

The cost to build fiber-optic internet in the area is based on a per mileage figure. Part of this figure is driven by what area of an unpaved road the county is willing to permit. Many of the roads in this proposed region are gravel or dirt roads. By permitting the construction along the edge of an unpaved road, as opposed to the back of the right-of-way, the cost of construction can be reduced by approximately \$0.35 per foot. This is the most advantageous and cost-effective way to build in rural areas such as this.

Wapello County Supervisors are willing to commit to permitting construction along the edge of unpaved roads to reduce the cost and time of construction. This concession by the Wapello County Supervisors ensures the construction will result in the most homes covered at a reasonable price/location.

Cost to Build Along The Edge of the Road:	\$1.55
Cost to Build Along the Back of the Road:	\$1.90
Cost Savings (Per Foot):	\$0.35
Total Road Footage in the Proposed Area:	955,425
Total Simplified Permitting Savings:	\$334,399



March 30, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa
200 E Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program – Invitation to Qualify #001 – Broadband Intervention Zones

Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

Cargill-Eddyville is a large food processing plant located in the NW corner of Wapello County. In addition to producing a wide multitude of food ingredients and other products, we employ more than 500 employees at this site. We are also home to three other co-location partners who also contribute greatly to the economic impact of the Eddyville area.

We understand that the Wapello County Supervisors are pursuing an application to designate this area as a “Broadband Intervention Zone” to better support the accessibility of quality internet in the area. As the largest employer in the immediate area, we are committed to advance the possibilities of better and more reliable internet services within this region. We look forward to the possibility of partnering with a provider who can bring the best and most reliable fiber-optic network to southeast Iowa.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant.

Sincerely,
CARGILL, INCORPORATED

A blue ink signature of Jonathan Razink, written in a cursive style.

Jonathan Razink
Facility Manager