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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

7.26.2021

Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa (OCIO)  
200 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Support for the OCIO #6 Rural Southern Allamakee Project

To Whom It May Concern:


Please accept this letter as a support letter for the OCIO #6 Rural Southern Allamakee Project, which will deploy roughly 239 miles of fiber in Southern Allamakee County, the most underserved area of the state of Iowa.

Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative is committed to the residents of northeast Iowa, and we believe that accessible, reliable internet is essential for the growth and future of our region. We support their need for fiber connectivity for telehealth, telework and distance learning.

The total project cost will be approximately \$7,677,524. Allamakee-Clayton is committed to the proposed project and will be contributing a match up to \$3,780,412.

Please see favorably on this application to better serve our safety, health, education, and business needs.

Sincerely,

  
Holley McCormick  
Executive VP/General Manager

OFFICE OF  
**ALLAMAKEE COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**110 ALLAMAKEE STREET****WAUKON, IOWA 52172****PHONE: 563-568-3522****FAX: 563-568-4978**[boardofsupervisors@co.allamakee,ia.us](mailto:boardofsupervisors@co.allamakee,ia.us)**MEMBERS****LARRY SCHELLHAMMER****DAN BYRNES****MARK REISER**

July 20, 2021

Ms. Jessica Turba  
Special Projects Administrator  
Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
200 East Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Rural Waukon– OCIO #6 application

Ms. Turba:

Allamakee County Board of Supervisors believes broadband is essential to economic growth in the 21st century. This became starkly apparent over the past year as the coronavirus pandemic deepened Americans' reliance on the internet. Families need the internet to access essential services, including education and health care, while small businesses and entrepreneurs need it to improve their operations and reach more customers to bring new economic opportunities to left-behind communities. Though many schools and offices are now starting to reopen, the pandemic has illustrated not only that broadband internet access at home will remain an indispensable utility in the future, but also that it's an equity issue.

Rural communities, low-income people, and communities of color experience the highest barriers to broadband access. Those same groups experienced the brunt of the pain from the pandemic and resulting economic recession. Found from the map developed by your office, The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), the map indicates Allamakee County is at the highest percentages in both residents and school districts in Targeted Service Areas in Iowa.

We want our residents and business to flourish. We need this funding to assist our county in economic growth. Please see favorably on this application. Thank you in advance.

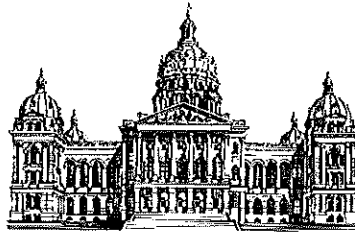
Sincerely,



Larry Schellhammer  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

**Anne Osmundson**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
*Fifty-Sixth District*  
Statehouse: (515) 281-3221  
e-mail – anne.osmundson@legis.iowa.gov

HOME ADDRESS  
11663 Bell Road  
Volga, Iowa 52077



House of Representatives  
State of Iowa  
*Eighty-Ninth General Assembly*  
STATEHOUSE  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

**COMMITTEES**  
Ethics, *Chair*  
Human Resources  
Judiciary  
Ways & Means

**APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**  
Transportation, Infrastructure, and  
Capitals. *Vice Chair*

Ms. Jessica Turba  
Special Projects Administrator  
Office of the Chief Information Officer  
200 E. Grand Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Rural Waukon OCIO #6 application

July 23, 2021

Ms. Turba,

This letter is in recommendation of Allamakee-Clayton Rural Electric Cooperative (ACREC) for a grant to install fiber to homes in southern Allamakee County. We have all been made keenly aware of the importance of high-speed broadband during the COVID pandemic. High speed access has become critical to our daily lives.

ACREC is currently deploying fiber in the Western portion of the city of Waukon and in rural Northern Allamakee county, ensuring customers in the area will have fiber technology available for them to work, play and enrich their lives for many years to come. ACREC is prepared to provide fiber to customers in rural Southern Allamakee County allowing residents better access to healthcare, educational and employment opportunities.

This is truly a shovel ready project that would not be possible to complete at this size and scope without funding from this grant. It is my honor to recommend Allamakee-Clayton Rural Electric Cooperative for this grant and I trust you will find them to be a worthy candidate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Osmundson".

Representative Anne Osmundson  
District 56

July 13, 2021

Ms. Jessica Turba  
Special Projects Administrator  
Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
200 East Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Rural Waukon Fiber Project – OCIO #6 application

To Ms. Turba:

Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission (UERPC) is happy to support the Rural Waukon Fiber Project. As the Iowa Governor has taken high focus on broadband within her Empower Rural Iowa Initiatives. We too at UERPC understand the value of the proposed project. The Fiber will give the residents and businesses alike the right tools to enact meaningful change in their lives. Fiber will allow tele-work, tele-health and distance learning.

UERPC is the administrator for the Northeast Iowa Business Network where the region comes together to collectively build businesses and communities. Without broadband, our region lacks the infrastructure to carry out an economic impact.

Please see favorably on this application and understand the economic impact this project will have on the city of Waukon as well as the region.

Sincerely,



Rachelle Howe  
Executive Director



**Randy Kruger**  
Independent Sale Representative  
for Pioneer® brand products  
1110 Hwy 51  
Waukon, IA 52172  
Phone: (563) 568-7595

July 14, 2021

Special Projects Administrator  
Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
200 East Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Rural Waukon – OCIO #6 application

To Ms. Turba:

I am a current customer of Allamakee Clayton Electric Cooperative's internet services. I am happy to support the Rural Waukon project. Myself and staff utilize high speed services each day to complete our customer orders and communications as well as data collection needed to make the best decisions for our customers regarding their seed needs. Also, the Fiber project will give the residents and businesses within the proposed project area the right tools to carry out their everyday lives.

Please see favorably on the Rural Waukon application and understand the economic impact this project will have on Allamakee County residents and businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Kruger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Randy Kruger

July 15, 2021

Ms. Jessica Turba  
Special Projects Administrator  
Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
200 East Grand Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Rural Waukon Fiber Project – OCIO #6 Application

To Whom It May Concern:

As co-owners of the Forest Mills Quilt Shop, we would like to extend our support to the OCIO Rural Waukon Fiber Project. Our small rural shop depends on reliable service and has received reliable, friendly and more importantly timely service with ACEC.

Forest Mills Quilt Shop sells products not only through its brick-and-mortar store but also on its website and via eBay, so fast, reliable internet is vital to our profitability. We also communicate and promote our events and specials electronically to our customer base.

Please see favorably on this application. Contact us with any questions, at [forestmillsquilts@gmail.com](mailto:forestmillsquilts@gmail.com). Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Clark".

Carolyn Clark

Co-owner

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dianne Rlssman".

Dianne Rlssman

Co-owner

July 15, 2021

Ms. Jessica Turba  
Special Projects Administrator  
Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
200 East Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Rural Waukon Fiber Project – OCIO #6 application

To Whom it May Concern:

As owner of the Empty Nest Winery, I would like to extend my support to the OCIO #6 Rural Waukon Fiber Project. Empty Nest depends on reliable service and has received reliable, friendly, and more importantly timely service with ACEC.

Empty Nest needs reliable fiber for sales, orders and communications. Please see favorably on this application. Contact me with any questions, at [forestmillsquilts@gmail.com](mailto:forestmillsquilts@gmail.com). Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

  
Pam Kruger  
Owner