by community officials, including but not limited to the mayor, city administrator, county supervisor, superintendent, hospital administrator, etc.*

Supplemental Materials of Need 3A.1.2 [Section 3A.1.2 Supplemental Materials of Support.pdf](#)

Supplemental Materials of Need 3B.1.2 [Section 3B.1.2 Supplemental Materials of Support.pdf](#)

### **Broadband Grants Program Grant Agreement - Exhibit E**

Exceptions to Broadband Grants  
Program Grant Agreement\*

[exhibit\\_e\\_-\\_broadband\\_grants\\_program\\_grant\\_agreement\\_including\\_required\\_federal\\_provisions\\_nofa003.docx](#)



**Certification, Authorization, and Release of Information-Exhibit F**

Certification/Acknowledgements &  
Authorization to Release Information Letter\* [Exhibit F - NOFA 3.pdf](#)

**Form 22 - Exhibit G**

Form 22 (Public)\* [Exhibit G - NOFA 3.pdf](#)

**Prior Funding Statement-Exhibit L**

Prior Funding Statement- Exhibit L \* [Exhibit L - NOFA 3.pdf](#)

**Project Budget**

Category	Description	Total Estimated Cost \$ (Exhibit D)	Requested Grant Support % (up to 50%)	Grant Request (Est. Cost * Request %)
Conduit	Underground conduit for bores	\$7,920.00	50.0	\$3,960.00
Fiber/Copper	Average fiber cost	\$446,676.20	50.0	\$223,338.10
OSP Engineering	Staking to CAD	\$401,971.68	50.0	\$200,985.84
Design Engineering	Engineering design work	\$48,480.00	50.0	\$24,240.00
Construction Mgmt.	Contracts, inspections, and As-Built	\$806,000.00	50.0	\$403,000.00
Tower		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Antenna		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Boring	Rural Boring	\$47,520.00	50.0	\$23,760.00
Trenching	Rock sawing	\$22,800.00	50.0	\$11,400.00
Knifing	Rural plowing mainline and drops	\$1,536,063.20	50.0	\$768,031.60
Aerial Deployment/Make Ready		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Outside Plant		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Switching Equipment	Access equipment	\$42,722.05	50.0	\$21,361.03
Routing Equipment	Routing equipment and cutover	\$93,996.37	50.0	\$46,998.18
Optical Equipment	SFP	\$9,308.00	50.0	\$4,654.00
Customer Premise Equipment	Network Interface device	\$142,100.00	50.0	\$71,050.00
Other	Drop, ONT, Pedestals, Cut-over	\$930,914.00	50.0	\$465,457.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$4,536,471.50</b>		<b>\$2,268,235.75</b>

**Adoption Project**

School District	Number of Adopters	Amount
East Buchanan	50	\$25,000.00
North Linn	15	\$7,500.00
Oelwein	6	\$3,000.00
Starmont	5	\$2,500.00

**Total Application Request**

Total Application Request \$2,306,235.75

**Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification**

Name (as shown on your income tax return) East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative

Business name, if different from above

Check appropriate box:

Individual/Sole proprietor

C Corporation

S Corporation

Partnership

Trust/Estate

Limited liability company

Enter the tax classification (C=corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership)

Other Yes

See instructions provided in the link at the top of this form

Other Description Cooperative

Exemptions

See instructions in the link provided at the top of this form.

Exempt payee Yes

Exempt payee code (if any)

Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any)

Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)

City

Iowa

State

Zip

List account number(s) here (optional)

Requester's name and address (optional)

### Part 1 - Taxpayer Identification number (TIN)

Social Security #

Employer Identification # 426068311

### PART 2 - Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below), and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Signature of U.S. person\* East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative

You must select yes to item 2 below (backup withholding) if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions provided in the link at the top of this form.

2. Backup Withholding\* No

Date Signed\* 08/04/2020

[Return to top](#)





KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR  
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF IOWA

ANNETTE DUNN  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

**Exhibit B.1 — Broadband Grants Program Adoption Worksheet ( Use For Adoption Projects Only )**

**Applicant Name: East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative**

Using the guidance provided in 1.5.2.1 of NOFA #003, identify in Table 1 below the number of potential Non-Adopters within each school district you anticipate will adopt 25/3 Broadband or faster by the Adoption Completion Date (December 1, 2020).

Instructions are outlined below as follows:

Step 1: Enter the Number of School Districts Impacted by your project.

Step 2: Left click the Refresh button.

Step 3: Using the drop down box in the School District column, select the specific School District in each row impacted by your project.

