Grant Request Number	GRN-001447
Funding Program Name	Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program
Funding Request Name	Omaha Tribe of Nebraska - Middle Mile - GRN-001447
Applying Organization	Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Applicant Name	Mike Grant

Primary Applicant Type

Identify the primary applicant type:

Single Entity
———
Primary Entity Type

Type of entity: Primary entity type, (A) a State, political subdivision of a State, Tribal government, technology company, electric utility, utility cooperative, public utility district, telecommunications company, telecommunications cooperative, nonprofit foundation, nonprofit corporation, nonprofit institution, nonprofit association, regional planning council, Native entity, or economic development authority; or (B) a partnership of two (2) or more entities described in (A).

What is the primary applicant's entity type?

Tribal government
———
Is parent/owner of applicant a foreign entity?

No
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Alan Berrey; Evolve Cellular; Product definition and implementation;
aberrey@evolvecellular.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Alan_Berrey
———

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Brian DeHaven; USFON Inc and Quick Connect-Nebraska LLC via Evolve Cellular Inc.; Middle-Mile Network design and Project Management; brian@usfon.org
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Brian_DeHaven
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Greg Stevens; Evolve Cellular; Network core design and implementation, software development and technical project lead; gstevens@evolvecellular.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Greg_Stevens
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Janelle Allison; Great Plains Communications; Great Plains is the largest contractor of the project and will build a majority of the fiber network while also training Quick Current-Nebraska and Iowa - who will build a minority of the network but will maintain and operate the entire network when finished; jallison@gpcom.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Janelle_Allison
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - LeAnder Merrick; Omaha Tribe of Nebraska; Chairman; leander.merrick@theomahatribe.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_LeAnder_Merrick
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Lowell Feldman; Omaha Tribe of Nebraska; Manager - Quick Current LLC (co-applicant); lowell@qcbroadband.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Lowell_Feldman
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Mike Grant; Omaha Tribe of Nebraska; Tribal Planner and Manager of co-applicant Quick Current LLC; grant@qcbroadband.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Mike_Grant
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Rich Lewis; Evolve Cellular; CFO - implementing necessary financial controls and financial modeling and reporting; rlewis@evolvecellular.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Rich_Lewis
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles

in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Scott Foster; Evolve Cellular; IP network and collocation implementation and operations; sfoster@evolvecellular.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Scott_Foster
———
Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Shannon Chevier; Evolve Cellular; Authorized person for Quick Current LLC; shannon@evolvecellular.com
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Shannon_Chevier
———
Organizational Charts

Each applicant shall submit any necessary organizational chart(s) detailing all of its parent companies, subsidiaries, and affiliates.
This upload section should also be used for any letters of support from the organizations that will be involved in the project as a community stakeholder.

03 - Org Chart and Support Letters-09-30-2022 03-29-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
———
Organizational Details

Each applicant must also provide a narrative describing the applicant's readiness to manage a middle mile broadband network. This narrative should describe the experience and qualifications of key management set to undertake this project, the applicant's experience undertaking projects of similar size and scope, recent and upcoming organizational changes including mergers and acquisitions, relevant organizational policies, and ownership information consistent with 47 CFR § 1.2112.

This narrative shall denote who will own the assets at the end of award period. This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

AMENDMENT 2023-04-10
"47 CFR § 1.2112 (a) (1) List Real Parties of Interest in the Applicant or Application: Tribe: The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska (FRN: 0029196250)
Companies: Quick Current LLC (FRN 0032882409), Quick Current-Iowa LLC (FRN 0032882441), Quick

