

November 20th, 2020

To whom it may concern:

My name is Taylor Gingrich, Director of Fixed Operations at Pipho & Gingrich Family Dentistry (PGFD). I am writing this letter on behalf of Shelly Franzenburg and the team at Farmers Cooperative Telephone Company (FCTC) in Dysart. We are thankful for their support to us and our community, especially as their industry becomes increasingly more competitive.

Dysart is a small rural community. As a rural business, we are becoming progressively more reliant on cloud-based services to stay competitive in the industry. Expanding telehealth options for our elderly, video conferencing, and high-resolution imaging are steadily increasing the demand on our networks and requires more support from our providers.

Covid-19 is a challenge facing all communities, especially rural Iowa communities like Dysart. Schools are trending towards hybrid learning, residents are working remotely, and our elderly are becoming reliant on Telehealth to mitigate their risk. These factors impact the overall health of rural Iowa communities, like Dysart. As a community Dysart is poorly positioned to compete with larger communities, so our future is directly tied to expanding our Fiber Optic network, so we can compete on a level playing field.

I appreciate your consideration and support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call, or email me at any time.

Respectfully,

Taylor Gingrich | Director of Fixed Operations

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