

Attachment G – Business Plan

ATC has provided internet services to rural homes and farm industry in the proposed project area surrounding the community of Overton, NE since 1998. Even though the facilities have evolved over the decades, the current technology is unable to provide modern broadband services of 25 DL and 3 UL or greater to all locations.

ATC intends to replace existing DLC technology with fiber regeneration cabinets. Transport cards will be installed in the fiber regen sites to backhaul data from a new central office transport platform. From the fiber regen site, ATC will leverage Active Ethernet and GPON fiber technology to provide broadband services to all homes, farms, and ag industry locations within the given geography. ATC will contract the construction of underground mainline fiber and fiber drops. ATC employees will oversee this construction, ensure permits and variances of ROW are obtained, ensure locates of existing infrastructure occur, and complete the installation of all components at each customer premise. Improvements planned within the study area will collapse aging equipment and facilities. This will streamline the ability of the company to support the rural locations while also modernizing the services offered. One advantage of fiber service delivery will reduce the number of remote electronic cabinets. Having fewer remote cabinets will improve the company's ability to ensure service uptime.

The project area is within ATC Communications Exchange boundaries and has been partially funded by the ACAM II model. Census blocks within the project area forecast investment costs that significantly exceed ACAM II model funding, if the given census areas were funded at all. Through this application, ATC proposes to deploy fiber to the home throughout the project area with the assistance of LB388 grant funds, matching ACAM support, and internal financing.

The project area is approximately 112 square miles. Existing copper-based facilities will be retired. Locations within the project area will have access to broadband connections capable of 100 Mbps DL and 100 Mbps UL or greater. Within the project boundary are census blocks that constitute a high percentage of build costs per location. ATC has outlined the highest cost census areas and approximately five locations that are currently served with less than 25 Mbps DL and 3 Mbps UL. An additional 25 locations have access to service, but the technology deployed cannot reach speeds of 100 Mbps and 20 Mbps UL. If awarded, ATC intends to complete this project in the next 18-months, accelerating the current timetable of the project to completion in 2023 by employing additional contracted construction.

ACAM II model allowed discretion in determining deployment technology. ATC Communications enacted policy in the redesign and subsequent construction of an all-fiber network for our broadband network in the Overton Exchange. LB388 grant funds will be used to fulfill this vision and leave no rural location without service as underscored by the many unfunded rural ACAM II census blocks nor with technology that cannot meet modern broadband service demands.