BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to Administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund's Broadband Program: Application to the Nebraska Broadband Program Received from NebraskaLink Holdings, LLC Application No. NUSF-92.31 PUBLIC VERSION

PRE-FILED REPLY TESTIMONY
OF BRAD HEDRICK

Q. Please state your name and business address.
A. My name is Brad Hedrick. My business address is 1440 M Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.

Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
A. I am employed by Windstream as its Division Vice President, Field Operations, for a seven-state region that includes the State of Nebraska.

Q. On whose behalf are you testifying in this proceeding?
A. I am testifying on behalf of Windstream. My educational background and professional experience is fully described in the pre-filed direct testimony I filed in support of Windstream's Joint Request with the Center for People in Need (Subdocket NUSF-92.41).

Q. Please summarize the topics you will cover in your testimony?
A. In my testimony I address the current broadband service that Windstream provides to the Lincoln City Libraries, the capabilities that Windstream has to provide enhanced services to the Lincoln City Libraries, and the estimated cost for Windstream to do so.
Q. Does Windstream currently provide broadband service to the Lincoln City Libraries?
A: Yes, Windstream currently provides broadband service to all of the following Lincoln library branches: Dan A. Williams Branch Library, Bennett Martin Public Library, Victor E. Anderson Branch Library, Bethany Branch Library, Loren Cory Eisley Branch Library, Charles H. Gere Branch Library, South Branch Library, and the Bess Dodson Walt Library (collectively the "Lincoln City Libraries").

Q. Please describe the broadband service Windstream currently provides to the Lincoln City Libraries.
A: Windstream provides Ethernet services to the Lincoln City Libraries, most of which have purchased data services at speeds of 10Mb. The Bennett Martin Public Library has 20Mb available.

Q. Has the Lincoln City Libraries' administrator approached Windstream about upgrading the service Windstream currently provides?
A: No. Nor is Windstream aware of any public notice regarding upgrades or an open bidding process to address the sought-after upgrades.

Q: Have you reviewed NebraskaLink's proposal to construct a fiber network connecting the Lincoln City Libraries?
A: Yes.
In other words, absent from the NebraskaLink application are the details of the proposed network design, the facilities to be constructed, and the rates, terms and conditions for services to the libraries.

Q. **Has Windstream estimated the cost for it to provide fiber connectivity to all of the Lincoln City Libraries’ locations?**

A: Yes. Attached to my testimony as CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit "A" is Windstream’s estimate.

Q. **What construction/installation work would be required for Windstream to make such upgrades?**

A. Attached to my testimony as CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit "B" is a map of Windstream’s existing fiber network in Lincoln. Windstream has fiber already in place very near to the Lincoln City Libraries physical locations. For the most part, Windstream’s existing fiber is closer to the Lincoln City Libraries physical locations than NebraskaLink’s fiber, as shown in the map attached to NebraskaLink’s Application.
Q. How does the cost reflected in Windstream's estimate compare to the NebraskaLink proposal?

A: Windstream is capable of constructing fiber connections for a cost of [Redacted] of the cost shown in NebraskaLink's proposal. As I've already indicated, what and where exactly NebraskaLink proposes to construct, and the rates, terms and conditions for its proposed services, are not spelled out in its application. That lack of information hinders a more detailed comparison.

Q. Is the amount of fiber NebraskaLink describes in its application necessary to meet the data transmission needs of the Lincoln City Libraries and only the Lincoln City Libraries?

A. That is a very difficult question to answer because of the information gaps I have described with the NebraskaLink application. [Redacted] for which funding is sought can and will be used for for-profit, commercial purposes as opposed to the purposes described in NebraskaLink's application.
Q. Could Windstream provide the Lincoln City Libraries with connectivity to Network Nebraska?

A. Yes, it could. Windstream already provides services to, and has connection points with, Network Nebraska and could readily provide connectivity.

Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony at this time?

A. Yes.
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<th>Address</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<td>5000 Mike School St.</td>
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<td>Bennett Martin</td>
<td>136 S. 14th St.</td>
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CONFIDENTIAL

EXHIBIT "A"