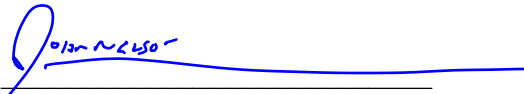


**Nebraska Central Telephone Company
Ashton Village Limits Underserved
Attachment M**

Broadband Data Collection Reporting Explanation

As a broadband service provider, Nebraska Central Telephone Company (NCTC) has participated, as required, in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Broadband Data Collection (BDC) mapping process. The FCC is using the BDC process to collect broadband availability data on a location basis. It has recently come to NCTC's attention that some of the information NCTC submitted to the FCC for both the first and second iteration of the BDC map is inaccurate and resulted in NCTC overreporting broadband availability within certain communities. The issue occurred because NCTC used its mapping software to identify serviceable locations in rural areas by defining a 500-foot buffer around deployed rural fiber. The mainline fiber that serves its rural location originates in central offices in all communities in NCTC's ILEC territory and passes immediately out of town. Although that mainline fiber is not currently capable of serving in-town locations in Ashton, Boelus, Comstock, Elba, Ericson, Hazard, Mason City, North Loup, Rockville, Scotia, or Taylor, the BDC mapping data shows fiber availability at some serviceable locations in all those communities. NCTC regrets that error and is in the process of taking steps to correct the maps. NCTC takes its obligation to submit accurate data to the FCC seriously and is working diligently to rectify the situation. To the extent that NCTC was aware of problems with its first set of BDC data, it has corrected those issues. NCTC is certain that no serviceable locations in this Capital Project Fund (CPF) grant application currently have fiber available, nor receive broadband speeds in excess of 100/20 Mbps. The current data of the FCC's 477 maps accurately reflect the fact that the project area in this grant is underserved as defined in the CPF Order. While we plan to get fiber-to-the-home broadband to each of these locations in the near future, these grant dollars would expedite this buildout timeline and guarantee 1 Gig, fiber-to-the-home broadband services to all of the communities within the next 18 months.

I, John Nelson, President of Nebraska Central Telephone Company, on this 21st day of April, 2023, hereby attests to the accuracy of the information contained in this Attachment M.



John Nelson