Current-Nebraska LLC (FRN 0032882649), Evolve Cellular Inc. (FRN 0017249558)
People: Lowell Feldman, LeAnder Merrick
47 CFR § 1.2112 (a) (2) List Ownership of Applicant(s):
(Applicant 1) The Omaha tribe of Nebraska is a federally recognized tribe. (Co-applicant) Quick Current LLC is 100% owned by the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
47 CFR § 1.2112 (a) (3) Not Applicable
47 CFR § 1.2112 (a) (4) Not Applicable
47 CFR § 1.2112 (a) (5) Applicant 1) The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska is a federally recognized tribe. (Co-applicant) Quick Current LLC is 100% owned by the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska. The Address of both Quick Current LLC and The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska is 101 Main Street, Macy, Nebraska 68039
47 CFR § 1.2112 (a) (6) Not Applicable
47 CFR § 1.2112 (a) (7) Quick Current-Iowa LLC (FRN 0032882441) has a pending long form application at the FCC 0010206640 for multiple BRS (2.5 GHz Band 41/N41) Spectrum Licenses in Iowa. It is owned 80% by Quick Current LLC and 20% by Evolve Cellular Inc. It will be both a CLEC and a Mobile Network Operator and will commence operations after the FCC assigns the licenses and the call signs associated with the licenses.
Quick Current-Nebraska LLC (FRN 0032882649) has a pending long form application at the FCC 0010206561 for multiple BRS (2.5 GHz Band 41/N41) Spectrum Licenses in Nebraska. It is owned 80% by Quick Current LLC and 20% by Evolve Cellular Inc. It will be both a CLEC and a Mobile Network Operator and will commence operations after the FCC assigns the licenses and the call signs associated with the licenses.
Evolve Cellular Inc. (FRN 0017249558) has been a Mobile Network Operator with licensed spectrum for over a decade. It also has a pending long form application at the FCC 0010205559 for multiple BRS (2.5 GHz Band 41/N41) Spectrum Licenses in Texas and Nevada. Lowell Feldman owns 39% of Evolve Cellular Inc.
OWNERSHIP STATEMENT
To the degree deemed appropriate by regulatory experts, Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC will own and maintain assets in Right of Way such as fiber and related network infrastructure. All other assets will be owned by Quick Current LLC which is a 100% owned tribal entity. When Quick Current-Nebraska or Iowa do own infrastructure, a use agreement, such as an IRU for the fiber strands, shall be created between Quick Current-Nebraska and Quick Current LLC so that as much economic value of the asset as possible will be maintained in Quick Current LLC.
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ORIGINAL Narrative
Following the best practices of other tribal entities, The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska has created a 100% Tribally owned subsidiary called Quick Current LLC to implement and manage the grant if awarded. Quick Current LLC has created two operating subsidiaries called Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC which will build up its own workforce during the implementation phase and will be able to sustainably operate the resulting network and, will each also become a last mile retail provider of services. These operating subsidiaries are 80% owned by Quick Current LLC and 20% owned by Evolve Cellular Inc.

Lowell Feldman, who is CEO of Evolve Cellular and LeAnder Merrick, who is Chairman of The Omaha Tribe are the Member Managers of Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC via the LLC Operating Agreements.
Quick Current LLC is managed by the Tribe under its operating agreement and by Tribal resolutions has authorized Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Lowell Feldman to be the Authorized Person and Manager for this and other Grant Applications.
The importance of Evolve Cellular Inc. and CEO Mr. Lowell Feldman cannot be understated.
Evolve Cellular Inc. will provide the initial operating expertise needed by the Quick Current family of companies. This includes appropriate financial controls, and a wealth of experience in building and maintaining rural networks of similar scope. The resumes of the key personnel Shannon Chevier, Rich Lewis, Alan Berrey, Greg Stevens and Scott Foster who will manage this project are also included.
USFON Inc., who is a contract recipient, was initially created by law school students of Mr. Feldman when he was a professor at the University of Texas School of Law. For over a decade USFON, under its President Brian DeHaven, has operated a middle mile fiber network connecting Austin, Houston, Dallas and Ft. Worth to benefit rural service providers and university and other school networks. As a non-profit, USFON has also been a key contributor to other middle mile networks and has in fact designed prototype networks that have become their own middle-mile providers, such as BVCOG in Texas.
Quick Current LLC has contracted with USFON and its President, Brian DeHaven, to provide the design of this application's Middle Mile network and has received a commitment from Mr. DeHaven to continue to help operate Quick Current LLC and advise their subsidiary companies and to develop and train the prospective employees of the Quick Current family of companies.
Evolve Cellular and its CEO Lowell Feldman also relied on its industry expertise to sub-contract with the largest regional fiber/middle mile company in the region, Great Plains Communications and their COO Janelle Allison have agreed to a unique relationship that makes our application shovel ready with the most experienced company in the region, but also allows the Omaha Tribe to build its own workforce in our own operating companies. After the appropriate on-the-job apprenticeship under Great Plains, both Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC will be fully capable of maintaining and even sustainably growing the network envisioned by this application.
———

