

**Nebraska Central Telephone Company
Sargent City Limits Underserved Application Business Plan
Attachment G**

In evaluating the viability of the Sargent City Limits Underserved Broadband Bridge Act (the “Act”) grant application submitted by Nebraska Central Telephone Company (NCTC), the proposed project was scrutinized from a legal, technical, and cost standpoint. That evaluation is bolstered by years of successful deployment and maintenance of financially viable broadband networks in the State of Nebraska by NCTC and its soon-to-be owner Hamilton Telecommunications (Hamilton). As with the existing broadband networks maintained by NCTC and Hamilton, the Sargent City Limits Underserved Application makes good sense in all aspects.

Project Overview

The geographic area of the Sargent City Limits Underserved Act application is all within the city limits of Sargent, Nebraska. Sargent, which has a population of approximately 500 residents is located in Custer County, just north of the Middle Loup River on Highway 183. NCTC provides fiber to Sargent Public Schools. The proposed project, if approved, would deploy fiber broadband internet to every serviceable location in Sargent. In order to complete fiber buildout to all serviceable locations in the community, over four miles of new fiber will be buried and connected to NCTC’s existing fiber network.

The legal challenges of the Sargent City Limits Underserved Application are well understood and manageable.

Because NCTC has an existing broadband network, including fiber, in and around the city of Sargent, NCTC has a good grasp of the legal challenges there. NCTC has had a relationship with the city for a significant period of time and always obtains permission to do work from the city. NCTC also purposefully communicates project timelines to the city, so all stakeholders are in the loop regarding work. As in the past, NCTC will seek approval from the city of Sargent to bury fiber in the community’s right of way. Additionally, there is existing fiber that runs along Highway 183, which is a north/south state highway that bisects Sargent on its east side, there may be a need to obtain additional permitting from the Nebraska Department of Transportation as well. NCTC and Hamilton are well-versed in obtaining the requisite

