

WINSTREAM NEBRASKA, INC.

NUSF-99 PRICE CAP APPLICATION – ASHLAND EXCHANGE 3B

**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 2017 funding allocation.

- Fiber fed DSLAM to serve a portion of the Eastern area of the Ashland, NE ILEC Exchange (partial funding requested)

This area of the Ashland Exchange is not currently offered broadband service above 4Mbps. This project intends to address these customers by placing a fiber fed DSLAM within an appropriate distance to provide a minimum of 25Mbps up to 100Mbps download speeds.

- The project will place one DSLAM site at a remote location approximately 2.25 miles east of the Central Office, along with fiber cable placed to the nearest available connection on an existing fiber route.
- The remote DSLAM will provide the broadband connection to the customers, and have fiber backhaul to the Central Office location.

Windstream projects the total deployment costs for this project is \$78,856 and Windstream is requesting Nebraska Universal Service Funding of \$57,350, not including ROW and IDC. 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, areas where Windstream already provides broadband service up to 10Mbps download speeds, or areas where a terrestrial competitor already provides broadband service up to 10Mbps download speeds. Windstream is requesting that the funding for this project be applied against the remaining 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:

Windstream stands ready to begin project work immediately upon approval of the application, the deployment schedule will be as indicated in the Attached Checklist Item #4.

**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:

Due to the challenges of working remotely in response to the Covid-19 virus, Windstream will provide the affidavit upon request at a future date.

CHECK LIST #2 CENSUS BLOCKS - ASHLAND EXCHANGE 3B

Criteria for Determining NUSF Eligibility for Census Blocks in Priority Order for Projects Using DSLAM Technology:

- 1) If Census Block is CAF 2 - Not Eligible
- 2) If Census Block has Wireline Competitor with at least 10/1 broadband - Not Eligible
- 3) If Census Block Wireline Competitor is a Neighboring ILEC Sharing Service in the Census Block - Eligible
- 4) If Census Block has a Fixed Wireless Competitor with at least 10/1 Broadband but Does Not Provide Voice - Eligible
- 5) If Census Block has a Fixed Wireless Competitor that receives federal USF - Eligible
- 6) If proposal is for a wireline solution, then Fixed Wireless census blocks are counted - Eligible

Census Blocks	CAF 2 and Form 477 Status	Is Wireline Competitor a Neighboring ILEC?	Does Fixed Wireless Competitor Qualify as Competitor? *	NUSF Eligibility
310259658002014	CAF2	N	N	CAF2
311559685002002	CAF2	N	N	CAF2
310259658002013	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
310259658002018	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
310259658002019	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
310259658002021	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
310259658002259	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
310259658002260	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002003	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002004	WIN Only	N	N	WIN Only
311559685002006	WIN Only	N	N	WIN Only
311559684002235	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559684002236	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559684002239	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002000	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002001	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002005	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002007	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002101	WIN Only	N	N	WIN Only
311559685002104	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002105	Competition - FW	N	N	NE BB Eligible
311559685002106	WIN Only	N	N	WIN Only

Summary	# Census Blocks	%
CAF2	2	9.1%
NE BB Eligible	16	72.7%
Competition - FW	0	0.0%
Competition - Other	0	0.0%
WIN Only	4	18.2%
Total	22	100.0%
Eligible for Funding	16	72.7%

Footnote:

\* All of the fixed wireless providers that reflect service in these census blocks per the FCC Form 477 data do not qualify as a competitor for NUSF eligibility purposes. The fixed wireless providers either do not provide voice service, do not provide broadband speeds greater than or equal to 10/1 or receive Federal USF support.

Check List #3 Subscribers - ASHLAND EXCHANGE 3B

Exchange	# Locations in Deployment Area
Ashland	55

Estimated Broadband Take Rate                      50%  
New Broadband Subscribers                              28

50% Take Rate assumption is likely low since broadband is generally not available due to long loop lengths

**Checklist Item #4 Estimated Schedule – ASHLAND EXCHANGE 3B**

Proposed Schedule: Total time for project is 120 to 150 days:

	<u>DSLAM Site</u>
Engineering design & approval	30 Calendar Days
Permitting & material acquisition	30 Calendar Days
Equipment deployment, testing, and turn-up	60 to 90 Calendar Days

Schedule is subject to seasonal limitations regarding when construction can commence or be completed.

Check List #5 Budget & Depreciation - ASHLAND EXCHANGE 3B

**Budget**

**Fiber Build**

Item	Labor	Material	Item Total	Quantity	Mat Total	Total	Notes
Fiber Buildout	\$44,359	\$19,011	\$63,370	1	\$19,011	\$63,370	Placement of 9750 ft of fiber cable
Site Work	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$5,000	1	\$1,000	\$5,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$48,359</b>	<b>\$20,011</b>			<b>\$20,011</b>	<b>\$68,370</b>	

**Remote Site**

Item	Labor	Material	Item Total	Quantity	Mat Total	Total	Notes
Remote Equipment	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$7,500	1	\$5,000	\$7,500	TA1148VXPs AC powered
CWDM	\$700	\$500	\$1,200	1	\$500	\$1,200	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,200</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>			<b>\$5,500</b>	<b>\$8,700</b>	

**Grand Total**                     **\$51,559**   **\$25,511**                                     **\$25,511**   **\$77,070**

Tax                                     \$25,511   7.0%   \$1,786

**Excluded Costs**

ROW                                     \$0           0   \$0

IDC                                     \$25,511   5.0%   \$1,276

**Total Project Costs**   **\$78,856**

**% of Eligible Census Blocks from Checklist #2**   **73%**

**Requested Funding Amount**   **\$57,350**

**Depreciation Lives**

	<b>Life in Years</b>
Digital Circuit - ADSL	8
Poles	25
Buried Cable - Fiberoptic	25

**Check List #6 Pricing - ASHLAND EXCHANGE 3B**

**Price for Internet Only (HSI Simple or Solo Internet)**

Speed		Standard Price	Current Promo	Net Price
Up to 25Mb		\$45	\$8 off for 12 months	\$37
50Mb		\$45	\$8 off for 12 months	\$37
100Mb		\$45	\$8 off for 12 months	\$37

**Price for Internet + Bundle Phone Adder**

Speed		Standard Price	Current Promo	Net Price
Up to 25Mb		\$65	\$8 off for 12 months	\$57
50Mb		\$65	\$8 off for 12 months	\$57
100Mb		\$65	\$8 off for 12 months	\$57

\$50 Activation Fee and Free Professional Installation