Form CD-511 (Certification Regarding Lobbying)

The applicant must upload a completed form that certifies that Federal funds have not and will not be used for lobbying in connection with this request for Federal financial assistance. A fillable Form CD-511 can be found in the MMG ZIP folder.

CD511-09-26-2022 02-38-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf, CD511-updated 02-16-2023 02-38-Omaha Tribe of-02-16-2023 08-43-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
———

Standard Form-LLL (Disclosure of Lobbying Activities)

Standard Form-LLL must be completed and submitted for those applicants that need to disclose

lobbying activities that have been secured to influence the outcome of a Federal action. A fillable Form SF-LLL can be found in the MMG ZIP folder.

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SAM.gov Registration

Applicants are asked to upload a screenshot of their SAM.gov registration.

06 - UEI Numbers-09-29-2022 03-45-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.png

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Additional Waiver Upload

Please upload, as applicable.

07 - LOC and Waiver-09-30-2022 05-27-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf

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Executive Summary

Please describe how the applicant's proposal will advance the objectives of the MMG Program, as well as the specific objectives of outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO);

An overview of the proposed route or service area(s), including information regarding rurality and socio-economic indicators in the area to be served by the proposed project.
This response is limited to 12000 characters as an open field narrative.

*PROJECT PURPOSE AND BENEFITS (Self-score 60 of 60 points)
The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and its 100% Tribally-owned subsidiary Quick Current LLC seeks funding from the NTIA Middle Mile Grant program to deploy a fiber-based middle mile network to cover currently unserved/underserved Tribal and adjacent rural areas in eastern Nebraska/western Iowa. Specifically, we have focused on the tribal areas of The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa and the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa

General Purpose to support last mile (Self Score - 20 points)
The new network will consist of approximately 250 miles of new fiber (604,350ft bored, 787,965ft plowed, 45,500ft aerial), approximately 150 route miles of IRU dark fibers, construct 5 telecommunications huts with access to lit and dark fiber, one small data center where service providers can collocate, and build 30 locations where we will pre-terminate lit and dark fiber in rural middle mile locations for easy and inexpensive access to lit and dark fiber based services.

Further we have identified 101 community anchor institutions where we will pre-terminate fiber for last mile providers. We also designed our network to pass 51 existing FCC registered cell towers; and

interconnect dozens of rural and tribal communities.

AMENDMENT 2023-04-10
The Omaha Tribe identified the anchor institutions shown in the Network Route Maps section of our original application. Of these institutions, the Omaha Tribe views the Blackbird Bend Corporation, the Walthill Public School, the Omaha Tribe Law Enforcement and Carl T Curtis Jr Health Center as crucial to the Tribe's delivery of public safety, public health, social services, and business services that provide their respective key services to the tribal and other citizenry population in our service area. These four organizations have provided us letters of interest in Broadband service, which we uploaded as part of this application.
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Once the network is deployed and operational, we have already identified two related last mile tribally -owned broadband companies that will rely on this middle mile network to offer retail broadband to approximately 13,000 households who are currently unserved or underserved.

Given the target areas of our grant, many of community anchors will be on Tribal lands or will serve a large portion of the Tribal community in the region with medical and educational services.

Our application and network reflects the necessary expertise to properly administer required policies, and implement and operate the desired network by bringing in the experience and abilities of industry veterans as further described in our org chart. We believe our network will not only be a fiscally sustainable network, in line with the priorities of the IIJA, but it will also serve as a source of revenue and jobs that will benefit the region long after the end of the award period.

