

FEBRUARY 19. 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

RE: BROADBAND

The Cuming County Feeders Association voted at their February meeting to write a letter in support of Great Plains Communications expansion of their fiber network to include rural Wisner. Our agricultural businesses are critical to the economy of Cuming County and Nebraska in general and the value of access to quality, high speed internet serve becomes more apparent every day.

Agriculture is the #1 industry in Nebraska and cattle production represents the largest segment of the industry. It's the engine that powers the state's economy with the beef cattle industry having an unmistakable impact on almost everyone in Nebraska.

We are asking the Nebraska Public Service Commission to approve the application of Great Plains Communications exchange for fiber for rural Wisner.

On behalf of the Cuming County Feeders Association,

Debra Hansen Secretary/Treasurer

RESOLUTION 2023-0203 OF THE CUMING COUNTY BOARD

WHEREAS, The Nebraska Legislature passed legislation in 2022 allocating \$80 million for the Capital Projects Fund broadband grant program administered by the Nebraska Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, high-speed broadband access to the Internet is essential to the well-being of residents of rural Wisner in Cuming County, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Great Plains Communications has provided high-quality telecommunications and Internet services to Cuming County and rural Wisner for many years; and

WHEREAS, Great Plains Communications and Cuming County have agreed that an application by Great Plains Communications for the Capital Projects Fund Grant Program funding is essential to the public interest and welfare of residents of rural Wisner in Cuming County; and;

WHEREAS, the rural Wisner exchange served by Great Plains Communications meets the requirements and needs established by the Nebraska Legislature and Nebraska Public Service Commission to qualify as an eligible community for the Capital Projects Fund grant funding; and

WHEREAS, Great Plains Communications and its personnel have demonstrated they have the expertise and resources to construct and operate an all-fiber network in the timeframes required by the State, and to provide affordable and high-quality broadband and voice services to all citizens in the Great Plains Communications exchange for rural Wisner:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cuming County Board strongly supports Great Plains Communications application for a Capital Projects Fund grant administered by the Nebraska Public Service Commission and urges the application be approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notice of this resolution will be sent to the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

Steve Sill. Chairman

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