Step 4: Enter the Estimated Number of Potential Non-Adopters in each School District that comprises your project.

Total estimated number of non-adopters:	76
Maximum award of estimated number of non-adopters:	\$ 38,000
Project Economic Necessity Factor:	0.0910

Number of School Districts Impacted: 4

Potential Number of Non-Adopters per School District - Table 1					
School District	School District Number	% Free and Reduced Lunch	% Without Broadband	School District Economic Necessity Factor	Estimated Number of Potential Non-Adopters
EAST BUCHANAN	19630000	34.91%	14.57%	0.0509	50
NORTH LINN	47770000	23.56%	21.34%	0.0503	15
OELWEIN	48690000	64.21%	21.87%	0.1404	6
STARMONT	61750000	48.21%	25.36%	0.1223	5
END OF DATA					

**1. Describe the methodology you will utilize to determine Non-Adopter eligibility as defined in NOFA #003 Sections 1.4.8.3. and 1.4.8.4.**

East Buchanan School District surveyed 290 school families asking if they had "reliable Internet". Results show that 99 families or 34% have Internet service that is not 100% reliable. East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative knows the available speeds to EBTC customers, but not to any specific family who may be using a cellular-only or a wireless competitor. But we do know that with fiber optics, speeds above 25/3 can easily be achieved. We also know which specific EBTC customers are partaking in the Lifeline Program and are ineligible for Adoption discounts. We intend on providing an affidavit that will require adopter customers to sign stating that 1) they are not a Lifeline customer, 2) they do not currently subscribe to speeds at 25/3 or above from any service provider, and 3) they have a COVID-19 pandemic-related reason for needing Adopter discounts. We intend on providing a free router (\$135.00 retail value) and free service order charge with free installation (\$59.00 value) plus two months free Internet service (\$159.90 retail value) for a total value of \$353.90 as incentive to become an Internet adopter for purposes of this grant.

(Maximum 1200 Characters / Actual = 1157)

**\* Non-Adopters may not currently participate in the FCC's Lifeline Program for Low Income Consumers. (See NOFA #003 Section 1.4.8.1)**

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KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR  
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

## STATE OF IOWA

ANNETTE DUNN  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

### Exhibit C — Qualitative Attributes Form - Infrastructure Projects Only

Applicant Name: East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative

Applicant must fill out and submit this form in order to comply with/supply the information/inputs requested by the Office pursuant to Section 3A.1.2. (Qualitative Factors) of NOFA #003.

**Note: If you need additional space to answer any of the below questions, please upload supplemental materials to the appropriate section of the Iowa Grants System ("Overflow Materials") as further described in Exhibit J Step 41. In addition, in connection with any of the following factors, Applicants may provide evidence of need support for their Project by uploading materials through the Iowa Grants System as further described in Exhibit J Step 41, which materials demonstrate how communities, households, businesses, schools, or hospitals are hindered in their ability to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 due to a lack of at least 25/3 Broadband ("Supplemental Materials of Need"). Such evidence, by way of example only, may include letters signed and endorsed by community officials, including but not limited to the mayor, city administrator, county supervisor, superintendent, hospital administrator, etc.**

#### 1. Impact on Distance Learning, Telehealth and Telemedicine, and Telework

These factors take into consideration the impact the Project will have on improvements in Iowa to support distance learning, telehealth, and telework in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Please answer or supply the Office with the following to assist it in scoring this factor:

- 1.1. Describe how your Broadband Infrastructure Project will facilitate distance learning in the State of Iowa, through Broadband improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions. Generally speaking, Applications that demonstrate that the Broadband investments forming the basis of the Project will have a greater impact on distance learning needs in their response will receive higher scores.

In the current situation, the best service available in the Targeted Service Areas (TSA) is 10 Mbps downlink and 5 Mbps uplink. This is being provided over a fixed wireless link. These links can be affected by weather to the point of losing the signal, resulting in the loss of service. Other areas are being served by xDSL that has a maximum of 20 Mbps downlink and 1 Mbps uplink although in most areas 10/1 is the only obtainable speed. These speeds decrease as the distance from the electronics increases. This project will install fiber optic links to all units located in the TSAs. This will allow for speeds up to 1 Gbps symmetric service being available. These links will not be affected by weather and are immune to noise and interference. This will provide sufficient speed and bandwidth to support distance learning across all TSAs that are funded. With the 1 Gbps service, students will be able to access online classes, participate in conference calls, and video calls allowing for real time interaction with little to no interruption in service. This is needed as demonstrated by the many Letters of Support included in this grant application including from teachers.

