

CEDAR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
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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

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 Clarence Telephone/Cedar 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 Clarence Telephone/Cedar 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 Clarence Telephone/Cedar Communications. As Cedar County looks to grow along with the State of Iowa, it's clear that the broadband gaps must be addressed. As a result, we believe that Clarence Telephone/Cedar 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@cedarcounty.iowa.gov](mailto:bos@cedarcounty.iowa.gov) or via phone at 563-886-3168.

Sincerely,

Cedar County Board of Supervisors