**Seeking Community Feedback on Proposed Broadband Deployment Project**

Windstream Nebraska, Inc. (“Windstream”) intends to submit an application to the Nebraska Public Service Commission for a Capital Projects Fund grant to expand fiber broadband service in Butler County. Windstream’s Kinetic fiber internet service offers:

* Ability to access broadband speeds up to 1 Gig;
* Equally fast upload and download speeds;
* Stronger connections when multiple devices are accessing Wi-Fi;
* Smoother, clearer streaming, gaming and surfing; and
* Less time downloading, loading and buffering.

Below, please find the details of the proposed project. We are seeking your feedback, which can be provided via the attached Community Feedback Form. Please submit your feedback to the Public Service Commission **no later than April 24, 2023**.

* **Service Provider Name:** Windstream Nebraska, Inc.
* **Project Name:** CPF 23-Brainard
* **Description of the Project Area:** Approximately 70 underserved locations in and around the boundaries of Windstream’s exchange in Brainard (see attached map).
* **Description of the Project and Technology to be Used:** Windstream proposes to deploy a fiber broadband network to locations in and around its Brainard, NE exchange, and the project would be fully funded by a grant from the 2023 Nebraska Capital Projects Fund Program. The network expansion would support fiber to the premises technology to almost 70 currently underserved locations. Windstream expects the project to cost approximately $3.0 Million. The project will bring 1 Gig symmetrical speeds to the households in the area, surpassing the program requirement of 100 Mbps download/100 Mbps upload and positioning the area for future speed upgrades ranging from 2.5 Gig to 10 Gig.
* **Proposed Pricing and Tiers:** Windstream currently offers 500 Mbps symmetrical service for $64.99 per month, and 1 Gigabit symmetrical service for $94.99 per month. Should Windstream be awarded the funds, it commits to offer a service plan for less than $50 per month for 100 Mbps symmetrical service to low-income subscribers in the project area who qualify for Federal Lifeline assistance or the FCC’s Affordable Connectivity Program. Windstream does not require annual contracts; impose data caps or overage charges, nor does it engage in speed throttling. Windstream also does not charge early termination fees or offer “metered” pay as you go plans. Windstream does charge a monthly equipment fee for its modems.

On or around March 3, 2023, the proposed project area may be viewed on the Nebraska Broadband Map: [https://psc.nebraska.gov/telecommunications/nebraska-broadband-bridge-program-nbbp.](https://psc.nebraska.gov/telecommunications/nebraska-broadband-bridge-program-nbbp)

If you have questions regarding the proposed project, please contact me by phone at 501-748-5876 or by email at david.avery@windstream.com.

If you have questions regarding the Capital Projects Fund grant program, please e-mail psc.broadband@nebraska.gov or you may contact the Nebraska Public Service Commission Consumer Advocate during regular business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. CT) by calling 402-471-3101 or toll free in Nebraska at 1-800-526-0017.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve your area and expand fiber broadband service to additional residents and businesses.

Sincerely,

David Avery

Vice President-Government Affairs

Cc: Nebraska Public Service Commission psc.broadband@nebraska.gov