(Maximum 1200 Characters / Actual = 1182)

- 1.2. Describe how your Broadband Infrastructure Project will facilitate telehealth and telemedicine services in the State of Iowa, through Broadband improvements, in connection with treating and responding to COVID-19. Generally speaking, Applications that demonstrate that the Broadband investments forming the basis of the Project will have a greater impact on telehealth and telemedicine will receive higher scores.

As discussed in section 1.1, the current network has very limited service available to subscribers. The slow speed and limited bandwidth make the transmission large data packages slow. The transmission of video will result in jumpy and interrupted video sessions. The installation of a fiber optic network with 1 Gbps capabilities will allow for the transmission of large data packages and the ability to conduct video conferences between doctor and patient resulting in fewer COVID-19 cases because the patient is not exposed to viruses by needing appointments held within a physical medical clinic. In addition to increased speed, the fiber optic cables are immune to noise, interference and provide a more secure link than either xDSL or wireless links.

(Maximum 1200 Characters / Actual = 757)

- 1.3. Describe how your Broadband Infrastructure Project will facilitate increased telework capabilities in the State of Iowa, through Broadband improvements, in connection with remote work arrangements implemented by employers in response to COVID-19 public health precautions. Generally speaking, Applications that demonstrate that the Broadband investments forming the basis of the Project will have a greater impact on telework capabilities will receive higher scores.

As stated in section 1.1, the current network has very limited service available to subscribers. At the rates list above, the ability of people to work remotely is severely limited and attested to by the large number of support letters. For the record, we had requested a Letter of Support from only one telework customer, but word spread quickly with letters and emails pouring in from other teleworkers as well as from school families! The increase to 1 Gbps service over fiber optic cable will allow remote workers to access remote desktop applications, participate in teleconferences and video conferences, exchange emails and large data packets in a timely manner. This will allow businesses to maintain operations with a minimal effect associated with network delays. It will also allow teleworkers to work more efficiently and not require them to wait until their school children are finished with remote learning sessions. For many families with parents working from home, only one device at a time is able to work efficiently with the current limited speeds.

(Maximum 1200 Characters / Actual = 1067)

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ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

## STATE OF IOWA

ANNETTE DUNN  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

### Exhibit C.1 — Qualitative Attributes Form - Adoption Projects Only

Applicant Name: East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative

Applicant must fill out and submit this form in order to comply with/supply the information/inputs requested by the Office pursuant to Section 3.B.1.2. (Qualitative Factors) of NOFA #003.

**Note: If you need additional space to answer any of the below questions, please upload supplemental materials to the appropriate section of the Iowa Grants System ("Overflow Materials") as further described in Exhibit J Step 41. In addition, in connection with any of the following factors, Applicants may provide evidence of need in support of their Project by uploading materials through the Iowa Grants System, which materials demonstrate how communities, households, businesses, schools, or hospitals are hindered in their ability to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 due to a lack of at least 25/3 Broadband ("Supplemental Materials of Need") as further described in Exhibit J Step 41. Such evidence, by way of example only, may include letters signed and endorsed by community officials, including but not limited to the mayor, city administrator, county supervisor, superintendent, hospital administrator, etc.**

#### 1. Impact on Distance Learning, Telehealth and Telemedicine, and Telework

These factors take into consideration the impact of greater Broadband adoption in Iowa including first time usage or expanded bandwidth to a minimum level of 25/3 Broadband or faster to support increased distance learning, telehealth, and telework in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Please answer or supply the Office with the following to assist it in scoring this factor:

- 1.1. Describe how your Broadband Adoption Project will facilitate distance learning in the State of Iowa, through Broadband improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions. Generally speaking, Applications that demonstrate that the Broadband investments forming the basis of the Project will have a greater impact on distance learning needs in their response will receive higher scores.

In the current situation, the best service available in the Targeted Service Areas (TSA) is 10 Mbps downlink and 5 Mbps uplink. This is being provided over a fixed wireless link. These links can be affected by weather to the point of losing the signal, resulting in the loss of service. Other areas are being served by xDSL that has a maximum of 20 Mbps downlink and 1 Mbps uplink. These speeds will decrease as the distance from the electronics increases. This project will install fiber optic links to all units located in the TSAs. This will allow to speed up to 1 Gbps symmetric service being available. These links will not be affected by weather and are immune to noise and interference. This will provide sufficient speed and bandwidth to support distance learning across all TSAs that are funded. With the 1 Gbps service, students will be able to access online classes and participate in video calls allowing for real time interaction with no interruption in service, and telecommuters because of the COVID-19 pandemic will be able to work efficiently. For Non-Adopters, we plan to offer \$353.90 in incentives for equipment, installation, and 2 months of high-speed Internet.

