



Grants, OCIO &lt;ociogrants@iowa.gov&gt;

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**RE: Request for Clarification - Broadband Grant Program (NOFA #003) - Application #366854**

1 message

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**Levi Bappe** <levi@huxleycommunications.net>  
To: "Grants, OCIO" <ociogrants@iowa.gov>  
Cc: "matt.behrens@iowa.gov" <matt.behrens@iowa.gov>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 4:44 PM

Thanks for the email, as the location that we are looking to expand into with these funds, I am relying on your data that was part of the importing process of the census blocks. I have attached a copy of Exhibit B again showing the blocks that were targeted or not.

However, we were in the planning phases to build out a part of this build this year prior to this grant opportunity, as the customers were all claiming that they could not get 25/3 from any provider, even though the maps said that they could. If I remember right, when I looked at "Connected Nation" maps for part of this, they had listed Mediacom as being there and that they could provide 1GB service. Mediacom has no mainline cable anywhere near these customer (along Sandhill Trail mainly, I have not looked at the entire area). Furthermore, I am not aware of any fixed wireless providers providing service at the 25/3 speeds in this area. I would think that the providers that could would only be the cellular providers (ie Verizon or Us Cellular), even then I am not sure they can get 25/3.

So, to answer the question asked in the email though and to "Certify", I would have to answer the following way:

**Only a portion of this potential project is unserved by 25/3 (in a TSA) and that number comes to 20 across the census blocks that we are building out too. They are the blocks listed on the attachment.**

If we are awarded this money, our original build would expand to pick up more than the 20 that are in the targeted areas. As our original build would connect approximately 60 homes to fiber (capable of providing Gigabit speeds) to the 102 locations that fill out the census block that I have submitted as part of this application. If awarded this grant, we would build to 100% of the locations on this application.

I would further like to thank you and your office for the opportunity to expand our network to pick up more locations than we had originally planned. We have be fielding multiple calls from customer in these locations to supply them better broadband as this pandemic has forced many of the people in this area to work from home, and they have been crippling along mainly using cellular hotspots. Expanding our FTTH network to these blocks will future proof these locations for years to come.

Thanks again for your consideration!

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**From:** [matt.behrens@iowa.gov](mailto:matt.behrens@iowa.gov) <[matt.behrens@iowa.gov](mailto:matt.behrens@iowa.gov)> **On Behalf Of** Grants, OCIO  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 5:34 PM  
**To:** Levi Bappe <[levi@HuxleyCommunications.net](mailto:levi@HuxleyCommunications.net)>  
**Subject:** Request for Clarification - Broadband Grant Program (NOFA #003) - Application #366854

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for submitting a grant application to the State of Iowa Broadband Grants Program - Empower Rural Iowa Initiative (NOFA #003). The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) requests the following clarification concerning the contents of your application.

**Notice of Funding Availability #003** (Section 2.2.6.1.1.3.) requires Applicants 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.**”

Accordingly, your Application identified the total number of broadband units (homes, schools, and businesses) to which new service will be available in Exhibit B (*See “Total Units” column identified under Total Number of HSB’s (i.e. Broadband Units) New Service Will Be Available To as highlighted in yellow in the table below*). As part of your Application you also certified that all broadband units that will be Facilitated with 25/3 Broadband or 100/20 Broadband, as applicable, as a result of your 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.

Project Area	Total Number of HSB's (i.e., Broadband Units) in Project Area	Total Number of HSB's (i.e., Broadband Units) New Service Will Be Available To

Census Block #	TSA Status	County	Sq. Miles	H	S	B	Total Units	H	S	B	Total Units
##	Yes: ##   No: ##	##	##	##	##	##	##	##	##	##	##

As part of its evaluation of Applications, the Office is issuing this request for clarification to confirm one of the following pieces of information: **(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE)**

1. PLEASE CONFIRM that **ALL** broadband units identified in Exhibit B of your Core Application as broadband units to which “New Service Will Be Available To” are not currently served by 25/3 Broadband service currently, meaning that no other known Communication Service Provider currently facilitates 25/3 Broadband or faster service to those broadband units

**OR**

2. PLEASE CONFIRM the number of broadband units in your project area that **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

You are asked to confirm this information by responding to this e-mail and identifying the total number of broadband units in your project that **ARE CURRENTLY UNSERVED** by 25/3 Broadband Service, meaning that no other known Communication Service Provider currently Facilitates 25/3 Broadband or faster service by responding to this e-mail and identifying the total number of broadband units that meet this criteria.

Your response may include additional information or justifications to support your clarification if needed.

Please provide the above-requested clarification(s) by **Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 11:59 PM CST**. Please email your response to [ociogrants@iowa.gov](mailto:ociogrants@iowa.gov). Pursuant to [Notice of Funding Availability #003](#) (section 1.16.11.) an application may be disqualified or rejected when an Applicant fails to respond to the Office’s request for information, documents, or references.

Please let us know if you have any questions about this request for clarification.

Sincerely,  
Office of the Chief Information Officer

 **Exhibit B.pdf**  
156K