Non-discriminatory interconnection in perpetuity (Self-Score - 10 points)
We commit to providing publicly and in perpetuity, non-discriminatory interconnection to terrestrial and wireless last mile broadband providers and any other parties making bona fide requests to make use of the proposed middle-mile deployment. We have purposely designed our network to make it easy for all providers to interconnect and use the deployed network services by joining our middle mile network to existing networks and major regional data centers and by making inexpensive collocation available. Customers may combine all products any way they wish, thus allowing them to deploy their own electronics and regeneration capabilities in the facilities we build.

Open Access (Self Score 10 points)
As further elaborated on in our Interconnect Policy section, we commit to provide open access to our facilities publicly and in perpetuity and in an open access manner. By being a Tribal application, our primary goal is to improve the broadband capabilities in the area. As such, we are embracing full open access as congruent with our goals as we desire the best possible quality broadband and the lowest price for our people.

Benefit the proposed service area (Self Score 10 points)

The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska's 100% Tribally owned subsidiary Quick Current LLC has been expressly created in line with standard best practices for Tribal entities who build and operate communications networks to not only serve as manager for this grant, but to also establish its two operating subsidiaries, Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC as a quality last-mile broadband service providers that will make use of the proposed middle-mile network to deploy a last-mile service to approximately 13,000 households who are unserved or underserved. We also will host 36 new locations in a carrier-neutral fashion to support all interconnection. We also have designed the network to pre-terminate fiber so that retail providers can offer 1GB and 10GB broadband and transport services to 101 Anchor institutions along our fiber routes. We also will create jobs for our community.

Comprehensiveness and appropriateness of the proposed technical solution (Self Score - 10 points)
As further laid out in multiple other sections, including the network sections and org chart, our network is designed and will be built and operated under industry best practices relying upon contractors with second-to-none regional knowledge and capabilities and second-to-none network design and business practices for middle mile. As a result of our efforts, over 13,000 households without quality broadband today and 101 anchor institutions will receive quality services that will rely on our network. By contracting locally, we are also shovel ready and will finish the job in less than two years.

*PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY (Self Score 40 of 40 points after Tribal Waiver)

1. Applicant's organizational capability to complete the specific project proposed. (5 points)

The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska's 100% Tribally-owned subsidiary Quick Current LLC has been expressly created in line with standard best practices for Tribal entities who build and operate communications networks. This entity was created with the vision to not only serve as manager for this grant, but to also establish two operating subsidiaries, Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC as quality last-mile broadband service providers that will make use of the proposed middle-mile network to deploy a last-mile service to approximately 13,000 households who are unserved or underserved. We also will host 36 new locations in a carrier-neutral fashion to support all interconnection. We also have designed the network and will offer 1GB and 10GB broadband and transport services to 101 Anchor institutions along our fiber routes. We also will create jobs for our community. A review of our Org Chart shows reliance on industry experts with experience and reliance on the highest quality contractors available in the region. There is virtually no risk if granted that our network will not be built the specifications we have laid out in our application. All costs in our application rely upon the proposals of our experienced contractors.

2. Reasonableness of the applicant's proposed budget. (Self Score - 10 Points)

A review of our Budget Narrative, upon which all costs in our application come from the proposals of our experienced contractors, shows a reasonable cost-effective network with little to no risk of implementation. On Tribal lands, because we are a Tribal Entity owned by the Tribe, there is no risk associated with performance outside of potential environmental issues. Outside of the Tribal areas,

our contracts already build network and provide services and have the most extensive networks that exist in the neighboring counties, and again reserve changes based upon environmental review.

3. Matching Requirement (Self Score - 15 Points)

This section does not apply because we have filed for a Tribal Waiver of the matching requirement with good cause, which has been granted.

*PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA (we meet all 5 criteria if our LOC Waiver is granted)

1. The eligible entity adopts fiscally sustainable middle mile strategies.

Tribal entities are given a special status in this NOFO for a reason. We frankly do not have equal monetary resources when compared to multi-billion dollar companies, but we are financially prudent and adhere to industry best practices.

We have provided all required documentation in our application and we are requesting two related waivers: (i) the contemplated waiver for matching funds and (ii) the related waiver for relief from the LOC requirements. We have attached a LOC from our bank, but due to the fact that our tribal areas are of economic need and are socially vulnerable, we are not a wealthy Tribe. Accordingly, our bank has limited our access to LOC to what they believe is financially prudent. Unless we are able to make a cash deposit with our contingency funds, we cannot meet the 25% requirement of the LOC. However, the fact that our application is cost effective and has certainty should makeup for our deficiency of funds. We have worked hard to establish relationships with our contractors to keep our cost down while meeting our goals The result is a network that is sustainable. We invite a detailed look at our extensive submission of our financial information (Budget Narrative, Financial Model/pro-forma, etc.) and the closer you look the more you will see that our application has overcome the fact that we are not a wealthy tribe.

2. Non-discriminatory interconnection

As stated above and in our Interconnection Policy section, we commit to providing publicly and in perpetuity, non-discriminatory interconnection to terrestrial and wireless last mile broadband providers and any other parties making bona fide requests to make use of the proposed middle-mile deployment.

3. Sustainability and Need

The Applicant has included letters of support and commitment from two tribal nations and two tribally owned last mile broadband providers who have recently acquired licensed spectrum to provide quality last mile broadband that will rely upon this middle mile network.

4. The eligible entity has identified supplemental investments or in-kind support

Much of the area we are serving is over Tribal Land and the Tribal entities will not only waive any fees but where requested they have committed to donating land. Additionally, the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska is donating land they own fee simple outside of their federally recognized tribal area in Council Bluffs where the Applicant will construct its data center.

5. The eligible entity has demonstrated that the middle mile infrastructure will benefit national security interests

The proposed project will support the national security interest of increasing the redundancy and resiliency of existing telecommunications networks that support broadband and other services as specified in the NOFO (more details in the National Security Narrative). We also support Tribal health and safety community anchor institutions.

Specifically, the proposed project will support the national security interest of increasing the redundancy and resiliency of existing telecommunications networks in the Midwest portions of the United States. The proposed fiber build will help interconnect the existing network of contractor Great Plains Communications as well as others.

*PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW MULTIPLIERS

As described in our Level of Need section; we believe our application should receive a multiplier for each of the 8 review categories.

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Level of Need

A description of the level of need in the proposed service area(s), including but not limited to communities considered unserved and/or underserved in the proposed service area(s), discussion of the competitive landscape in the area, variations among service areas if there are any, or the general economic conditions in the proposed funded service area.

This response is limited to 12000 characters as an open field narrative.

Our proposal provides middle mile service to areas in Nebraska and Iowa. These areas are primarily unserved or underserved today (we define unserved as download speeds less than 25Mbps and underserved/non-quality broadband as less than 100/100 Mbps). We have taken the time to analyze the current broadband coverage in these areas and have come to the following determinations.

LEVEL OF SERVICE

There is no comparable middle mile service to the locations we are building in the proposed service area or the areas adjacent to it. The closest available middle mile infrastructure is owned by Great Plains Communications, who supports this application in that connecting their existing builds in the region would create new business opportunities and provide valuable resiliency to their network.

We propose bringing our Middle Mile broadband service to several locations that cover federally recognized tribal lands of the Omaha Tribe and adjacent lands which are either non-tribal but have tribal influence or adjacent tribal lands. These include:

- Wakefield, NE population (pop):1834, households (hh):607
- Emerson, NE pop:1117, hh:415
- Pender, NE pop:1377, hh:564

- Bancroft, NE pop:725, hh:285
- Macy, NE pop:1347, hh:290
- Decatur, NE pop:556, hh:279
- Salix, IA pop:993, hh:407
- Albaton, IA pop:106, hh:43
- Blackbird Bend, IA pop:167, hh:89