(Maximum 1200 Characters / Actual = 1184)

- 1.2. Describe how your Broadband Adoption Project will facilitate telehealth and telemedicine services in the State of Iowa, through Broadband improvements, in connection with treating and responding to COVID-19. Generally speaking, Applications that demonstrate that the Broadband investments forming the basis of the Project will have a greater impact on telehealth and telemedicine will receive higher scores.

As discussed in section 1.1, the current network has very limited service available to subscribers. The slow speed and limited bandwidth make the transmission large data packages slow. The transmission of video will result in jumpy and interrupted video sessions. The installation of a fiber optic network with 1 Gbps capabilities will allow for the transmission of large data packages and the ability to conduct video conferences between doctor and patient. In addition to increased speed, the fiber optic cables are immune to noise, interference and provide a more secure link than either xDSL or wireless links.

(Maximum 1200 Characters / Actual = 615)

- 1.3. Describe how your Broadband Adoption Project will facilitate increased telework capabilities in the State of Iowa, through Broadband improvements, in connection with remote work arrangements implemented by employers in response to COVID-19 public health precautions. Generally speaking, Applications that demonstrate that the Broadband investments forming the basis of the Project will have a greater impact on telework capabilities will receive higher scores.

As stated in section 1.1, the current network has very limited service available to subscribers. At the rates list above, the ability of people to work remotely is severely limited. The increase to 1 Gbps service over fiber optic cable will allow remote workers to access remote desktop applications, participate in video conferences, exchange emails and large data packets in a timely manner. This will allow businesses to maintain operations with a minimal effect associated with network delays, and also allow teleworkers to become more efficient in their work routines, and they will no longer need to have only one device at a time using the Internet. Many times teleworkers could not perform basic business functions while their school children were working online with homework assignments as evidenced by the many Letters of Support included in this Adoption grant packet.

(Maximum 1200 Characters / Actual = 880)

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Exhibit D — Broadband Grants Program Budget Plan - Infrastructure Projects Only

Applicant Name: East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative

Enter data for all columns with a light gray heading and associated white cells. The dark shaded fields are calculated fields based on associated entry.

Category (A)	Description (B)	Per Unit (C)	Quantity (D)	Estimated: Provide Upon Grant Application			Actuals: Provide Upon Project Completion (Do NOT fill out as part of Application process)	
				Total Estimated Cost \$ (E)	Requested Grant Support % (F)	Requested Grant Support \$ (G)	Actual Cost \$ (H)	Grant Award \$ (Lesser of Estimated Cost or Actual Cost) (I)
Conduit	Underground conduit for biers	\$2.00 <small>per foot</small>	3,960.00	\$7,920.00	50.00%	\$3,960.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fiber/Copper	Average fiber cost	\$1.00 <small>per foot</small>	446,675.20	\$446,675.20	50.00%	\$223,338.10	\$0.00	\$0.00
OSP Engineering	Staking to CAD	\$0.90 <small>per foot</small>	446,635.20	\$401,971.68	50.00%	\$200,985.84	\$0.00	\$0.00
Design Engineering	Engineering design work	\$48,480.00 <small>per hour / board</small>	1.00	\$48,480.00	50.00%	\$24,240.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Construction Mgmt.	Contracts, inspections, and As-Built	\$806,000.00 <small>per hour / board</small>	1.00	\$806,000.00	50.00%	\$403,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tower		\$0.00 <small>per tower</small>	0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Antenna		\$0.00 <small>per antenna</small>	0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Boring	Rural Boring	\$12.00 <small>per foot</small>	3,960.00	\$47,520.00	50.00%	\$23,760.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Trenching	Rock sawing	\$6.00 <small>per foot</small>	3,800.00	\$22,800.00	50.00%	\$11,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Winning	Rural plowing machine and drops	\$3.50 <small>per foot</small>	438,875.20	\$1,536,063.20	50.00%	\$768,031.60	\$0.00	\$0.00
Switching Equipment	Access equipment	\$42,722.05 <small>per unit</small>	1.00	\$42,722.05	50.00%	\$21,361.03	\$0.00	\$0.00
Routing Equipment	Routing equipment and cabling	\$83,996.37 <small>per unit</small>	1.00	\$93,996.37	50.00%	\$46,998.19	\$0.00	\$0.00
Optical Equipment	SFP	\$716.00 <small>per unit</small>	13.00	\$9,308.00	50.00%	\$4,654.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Customer Premise Equipment	Network interface device	\$350.00 <small>per unit</small>	406.00	\$142,100.00	50.00%	\$71,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	Drop, CNT, Peds, Cut-over	\$930,914.00 <small>per unit</small>	1.00	\$930,914.00	50.00%	\$465,457.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$4,536,471.50</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$2,268,235.76</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

