

CEDAR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Cedar County Courthouse  
400 Cedar Street, Tipton, IA 52772  
Tel 563-886-3168 Fax 563-886-3339  
bos@cedarcounty.iowa.gov  
www.cedarcounty.iowa.gov



CEDAR COUNTY, IOWA

August 15, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa  
200 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
Phone (515) 281-5503

RE: Capital Project Fund - NOFA #8

Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

Cedar County Board of Supervisors is dedicated to strengthening the economic base in Cedar County, Iowa by assisting existing businesses, attracting new investments and jobs, and fostering a business climate favorable for economic growth. While many people might see that as focused more on manufacturing and industrial development, The Cedar County Board of Supervisors takes a much more comprehensive approach to community development, including the consistent drive to enhance internet infrastructure for our business and residents.

The Cedar County Board believes that WTC Communications is a great fit for this project and these funds. They have a long-standing reputation for providing exceptional services and offering cutting edge progressive broadband technology to rural customers. In fact, without their continued desire to serve and grow in Cedar County, many more of our residents would be considered unserved or underserved. We feel confident in supporting their application for this funding because they have done this before and been successful at delivering quality and affordable products. Rural residential customers, businesses, and community anchor institutions deserve the same benefits of broadband as those in urban areas. Although the costs may be substantially higher for installation and service, the demand remains.

During our process to be determined a Broadband Intervention Zone through the State of Iowa, Cedar County worked with WTC Communications to discuss short-term and long-term strategies to accomplish complete coverage of Cedar County households and businesses. As an organization that works across the county, we would like to express our satisfaction with the service and commitment to the community provided by WTC Communications. As Cedar County looks to grow along with the State of Iowa, it's clear that the broadband gaps have to be addressed. As a result, we believe that WTC Communications' service offerings are affordable within their NOFA #008 award community.

Thank you for consideration of their application for financing under the NOFA #008 award. If you have any questions or concerns that The Cedar County Board of Supervisors can address, please reach out via email at [bos@cedarcountry.iowa.gov](mailto:bos@cedarcountry.iowa.gov) or via phone at 563-886-3168.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized 'C' or 'S' shape with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Cedar County Board of Supervisors

**Bobby Kaufmann**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
Statehouse: (515) 281-3221  
e-mail – bobby.kaufmann@legis.iowa.gov

HOME ADDRESS  
1527 330th Street  
Wilton, IA 52778



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

**COMMITTEES**  
State Government, *Chair*  
Government Oversight  
Judiciary  
Ways & Means

**August 24, 2023**

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 #008

Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

I am writing this letter on behalf of WTC Communications. As a resident of Wilton, Iowa, 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 state-of-art communications services within the State of Iowa. WTC Communications has a strong reputation for community commitment and strong customer service. We are confident in WTC Communication's capabilities for enhancing broadband service for those residing in Wilton.

With the assistance from the broadband grant, WTC Communications will be able to enhance our broadband connectivity with a fiber network design. This fiber build will enable us to overcome some geographical distances, empower us through information, and bring the world to us through a few simple strokes of a keyboard. As an unserved rural area with limited access to Internet services, we face many challenges including limited medical resources and distance between patients, physicians, specialists and facilities. Because of the rural nature of our area, our students do not receive equitable broadband resources as other students in more urban learning centers.

I strongly urge the Chief 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 WTC Communication's proposed funded service area, but also promoting the future economic stability of our community.

Sincerely,  
Representative Bobby Kaufmann

Chair – Ways and Means

August 22, 2023

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 #008

Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

I am writing this letter on behalf of WTC Communications. As a resident and business owner of Tipton, Iowa, we would like to express our full support of the Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant application for WTC Communications. We are confident in WTC Communication's capabilities for enhancing broadband service for those residing in Cedar County.

With the assistance from the broadband grant, WTC Communications will be able to enhance our broadband connectivity. Connectivity has become a quality of life for many residents that have school age children, young adults attending colleges and those that operate businesses out of their homes. A reliable internet service provides up to date news, knowledge and communication with others. It is extremely important that broadband grant funding be obtained to access reliable service to our area.

We strongly urge the Chief Information Officer and Review Committee to fund this Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant application. This will not only provide WTC Communications the opportunity for expansion of broadband services in underserved areas but will also help bridge the gap of opportunities between communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carissa Hoekstra". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Carissa" and last name "Hoekstra" clearly distinguishable.

Carissa Hoekstra

Tipton, Iowa

*IOWA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2005-2013*

*SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE  
IOWA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2011-2012*

**Jeff Kaufmann, Ph.D.**  
2125 Old Muscatine Road  
Wilton, Iowa 52778-9259  
563-260-1580  
[jeffkauf@netwtc.net](mailto:jeffkauf@netwtc.net)

*MUSCATINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
PROFESSOR OF HISTORY*

*CEDAR COUNTY BOARD  
OF SUPERVISORS  
Current Member*

August 17, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa  
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant Program – NOFA #008

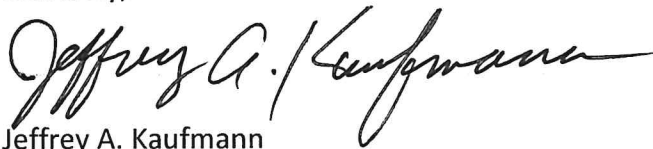
Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

I am writing this letter on behalf of WTC Communications. As a resident of rural Wilton, Iowa, we would like to express our full support of the Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant application for WTC Communications. They have a long and successful history of providing state-of-art communications services within the State of Iowa. WTC Communications has a strong reputation for community commitment and strong customer service. We are confident in WTC Communication's capabilities for enhancing broadband service.

With the assistance from the broadband grant, WTC Communications will be able to enhance our broadband connectivity with a fiber network design. This fiber build will enable us to overcome some geographical distances, empower us through information, and bring the world to us through a few simple strokes of a keyboard. As an unserved rural area with limited access to Internet services, we face many challenges including limited medical resources and distance between patients, physicians, specialists and facilities. Because of the rural nature of our area, our students do not receive equitable broadband resources as other students in more urban learning centers. We lack the ability to engage in distance learning, video and other tools that advanced broadband can bring to our students. Therefore, it is extremely important that broadband grant funding be obtained for much needed broadband service to our area.

We strongly urge the Chief 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 WTC Communication's proposed funded service area, but also promoting the future economic stability of our community.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Kaufmann  
Cedar County Supervisor  
former Speaker Pro Tem, Iowa House of Representatives