These areas do not have sufficient retail broadband today. Furthermore, many of these locations are located inside persistent poverty counties as defined in footnote 25 of the NOFO. Our primary focus of our buildout is to provide infrastructure necessary for broadband to the tribal and adjacent lands that do not currently have any quality providers. The Omaha Tribe has provided a resolution attesting to its land not having 25/3 level of service. In fact the largest provider of non-broadband internet is the Nebraska Indian Community College, which is owned by the Omaha Tribe and which provides a best efforts broadband that is less than adequate with a network topology that routinely limits download speeds to less than 10 MB and with funding limitations that only allow current students to use the service. Other historical providers on tribal lands also do not provide service that qualifies as broadband. Routinely, in locations where other providers do have infrastructure, they do not offer broadband or quality broadband service and/or will not hook-up service in a timely or price competitive manner.

With the proceeds of this grant, we intend to bring to this community not only high-speed broadband infrastructure but also skilled jobs and training for generations to come. The five (5) counties in the proposed project area (Thurston, NE; Wayne, NE; Woodbury, IA; Monona, IA; and Pottawattamie, IA) are all considered high poverty areas with poverty rates higher than the Federal poverty rate as determined under Section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act, based on data provided by the Secretary of US HHS. Many Omaha Tribal members living and working in the project area meet one or more of the qualifications for Tribal specific assistance programs as described in the NITA's Middle Mile NOFO.

We are attaching to this response a report from the University of Nebraska Lincoln, "Mapping Quality of Life in Nebraska: The Geographic Distribution of Poverty". In this report it clearly shows Thurston, NE as an area of "Deep Poverty". Wayne, NE is identified as an area of Deep Poverty of young children, aged under 5 years. Both counties will be served by our project, and will enable healthcare, education and employment opportunities that would not be possible without access to broadband service.

We have also done an analysis of all our proposed locations in the state of Iowa and can confirm that these areas do not have broadband coverage and have been identified by the state as "likely eligible" (meaning a lack of broadband or quality broadband) for future retail subsidies to bring broadband providers to the area.

These areas in the state of Iowa include:

- Sloan pop:1270, hh:525
- Whiting pop:963, hh:411
- Crescent pop:1650, hh:625

- Underwood pop:2157, hh:809
- Neola pop:2028, hh:769
- Minden pop:193, hh:71
- Persia pop:693, hh:257
- Logan pop:2185, hh:850

The remaining proposed areas of coverage for our service are all located in Nebraska. Some of these areas do appear to have current options for retail broadband service, but much of it is not quality broadband and this area would benefit from additional infrastructure. Most of these areas only currently have one provider of broadband, or even a provider identifying a future buildout which will bring coverage. Introducing our infrastructure in these areas will enhance competition by allowing other providers and ultimately result in lower broadband costs for the consumers.

We are proposing our Middle Mile broadband services include the following areas in the state of Nebraska:

- Hoskins, NE with pop 866 and 340 households. Cable One is the only provider that advertises quality broadband.
- Winside, NE (pop:697, hh:289) Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company advertises quality broadband in this area.
- Wayne, NE (pop:6444, hh:2265) AMG advertises future availability of non-quality Broadband in some of this area and Allo currently provide quality broadband to 1100 households in the city of Wayne and has shown an interest in working with Quick Current to improve its services;
- Lyons, NE (pop:1049, hh:462) Skywave Wireless, Inc and HunTel CableVision (dba HunTel Communications) advertise non-quality broadband availability in this area.
- West Point, NE (pop:5676, hh:2323) Cable One, Skywave Wireless and LTD Broadband all advertise quality broadband in this area. LTD Broadband, which won subsidy for this area in FCC Auction 904, will not manifest as their bid for subsidy was ultimately rejected.
- Oakland, NE (pop:1623, hh:660) Midstates Data Transport (dba Stealth Broadband), LTD Broadband, Skywave Wireless and HunTel CableVision advertise broadband availability with only LTD advertising quality broadband.
- Craig, NE (pop:421, hh:158) Skywave Wireless and Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company advertise broadband availability of 100/20 and 100/100 in this area.
- Wisner, NE (pop:2284, hh:966) Great Plains Communications, Cable One and Skywave Wireless advertise broadband availability with Great Plains shwing an interest in working with us.
- Tekamah, NE (pop:2395, hh:999) Midstates Data Transport and HunTel CableVision advertise non-quality broadband in this area.

