**Qualifications and Experience**

Our executive leadership is a group of seasoned telecommunications professionals committed to building a team of employees dedicated to the people they serve, to exceeding customer expectations by providing the best network and customer service, and to driving results not only for our company but for the customers and communities that are part of the Windstream family.

In 2021 our company was recognized by cNET as the Best Rural Internet Service Provider. Windstream is an annual supporter of the Nebraska BRIDGE Program and last year was awarded funding for 12 projects across our footprint in the state.

In pursuing our commitment to deliver more speed and more possibilities to more people, Kinetic is investing $2 billion to deploy fiber-fast connectivity deeper into communities across the county.

In Nebraska alone, Windstream has a robust Field Operations team that currently consists of 168 employees. This team includes management and field technicians. In addition to Field Operations team, we have an Outside Plant Engineering team that consists of 22 employees. This team includes management, engineers, project managers, and analysts.

We recently created a new engineering and fiber construction organization to manage broadband expansion across our footprint. This commitment includes plans to add nearly 1,000 jobs as we work toward the future with the communities we serve. By having the option to control construction internally or contract it out as needed, we are better be able to manage costs and scale. We can also respond quickly to changes in market needs.

Our expertise extends beyond the executive, technical and operational. We are also experienced at identifying locations in need of improved broadband services, securing grant agreements, and satisfying build requirements for local, state, and federal network communications construction projects.

The company has a track record of successful fiber broadband deployments in the 18 states where Windstream operates a local broadband provider. They are experienced at identifying locations in need of improved broadband services, securing grant agreements, and satisfying build requirements for local, state, and federal network communications construction projects. In 2020 alone, Windstream participated in programs across nine states, as well as national programs such as CAF2 and the recent RDOF auction. The company had a solid history of using internal and contract resources as needed on deployment projects. As of year-end 2020, Windstream offered service to more than four million locations across its coverage area.

Kinetic, by Windstream (Windstream’s residential and small/medium business division) has a long history of partnering with and exceeding expectations of the government to further broadband speeds across rural America. The state and county level programs that Kinetic participated in last year will see roughly 14,000 locations receive upgraded broadband speeds. All of these in areas that counties, states, or the federal programs deemed most in need.