END OF DATA

\*Please refer to NOFA #003 Sections 1.4.4 and 1.5.1.2 for more information regarding calculations used for this Exhibit.

\*\*In addition to supplying the Office with a final version of Exhibit D in connection the reimbursement process including a statement of actual expenditures, the Office may request additional records as deemed necessary by the Office to verify such claimed expenditures. Such records may include original invoices, original itemized receipts, copies of checks, check registers, or bank statements indicating credit card invoices were paid, or similar documentation. Grantees must keep proof of the incurrence and payment of any and all claimed expenditures.

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ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

ANNETTE DUNN  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

**Exhibit F - NOFA #003 ("NOFA")**  
**Certification, Authorization, and Release of Information**  
**Alterations to this document are prohibited**

Date: August 5, 2020

Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer  
c/o Broadband Grants Program Administrator  
200 E Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Re: NOFA Number 003—CERTIFICATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE  
INFORMATION

Dear Issuing Officer:

By affixing my signature below, I, a representative of Applicant expressly authorized to make the following certifications on behalf of Applicant, and under penalty of perjury as authorized by Iowa Code section 622.1 and pursuant to the laws of the state of Iowa, certify the following with respect to the Application submitted on behalf of East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative (Applicant) in response to the NOFA:

1. **Certification of Truth and Accuracy.** I certify the following on behalf of Applicant:
  - 1.1. Any statements, representations, warranties, certifications, or attestations made in the Application, including any attachments or enclosures associated therewith, are true and accurate.
  - 1.2. Applicant has not knowingly made any false statements or representations in its Application, including any attachments or enclosures associated therewith.
2. **Certification of Independence.** I certify the following on behalf of Applicant:
  - 2.1. Except as otherwise permitted by the NOFA, the Application has been developed independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement with any employee, agent, independent contractor, consultant, or other third parties acting on behalf of the Office or with any person serving as a member of any review or evaluation committee.
  - 2.2. The Application has been developed independently, without consultation, communication or agreement with any other Applicant or parties for the purpose of restricting competition.
  - 2.3. No attempt has been made or will be made by Applicant to induce any other Applicant to submit or not to submit an Application for the purpose of restricting competition.
  - 2.4. No relationship exists or will exist during the contract period between Applicant and the Office or any other State agency that interferes with fair competition or that constitutes a conflict of interest, the appearance of a conflict of interest, or that violates Iowa Code chapter 68B.
3. **Certification Regarding Suspension/Debarment.** I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, neither Applicant, any of its principals, nor any of its officers:
  - 3.1. Are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this contract by any federal department or governmental entity of the State of Iowa.
  - 3.2. Have within a three (3) year period preceding this grant been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) transaction or a contract under a public transaction; violation

of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property.

- 3.3. Are presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with the commission of any of the offenses enumerated in Section 3.2.
- 3.4. Have within a three (3) year period preceding this grant, had one or more public transactions (federal, state or local) terminated for cause or default or received a Notice of Default, Notice of Non-Compliance, or otherwise been found in non-compliance with the requirements of Iowa Code section 8B.11, Iowa Administrative Code chapter 129—22, or a grant agreement entered into by the Office and Applicant in connection with another award issued by the Office under this Broadband Grant's Program.
- 3.5. Plan to knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, voluntarily excluded from participation in a covered transaction, or who otherwise meets any of the circumstances identified in Sections 3.1 through 3.4, above.
- 3.6. Have had any damages or penalties assessed against or dispute resolution settlements entered into under any existing or past contracts for goods and/or services similar to those sought pursuant to the NOFA.
- 3.7. Are presently involved in any litigation or threatened litigation, administrative or regulatory proceedings, or similar matters.
- 3.8. Are the subject of any past or current litigation, findings in any past litigation, or findings of noncompliance under federal or state law that may impact in any way their ability to fulfill the requirements of or services sought pursuant to the NOFA.

