



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

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**Re: Request for Clarification - Broadband Grant Program (NOFA #003) - Application #367965**

1 message

**Kristine Mohning** <kmohning@westelsystems.com>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 4:48 PM

To: "Grants, OCIO" &lt;ociogrants@iowa.gov&gt;, bgannon@westelsystems.com

Dear sirs:

We do hereby confirm that ALL broadband units identified in Exhibit B of our Core Application as broadband units to which "New Service Will Be Available To" are not currently served by 25/3 Broadband service currently, to the best of our knowledge. West Iowa Telephone Company dba WesTel Systems is the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) for the Anita exchange and we currently offer 20/2.5 Broadband service to those units identified in Exhibit B. Our Broadband project is being done in the rural area within our exchange boundaries to facilitate speeds of up to 240 Mbps synchronous utilizing buried fiber. We will have the ability to extend our Broadband fiber offering to targeted areas outside our exchange boundaries, should there be a demand. The attached documents include a map of our project area (in red circles) and a rough outline of our project area (black lines) on the State of Iowa Broadband Availability Map v2, which supports the "New Service Will Be Available To" number of units reported in Exhibit B.

**Kristine Mohning**

Accounting Manager

WesTel Systems

712-786-5563

www.WesTelSystems.com

On 8/18/2020 5:50 PM, Grants, OCIO wrote:

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

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**2 attachments**



**Project Map.pdf**  
174K



**Iowa Broadband Map.pdf**  
106K