## VILLAGE OF EAGLE

**INCORPORATED 1891** 

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June 20, 2022

Nebraska Public Service Commission C/o Cullen Robbins 1200 N Street, Suite 300 Lincoln, NE 68508

On behalf of the Village of Eagle, we thank you for the opportunity to submit our views regarding the critical need for expanded broadband service in and around our community.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought to light that broadband has become an essential service to modern life. This public health and economic crisis showed us that everyone deserves access to broadband service for work, education, health care, news and information, and access to critical government services and programs.

As just one example, during the height of the pandemic, Governor Ricketts issued executive orders to allow municipalities the ability to meet with the public in a digital platform. While this method of having public meetings was critical in helping slow the spread of the coronavirus, there were many households in and around our community that were unable to participate due to inadequate internet connectivity.

As we move forward into the future, and as the pandemic wanes, we have learned that broadband service will continue to be a critical need for everyone. It provides telemedicine to seniors and veterans, allows children the ability to learn at home, and creates immediate and long-lasting economic benefits to a community.

On behalf of the Eagle Board of Trustees, we sincerely thank you for considering Windstream's proposal to build broadband service in Eagle as part of the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program.

Sincerely,

Nick Nystrom, CMC Village Clerk Treasurer

