

384269 – Marne and Elk Horn Telephone Company - Executive Project Summary

2.2.3.1 Geographic Area

This project is located in the very eastern part of Pottawattamie County south of Interstate 80 at approximately mile marker 40 and continues south to Sycamore Rd crossing over state highway 83 picking up some homes between the communities of Avoca and Walnut, both gravel roads and county highway would be traversed.

2.2.3.2 Primary Deployment Model

We will deploy buried fiber to the home or fiber to the premise utilizing Gigabit over fiber with point to point active Ethernet using a dedicated fiber from a central office to the customer premise.

2.2.3.3. The Completion Date of the Project, including a description of the anticipated project timeline that includes identifying project milestones and corresponding completion dates. As part of the grant administration process, the Applicant will be expected to describe any completed activities related to these milestones and indicate the date that costs were incurred in relation to these milestones.

Example engineering (tasks completed, date costs were incurred (invoiced));

Project Milestone	Est Completion Date	Costs Incurred
Engineering	2/09/21	\$8130.00
Materials Delivered – Payment	5/10/21	\$70,426.00
Construction Labor	6/24/21	\$64,433.00
Construction Labor	7/23/21	\$51,546.40
Final Construction Labor at Completion	8/10/21	\$12,886.60
Construction Management	8/10/21	\$7,280.00

2.2.3.4 The current status of the Project, including the phase it is in, such as pre-planning, planning, or whether building has commenced;

As above this project has been engineered. No construction would commence unless a grant was received.

2.2.3.5. Why State funds are necessary for the Project to proceed, including but not limited to a description of how the Project will or will not proceed if the State funds requested are not ultimately Awarded; and

We have looked at this project multiple times, ultimately it would connect two existing communities we serve via fiber that are approximately 6 miles apart. Unfortunately the area is sparsely populated making the high cost to bury difficult to turn into a positive business case. Not only is the cost per household high the revenue to help pay for the cost is low due to the low population. We have received multiple requests from homeowners asking us to bring fiber. Residents and small business owners cannot get the performance or reliability that is required for distance learning or to work from home using their existing Internet provider. Although we feel burdened to serve these residents if we do not

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receive funding it is not likely to be a project we will undertake. Please see letter of request for service to us from those who live in these census blocks. In the current situation with the pandemic these residents, students and small business owners are severely disadvantaged compared to those who live in communities nearby that are served by fiber.

We have placed a bid for these census blocks with the FCC in Auction 904. At the time of submitting this grant the auction was still ongoing.

2.2.3.6. A general overview of how Applicant has/will comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of Iowa Code section 8B.11, Iowa Administrative Code rule 129—22, and this NOFA

METC intends to comply with the terms, conditions and requirements of Iowa Code section 8B.11, Iowa Administrative Code rule 129-22, and this NOFA. Any funds awarded would go toward only the TSA applied for in this grant and we will provide all locations with at least 100/20 broadband speed.