

continuity planner and I have been an adjunct professor at the College of St. Mary in Omaha for the past 15 years.

Q. Please describe the Applicant and its business.

A. Great Plains is a Nebraska corporation and a common carrier subject to the jurisdiction of the Nebraska Public Service Commission (“Commission”). Great Plains holds a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by this Commission and operates general telecommunications businesses in Nebraska. The Commission’s September 30, 2013, Annual Report to the Legislature regarding telecommunications shows that as of December 31, 2012, Great Plains served approximately 22,500 voice lines. We currently provide broadband internet services to a majority of Great Plains’ customers.

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. My testimony is provided to support the application filed by Great Plains for funding from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Program (“Application”).

Q. Can you please generally describe the Application?

A. Great Plains applied for funding of the following projects:

1. Bloomfield
2. Cedar Rapids
3. Creighton
4. Crofton
5. Lamar
6. Niobrara
7. Petersburg
8. Stratton
9. Trenton
10. Wisner

Of these projects, I would like to provide specific information regarding the following projects: Bloomfield, Cedar Rapids, Crofton, Niobrara, Petersburg, Stratton, and Trenton (the “Projects”).

Bloomfield - Great Plains will construct facilities and install associated electronic equipment to expand Great Plain’s digital subscriber loop service to rural areas north of Bloomfield and essentially within the area of its Bloomfield Exchange.

Cedar Rapids - Great Plains will construct facilities and install associated electronic equipment to expand Great Plain’s digital subscriber loop service to rural areas essentially within its Cedar Rapids Exchange.

Crofton - Great Plains will construct a fiber route and install associated electronic equipment to expand Great Plain’s digital subscriber loop service to northern areas within the Crofton Exchange.

Niobrara - Great Plains will construct a fiber route and install associated electronic equipment to expand Great Plain’s digital subscriber loop service to rural areas in the Western portion of its Niobrara Exchange.

Petersburg - Great Plains will construct a fiber route and install associated electronic equipment to expand Great Plain’s digital subscriber loop service to rural areas in the Eastern portion of its Petersburg Exchange.

Stratton - Great Plains will construct a fiber route and install associated electronic equipment to expand Great Plain’s digital subscriber loop service to rural areas within its Stratton Exchange.

Trenton - Great Plains will construct a fiber route and install associated electronic equipment to expand Great Plain's digital subscriber loop service to rural areas within its Trenton Exchange.

The projects represent an efficient use of existing facilities and provide a scalable broadband solution that can be expanded in the future. Further, each of the Projects is recommended for funding by the Commission Staff.

Q. Are there additional details and supporting information in the Application?

A. Yes. These details are contained in the Application filed with the Commission. Additionally, Staff requested and was provided additional information to supplement the data provided in the Application.

Q. Do you support the Staff recommendation regarding the Application?

A. Yes. I appreciate the Staff's recommendation to approve the Projects and believe that the Commission should adopt the Staff's recommendations regarding the Projects.

Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

A. Yes.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

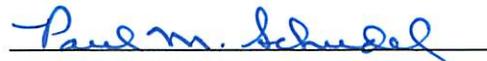
The undersigned hereby certifies that on this 9th day of May, 2014, the original, five copies, and an electronic copy of the foregoing pleading was delivered to:

Nebraska Public Service Commission

Shana Knutson
1200 N Street, Suite 300
Lincoln, NE 68508
Shana.Knutson@nebraska.gov

Raicom, Inc.

apollock@rembolttlawfirm.com



Paul M. Schudel