

WINSTREAM NEBRASKA, INC.

NUSF-99 PRICE CAP APPLICATION – COLON EXCHANGE

**Checklist Item No. 1:**

A description of the proposed broadband project including download/upload speed capabilities which can be provided and a description of the proposed network infrastructure to be deployed. Minimum speed standards should be 4 mbps download and 1 mbps upload.

Windstream's Response:

Windstream submits the following project for the Commission's consideration of NUSF-99 broadband funding, to be constructed upon funding approval, using funding available from the 2016 and 2017 funding allocation.

- Fixed Wireless to serve the Western side of the Cedar Bluffs and Colon, NE ILEC Exchanges (Partial funding requested)

The Central Offices for these exchanges are currently connected with interoffice fiber facilities. Customers within reach of the office are qualified for 4Mbps down / 1Mbps upload broadband or better (up to 100Mbps), depending on the copper loop length from the equipment. This project intends to address those customers in the Western area of the exchanges that have exceptionally long loop lengths, and therefore are not broadband qualified, by providing a Fixed Wireless solution.

- The project will place 2 sites, one at the Cedar Bluffs Central Office and another remote Base Station approximately 4 miles Southwest of the Cedar Bluffs Central Office.
- The remote Base Station will provide the broadband connection to the customers, and have wireless backhaul to the Central Office location.

These network upgrades will enable a network capable of minimum speeds of 10Mbps download and 1Mbps upload for all impacted customers, and depending upon the distance from the remote Base Station, much faster speeds (up to 100Mbps) will be available.

Windstream projects the total deployment costs for this project is \$156,415 and Windstream is requesting Nebraska Universal Service Funding of \$87,777, the difference between the total project costs and the requested funding is because Windstream is not seeking funding for the areas funded by the FCC's Connect America Fund Phase 2 program and areas with a wireline competitor. Windstream is requesting that the funding for this project be applied against the remaining 2016 and 2017 funds allotted to Windstream.

**Checklist Item No. 2:**

A list in Excel Format of all the census blocks where broadband facilities would be deployed for the proposed project, which shall include 2010 Census Block identification number of service area, by project.

Windstream's Response:

See Attached Checklist Item #2.

**Checklist Item No. 3:**

An estimate of the number of potential new broadband subscribers for each project.

Windstream's Response:

See Attached Checklist Item #3

**Checklist Item No. 4:**

An estimated schedule for broadband deployment.

Windstream Response:

Upon approval of the application, the deployment schedule will be as indicated in the Attached Checklist Item #4 with the caveat that given the time of year, construction may be delayed due to weather conditions.

**Checklist Item No. 5:**

A proposed budget, showing total project costs, in electronic format, with a detailed breakdown of the cost elements and a depreciation schedule showing the life of the investment.

Windstream Response:

Please see Attached Checklist Item #5 which also includes the depreciation schedule showing the life of investment for the major plant categories associated with these projects.

**Checklist Item No. 6:**

Proposed retail pricing, including both monthly recurring costs and nonrecurring costs for the new broadband service(s) to be offered. At a minimum the pricing should reflect the stand alone price for the speeds to be offered to the customer.

Windstream Response:

Attached Checklist Item #6 provides a listing of the retail pricing for the broadband services Windstream will be offering in the proposed service areas. This price list is consistent with Windstream pricing for similar services in other Nebraska exchanges.

**Checklist Item No. 7:**

The company's commitment to offer broadband services to all households within the service area of the project for a minimum of five (5) years.

Windstream Response:

If approved for funding, Windstream commits to offer broadband service to all households within the service area of the project for a minimum of five (5) years.

**Checklist Item No. 8:**

An affidavit from the company attesting 1) (a) that the area of the proposed project is a CAF II eligible area and have not refused CAF II funding, or (b) that the area of the proposed project is ineligible for CAF II funding. 2) That the company has done its due diligence to verify that comparable broadband does not already exist in the area of the proposed project. 3) The truth and accuracy of all information included in the project filing.

Windstream Response:

The Affidavit of Brad A. Brannon is provided in Attached Checklist Item #8.