**4. Certification of Financial Condition.** I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, Applicant:

- 4.1. Is in sound financial condition and, if applicable, has received an unqualified audit opinion for the latest audit of its financial statements.
- 4.2. Has no outstanding liabilities, including tax and judgment liens, to the Internal Revenue Service, Iowa Department of Revenue, or any other government entity.
- 4.3. Is current in all amounts due for payments of federal and state taxes.
- 4.4. Has not, in the last three (3) years, undergone a sale or change of control of Vendor, including its business or substantially all of its assets.
- 4.5. Is neither presently involved in, nor anticipates being involved in the near future, any case or other proceeding seeking or involving liquidation, reorganization, or other relief with respect to itself or its debts under any bankruptcy, insolvency, or other similar law now or hereafter in effect.

**5. Required Federal Certifications.** I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, Applicant will comply with, or will be able to comply with prior to the receipt of any funds disbursed in connection with this Program, any and all of the laws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, orders, or other requirements identified or described in Schedule A (Federal Funding - Required Provisions) of the Grant Agreement that accompanies the NOFA, including but not limited to those set forth in or required by Section 9 (Required Certifications) therein, including but not limited to those which pertain to the following:

- 5.1. Drug Free Workplace (Section 9.1);
- 5.2. Lobbying (Section 9.2);
- 5.3. Suspension and Debarment (Section 9.3);
- 5.4. Environmental Tobacco Smoke (Section 9.4);
- 5.5. Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs (Section 9.5);
- 5.6. Americans with Disabilities Act (Section 9.6);
- 5.7. Equal Treatment for Faith Based Organizations (Section 9.7);
- 5.8. Immigration and Naturalization Service (Section 9.8);



5.9. Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency (Section 9.9).

Grantee acknowledges and understands that it will be required to certify its compliance with such laws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, orders, or other requirements set forth in Schedule A (Federal Funding - Required Provisions) of the Grant Agreement, including Section 9 (Required Certifications) again as part of the Grant Agreement execution process. Grantee further acknowledges and agrees that it may be required to supply the Office with any of the information or materials required in connection with any and all such individual certifications set forth in Schedule A (Federal Funding - Required Provisions) of the Grant Agreement, including Section 9 (Required Certifications), which information or materials the Office deems necessary to verify Grantee's compliance with such requirements, as a precondition to the Office's final signature on any Grant Agreement and/or prior to receiving any funds from the Office.

6. **Broadband Grants Certifications.** I certify the following on behalf of Applicant:

- 6.1. Applicant is authorized to provide Broadband service in the geographic areas identified in the Application/forming the basis of any Project(s), and has or will obtain any necessary permits or licenses (federal, state, or local) required to do so.
- 6.2. Upon request by the Office, Applicant shall be available to provide further information to the Office related to any Project(s) for which grant funds may be Awarded, or other additional information as may be reasonably requested by the Office.
- 6.3. Except as otherwise identified in Form 22 (Exhibit G) and solely to the extent permitted by the NOFA, the Application, including any attachments or enclosures associated therewith, may be treated as public, non-confidential records, and subject to public disclosure, and Applicant waives any claims it may have against the Office, the State of Iowa, and any officers, employees, agents, independent contractors, or other personnel of either of the foregoing related to the confidential treatment of any information or materials submitted in connection with its Application.

7. **Qualified Certification.** If an Applicant is unable to unqualifiedly certify any of the foregoing certifications, Applicant may use the space below to qualify any of the above certifications to the extent necessary. By way of example only, if an Applicant is unable to unqualifiedly certify that the Applicant has not "within a three (3) year period preceding this grant, had one or more public transactions (federal, state or local) terminated for cause or default" as required by Section 3.4, above, Applicant may provide a detailed explanation of all public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause within the prior three (3) year period. Notwithstanding, if the Applicant is not able to submit an unqualified Certification Letter, this may result in the Office determining, in its sole discretion, that Applicant is not a Responsible Applicant, and in the rejection of the Application/disqualification of the Applicant.

N/A

8. **Additional Acknowledgments.** I acknowledge the following on behalf of Applicant:

- 8.1. The Office may withdraw the NOFA and/or any Award made pursuant thereto at any time prior to the execution of a Grant Agreement.
- 8.2. Following the issuance of Awards, the Office will post all final Notices of Intent to Award/decisions online at [Iowa Grants](https://ocio.iowa.gov/broadband) and <https://ocio.iowa.gov/broadband>:
  - 8.2.1. Unsuccessful Applicants are solely responsible for reviewing such websites to determine their Award status.

