

June 28, 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:

As the superintendent of the Wilton Community School District, I know the importance of expanding access to state-of-the-art broadband services is extremely important. I would like to express my full support of the Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant Application for WTC Communications. They have a long and successful history of providing exceptional communications services within the State of Iowa. WTC Communications has a strong reputation for excellent customer service and commitment.

The Wilton Community School District utilizes broadband connection everyday and greatly enhances learning opportunities for our students in the classroom. Education will continue to evolve, and it is very evident that digital learning will continue to play a crucial role. It is critical for all students in our school district to have access to reliable, high speed Internet. Without advanced broadband, the learning opportunities for a percentage of our students will be greatly limited.

The lack of broadband in underserved communities is a great challenge to our district and has a direct impact on the future success of our students. Due to the rural nature of the area, students do not receive equitable broadband resources as compared to those in more urban areas. With this grant, WTC Communications expansion of fiber broadband will help some of our rural students overcome this obstacle and provide opportunities for research, peer collaboration, distance learning, video and advanced tools.

The Wilton Community School District requires its students to work remotely at times which requires strong broadband connection. We are a one to one school district where every student has a chrome book in which they take home daily to do homework on.

WTC Communications has a long and successful history of providing state-of-the-art broadband service at advanced speeds to other rural communities and has a strong reputation for

community commitment and customer service, I am confident in their capabilities of enhancing broadband service in our school district

Sincerely,
Mr Joe Burnett
1002 Cypress St
Wilton, Iowa 52778
563-732-2035