

January 10, 2024

Kent Ewing Mayor City of Gering PO Box 687 Gering NE 69341

Subject: Seeking Community Feedback on Proposed Broadband Development Project

Mayor Ewing,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that ALLO Communications intends to apply to the Nebraska Public Service Commission for a Capital Projects Fund grant to provide broadband internet service in your community. We are seeking feedback from the City of Gering leadership regarding the proposed project.

Please review the details of the proposed project below and provide feedback via the attached Community Feedback Form to the Public Service Commission no later than March 27, 2024.

**Service Provider:** ALLO Communications

**Project Name:** Wildcat Hills Estates

Description of the Project Area: Gering, NE

## **Description of the Project and Technology to be Used:**

ALLO will provide broadband service to the Wildcat Hills Estates and the Wildcat Hills Nature Center through an all Fiber-to-the-Premise network.

## **Proposed Speed Tiers and Pricing:**

ALLO provides ubiquitous 1+ Gbps service with symmetrical speeds (delivering the same download and upload speeds) to entities including residences, businesses, and government entities. The standard offerings are symmetrical speeds at 500 Mbps (\$69/month), and 1 Gbps (\$98/month).

The proposed project area may also be viewed on the Nebraska Broadband Map, which will be made available on or around January 24, 2024 at

https://psc.nebraska.gov/telecommunications/nebraska-broadband-bridge-program-nbbp.

If you have any questions regarding the proposed project, you may contact;

Clint Schleicher, General Manager for Western Nebraska at <a href="Clint.Schleicher@allofiber.com">Clint.Schleicher@allofiber.com</a>
Jody.Hoops@allofiber.com
Andrew Vinton, Manager of Government and Regulatory Affairs at <a href="Andrew.Vinton@allofiber.com">Andrew.Vinton@allofiber.com</a>

If you have any questions regarding the Capital Projects Funds grant program, please email <a href="mailto:psc.broadband@nebraska.gov">psc.broadband@nebraska.gov</a> or you may contact the Nebraska Public Service Commission Consumer Advocate during regular business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm CT) by calling (402) 471-3101 or toll free in Nebraska at 1 (800) 526-0017.



Sincerely,

Clint Schleicher ALLO Communications

Cc: Nebraska Public Service Commission <a href="mailto:psc.broadband@nebraska.gov">psc.broadband@nebraska.gov</a>

## Memo:

**To:** Clint Schleicher – General Manager ALLO Fiber

From: Gary Shoemaker – Park Superintendent

Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area - Nebraska Game & Parks

RE: Letter of Support for Nebraska Capital Projects Fund Request

## To Whom It May Concern:

As the Park Superintendent for the Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area located about 10 mile South of Gering, Nebraska I am in support of this project request.

Currently our park internet service is not on a fiber- optic network and does not have the capability of high-speed 100/100 MBS. To increase the speed via satellite would jump our monthly bill over \$1000 per month. This is also true at my residence as well. I live and additional 2 miles to the South of the main park. Due to a lack of broadband access on the Southern side of the Wildcat Hills Range the only options I have are Satellite and Cellphone internet service. This also is not ideal as due to weather interference disruptions many times per month we do not have service.

Many of our park educational programs would benefit with greater internet speed. From power point presentations to video communications. With recent changes in technologies our Wildlife game and trail cameras are not compatible with our current system and do not work. We are sitting on over \$13,000.00 of hardware purchased in 2017 that is idle as our internet speed is not up to the level needed.

I am also sure that the neighboring private homes would benefit from the installation of fiber systems in our area. The many homes in the Wildcat Hills Estates would also most likely benefit.

Please count us in on being in support of this project request

Gary Shoemaker

Park Superintendent

Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area

P.O. Box 65 – Gering NE 69341