

July 19, 2021

Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa

200 E. Grand Ave.

Des Moines, IA 50309

Phone (515) 281-5503

RE: Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant Program – NOFA #006

Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

I would like to express my full support of the Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant application for Readlyn Telephone Company's (Readlyn) broadband plan for portions of rural Denver and Waverly would address the lack of adequate broadband Internet access and connectivity to the area. Due to Readlyn's long and successful history of providing state-of-the-art broadband service at modern speeds to other rural communities and their strong reputation for customer service and commitment, I am confident in their capability to enhance broadband service for the residents in my rural area.

As an underserved area with limited Internet services, residents of our rural area are faced with many challenges, such as the ability to receive equitable broadband resources for working from home, school and distance learning, video, farming resources and other tools advanced broadband can deliver.

With the assistance from the broadband grant, Readlyn will be able to enhance our broadband connectivity with a fiber network design. This fiber build will enable us to overcome some of the geographical distances, empower us through information, and bring the world to us through a few simple strokes of a keyboard.

As farmers we use the internet to monitor daily grain prices, keep informed of the latest weather developments, and latest farming information. It is very important to us to have fast reliable internet service. Because current broadband service is so unreliable we have been forced to subscribe to two wireless resources.

We strongly urge the Chief of Information Officer and Review Committee to fund this Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant application, not only will this help with sustaining the future of advanced broadband services in Readlyn's proposed funded service area, but will also promote the future economic stability of our rural community.

Sincerely,

Debra and DuWayne Piphon

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As you are aware the recent pandemic has brought many challenges and changes, and two that affected our household was telecommuting of both school and work. Due to unreliable service during bad weather conditions, we found ourselves frustrated and without options. The broadband that could be offered to us from Readlyn Telephone Company (RTC), would give us a system with reliability for both work and pleasure, along with eliminating our wireless resource which sometimes has poor coverage.

This grant to RTC gives us a sense of both excitement and hope, that we can finally be offered the same accessibility of broadband like residences in towns or heavy populated areas.

We strongly urge the Chief of Information Officer and Review Committee to fund this Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant application, not only will this help with sustaining the future of advanced broadband services in Readlyn's proposed funded service area, but will also promote the future economic stability of our rural community.

Best Regards,

Brent and Yvonne Stock

**Jill Weber**

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**From:** Sharon Huck <manager@readlyntelco.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2021 7:28 AM  
**To:** Jill Weber  
**Subject:** Fwd: Broadband Support Letter

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**ATTENTION:** This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Cool Kid is Cool <[danmanbrandt@gmail.com](mailto:danmanbrandt@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Jul 15, 2021 at 8:16 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Broadband Support Letter  
**To:** Sharon Huck <[manager@readlyntelco.com](mailto:manager@readlyntelco.com)>

07/15/2021

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Due to our rural location Readlyn provides the only available internet service in our area. We rely on it for all of our internet and television needs. Due to poor connectivity we must use 2 separate systems with Readlyn currently and it can run slowly at times.

We strongly urge the Chief of Information Officer and Review Committee to fund this Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant application, not only will this help with sustaining the future of advanced broadband services in Readlyn's proposed funded service area, but will also promote the future economic stability of our rural community.

Sincerely,

Amanda Brandt

Sent from my iPhone

July 14, 2021

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Sincerely,

*Trisha Bahe*