



REGION XII

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

August 20, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer
200 E. Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50309

Subject: ITQ Application Number 505762

Region XII Council of Governments, Inc. supports BTC, Inc. d/b/a Western Iowa Networks application to the Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grants Program to provide broadband service to the City of Schleswig and the surrounding area. In serving this area and from our own service experiences, Western Iowa Networks will provide high quality service to this area if awarded funding.

According to the U.S. Census, the Median Family Income for Crawford County is \$64,340 per year. Given that Western Iowa Networks is proposing to provide a 100 Mbps/100 Mbps Internet residential speed package for \$69.99/month; this will be affordable for residents of the area.

Region XII Council of Governments fully supports Western Iowa Networks application as they work to expand broadband service to the region which will improve and increase community and economic development projects and overall quality of life throughout the area.

Sincerely,

Chris Whitaker
Local Assistance Director