

Van Buren County Board of Supervisors
 406 Dodge Street
 Keosauqua, IA 52565



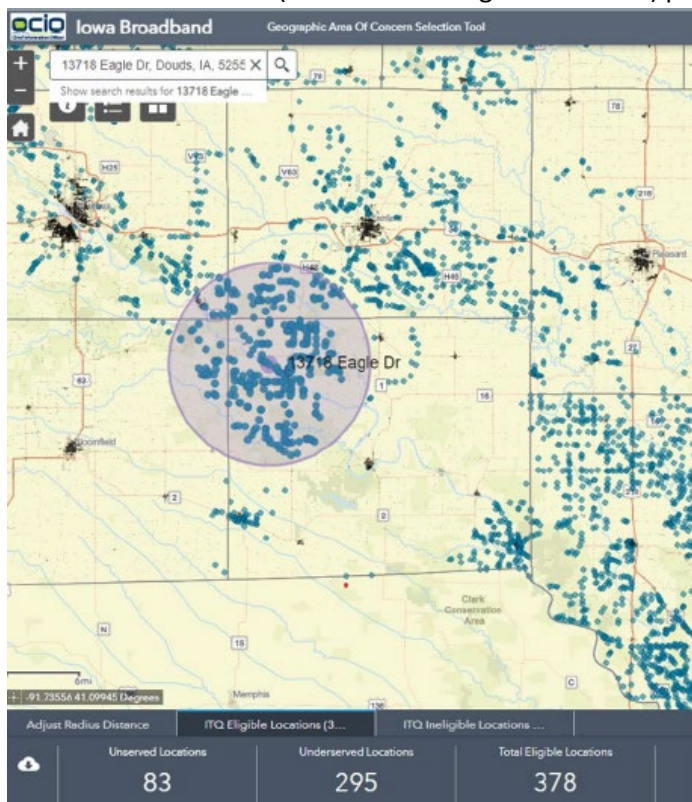
March 10, 2023

To the Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO):

The Van Buren County Board of Supervisors is submitting this application in response to the OCIO Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone. With due diligence and research, the board of supervisors has designated a geographical area of the county that has a severe lack in proper broadband coverage.

The Van Buren County Board of Supervisors believe a Broadband Intervention Zone should be created in the rural areas in and around Douds, Iowa. According to the Iowa Broadband Map v.5, this area lacks adequate broadband to many locations and has not yet received the much needed investment necessary to build a broadband network suitable for our residents to participate in the digital economy of today and the future.

The Intervention Zone we are proposing would have a drastic impact on the number of unserved and underserved locations in our county. The zone includes 83 unserved and 295 underserved businesses and residential homes (a total of 378 eligible locations) presented in the map below:



With many of our constituents in these areas lacking a reliable internet connection, we feel the designation of this Intervention Zone would greatly benefit our local community as a whole. As more businesses move to a virtual work environment, schools and other educational institutions create a more online curriculum, and healthcare providers become more available at the touch of a finger, ensuring there is proper broadband infrastructure in place to facilitate these advancements is vital for our communities, both now and in the future.

Sincerely,

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