- 8.2.2. Adversely affected Applicants will have five (5) days to appeal such decision(s) by requesting a contested case proceeding in accordance with Iowa Administrative Code rule 129—11. Failure to challenge the Office's decision within the five (5) day period shall waive any other claims an Applicant may have as it relates to the Office's administration of the process and otherwise be deemed a failure to exhaust administrative remedies.
- 8.2.3. Applicants may appeal an adverse decision only for a timely submitted Application.
- 8.3. Following an Award, a successful Applicant will be required to execute a Grant Agreement with the Office as a condition precedent to receiving grant funds. Should the Office and Applicant fail to reach an agreement, the Office may revoke any prior Award and Award the corresponding funds to other Applicants or Grantees, or open additional rounds for Applications.
- 8.4. To the extent Applicant is Awarded grant funds, the Office possesses the authority to determine whether a Grantee has complied with the terms, conditions, or requirements of any Grant Agreement, and to issue any orders necessary to effectuate compliance with the same. Any such order shall become final unless within thirty (30) days of the transmission of such order, Applicant files a request for a contested case proceeding pursuant to 129—Chapter 6. Failure request a contested case within the thirty-day (30) period shall waive any claims an Applicant may have related to the administration of an Award and any Grant Agreement, and shall otherwise be deemed a failure to exhaust administrative remedies.
- 8.5. Upon completion of any Project(s) supported, in whole or in part, by grant funds issued by and through the Office, Applicant will be required to:
  - 8.5.1. Certify that the Project(s) was completed as proposed/represented in the Application, including certifying to the Office each of the required certifications identified and described in Section 3 (Project Completion) of the Grant Agreement that accompanies the NOFA, as applicable, including the specific certifications required by Sections 3.1.1.1 (Certification) and 3.1.2.1 (Certification), as applicable.
  - 8.5.2. Supply the Office with any information required as part of any Project closeout process as required by the Grant Agreement that accompanies the NOFA, including but not limited to any GIS data required by Section 3.1.1.1.3 or information or materials described in Section 3.1.2.2 (Verification), as applicable.
  - 8.5.3. Permit the Office to conduct field tests upon request or otherwise verify compliance with any Grant Agreement, including as described in the Grant Agreement that accompanies the NOFA, including but not limited to as required or described in Sections 3.1.1.2 (Field Testing) or Sections 3.1.2.2 (Verification), as applicable.
  - 8.5.4. As it relates to expenditures for which Grantee seeks payment or reimbursement:
    - 8.5.4.1. Submit a final summary of all Allowable Expenditures or other expenditures for which Grantee seeks reimbursement or has otherwise been paid, including any prior advance payment or prepayment, on forms supplied by the Office;
    - 8.5.4.2. Certify and attest that such Allowable Expenditures or other expenditures are true, accurate, and in fact constitute Allowable Expenditures or other reimbursable expenditures under the Program;
    - 8.5.4.3. Certify and attest that such Allowable Expenditures or other expenditures were not incurred prior to any period established by the CARES Act Requirements, which period as of the issuance date of this NOFA was **March 1, 2020**, and are otherwise payable or reimbursable in accordance with CARES Act Requirements.

## 9. Authorization to Release Information.

- 9.1. Applicant hereby authorizes the Office, the Evaluation Committee, or other agents, independent contractors, or other third parties acting on behalf of or directed by the Office to obtain information regarding Applicant's performance on other contracts, agreements or other business arrangements, its business reputation, or any other matter pertinent to evaluation and the selection of a successful Applicant in response to the NOFA. Applicant further authorizes representatives of the Office, Evaluation Committee, or other agents,



independent contractors, or other third parties acting on behalf of or directed by the Office to contact any and all of the persons, entities, and references which are, directly or indirectly, listed, submitted, or referenced in Applicant's Application submitted in response to the NOFA.

- 9.2. Applicant acknowledges that it may not agree with the information and opinions given by such person or entity in response to a reference request. Applicant acknowledges that the information and opinions given by such person or entity may hurt its chances to receive an Award from the Office or may otherwise hurt its reputation or operations. Applicant is willing to take that risk.
- 9.3. Applicant hereby releases, acquits and forever discharges the State of Iowa, the Office, their officers, directors, employees, agents, and members of the Evaluation Committee from any and all liability whatsoever, including all claims, demands and causes of action of every nature and kind affecting the undersigned that it may have or ever claim to have relating to information, data, opinions, and references obtained by the Office, the Evaluation Committee, or other agents, independent contractors, or other third parties acting on behalf of or directed by the Office in the evaluation and selection of successful Applicants in response to the NOFA.
- 9.4. Except where and solely to the extent a confidentiality agreement, nondisclosure agreement, or similar agreement with a person or entity precludes the disclosure of trade secrets or other proprietary or confidential technical, financial or business information, Applicant authorizes any and all persons and entities to provide information, data, and opinions with regard to Applicant's performance under any contract, agreement, or other business arrangement, Applicant's ability to perform, business reputation, and any other matter pertinent to the evaluation of Applicant's Application. To the extent of such authorization, Applicant hereby releases, acquits and forever discharges any such person or entity and their officers, directors, employees and agents from any and all liability whatsoever, including all claims, demands and causes of action of every nature and kind affecting Applicant that it may have or ever claim to have relating to information, data, opinions, and references supplied to the Office, the Evaluation Committee, or other agents, independent contractors, or other third parties acting on behalf of or directed by the Office in the evaluation and selection of a successful Applicant in response to the NOFA. The preceding authorization and release is not intended and shall not be construed to waive any rights or limit any remedies the Applicant may have pursuant to the terms of any Grant Agreement.

In addition to any criminal penalties authorized by Iowa Code section 720.2 that may result from any false statements of material fact made herein or any other remedies available at law, equity, or otherwise, an Applicant that is subsequently determined to have made a statement, representation, warranty, certification, or attestation in an Application, or any attachments or enclosures associated therewith, that is later proven untrue in any material respect shall be obligated to repay the Office the entire amount of any grant funds previously distributed by the Office to the Applicant.

Sincerely,

  
Authorized Representative's Signature

August 5, 2020  
Date

Michael J. Becker

General Manager

East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative  
Entity

#003  
NOFA Number

STATE OF IOWA

A

KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR  
 ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

ANNETTE DUNN  
 CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

**Exhibit L - NOFA #003**  
**Prior Funding Statement**  
 Alterations to this document are prohibited

Describe any prior sources of federal, state, local or non-profit funds contributed to the completion of broadband network expansion projects within the State of Iowa completed by the Applicant since January 1, 2015 in the form of grants, low interest loans, or other award mechanisms. These sources do not include internal Applicant resources such as cash on hand, financing from third party vendors, or other sources of funds that do not include federal, state, local, or non-profit funding sources. Add additional rows if necessary. If no prior funds have been received, indicate \$0 under Amount of Funds in the first row.

Date Funding Provided	Source of Funds (Name funding entity and indicate whether Federal, State, Local, or other)	Amount of Funds	Use of Funds (Location, technology, speed levels, etc)
1/1/2015 – Present	Federal USF/ACAM Support	\$2,771,095	Voice and Broadband service within supported eligible census blocks. These funds have been used to deploy fiber in our Aurora-Stanley exchange service area.  This NOFA #003 application does not seek funding for areas for which we receive ACAM support.

  
 Authorized Representative's Signature

August 5, 2020  
 Date

Michael J. Becker  
 Name (Printed)

General Manager  
 Title

East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative  
 Entity

#003  
 NOFA Number

## Appendix C





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**RE: Request for Clarification - Broadband Grant Program (NOFA #003) - Application #368079**

1 message

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**Mike Becker** <mike.becker@eastbuchanan.com>  
To: "Grants, OCIO" <ociogrants@iowa.gov>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 6:52 PM

To your request for clarification, Scenario #2 best describes our response regarding the broadband units: *These broadband units ARE UNSERVED by 25/3 Broadband service, meaning that no other known Communication Service Provider currently facilitates 25/3 Broadband or faster service to those broadband units.*

Should the grant application be approved, we intend to deploy new fiber optic cable enabling speeds above 100/20 to the areas in red and pink as shown on the map below my signature line.

We currently serve the locations within the red area with DSL which are all limited to top speeds of 20/1 – and most locations only have much lower speeds available. The pink areas are served by another service provider, and we are certain that they don't have 25/3 speeds available. We have 27 people who have called our office from only the pink-shaded areas stating that they want us to deploy fiber optics for faster broadband speeds – and these include a County Supervisor and School Superintendent that live in the pink-shaded areas whose Letters of Support accompanied the application.

Please let me know if you have any further questions or clarifications needed, and I'll answer as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Mike Becker

General Manager

East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative

Ph 319-935-3011

## East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative

*(Attachment A - Coverage Area Map)*

### Winthrop and Quasqueton Exchanges

**GREEN = ACAM Funded; RED = No ACAM Funding;**

**Pink = Expansion to East Buchanan & North Linn School District Families**