MEETING COMMUNITY BROADBAND NEEDS (NOFO SECTION V.A.3.b

This proposal is likely to reduce end-user broadband prices:

1. Funded deployment of this middle mile infrastructure will enable the Omaha Tribe to charge competitive market rates for interconnection with last-mile service providers seeking to utilize the proposed fiber-network to enhance or expand their coverage offerings in the region. This will flow through to end-users in the form of more affordable broadband prices.
2. Quick Current-Nebraska LLC (QC-NE) and Quick Current-Iowa LLC (QC-IA), 80% owned by the

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, have already provided written commitment letters (included in this submission) to build last-mile networks on top of the proposed infrastructure by utilizing federal funding. This planned last-mile infrastructure will cover the persistent poverty counties in which the Omaha and Winnebago Tribal reservations are located (making them eligible for federal subsidy through programs like ACP), and since the service provider will be vertically integrated and Tribally owned/operated, the primary purpose of the network will be coverage and Tribal benefit as opposed to pure profit for shareholders, translating to lower end-user costs
QC-NE has recently filed for a last mile Capital Projects Funds ARPA Grant from the State of Nebraska and, in that Grant, it states a price table with the footnote: "If Quick Current LLC is awarded its pending NTIA Middle Mile grant, Quick Current-Nebraska will reduce the above prices 30-40%. If the NTIA Middle Mile grant application from Quick Current LLC; a wholly owned subsidy of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska is funded, that grant will dramatically lower the input recurring costs of fiber back-haul and DIA for the services of Quick Current-Nebraska (and indeed would further benefit the entire region of Northeast Nebraska). As a result, our highest tier priced service would be reduced from $119 to $79; with other lower priced services also seeing a reduction in price based upon our cost of delivery." We note that when coupled with Tribal ACP, the cost to tribal members for the 100/20 speed can be near zero; and for non-Tribal ACP subscribers have an expected $10 per month actual cost for the 50/10 speed. These price points are significantly lower than what is available today.

The proposal is likely to reduce end-user latency in our proposed service area and the adjacent areas. Deployment of resilient, fiber-based infrastructure in these regions will connect previously unconnected components of the network of Great Plains Communications, located in the surrounding area while providing high-speed, low latency middle-mile transport capacity throughout the region. The existing infrastructure for the targeted counties in NE Nebraska and NW Iowa currently lacks any fiber-based backhaul or interconnect. The residents and institutions in this area are left with only high latency options (satellite) or with increased latency of FWA and terrestrial networks due to microwave backhaul.

Examples of broadband service disruptions affecting business, safety and health care have been provided from Blackbird Bend Casino, Walthill Public schools, the Omaha Tribe Law Enforcement Service and Carl T Curtis Health Service in letters attached to this application.

Much of the benefit stemming from this funded middle mile infrastructure will accrue to the counties in which Tribal reservations are located. While we have already spoken to the substantiality of the benefits that will accrue, the fact that we are primarily focused on providing service on Tribal Lands that are in Persistent Poverty Counties is important to note.
As shown in our Project Timeline and Pro Forma Financial analysis, this project allows build out 1Gbps symmetric service to all Community Anchor Institutions located within 1,000 feet of the proposed network as defined in the NOFO, including a large number of Tribal Anchor Institutions.
Our proposal is aligned with the requirements located in Sections III.H-J and III.L of the NOFO regarding Fair Labor Practices, Highly Skilled Workforces, Advancing Workforce Development, and Civil Rights

Compliance. We plan to utilize a “Tribal-first” hiring approach to staff Quick Current LLC and the subsidiaries QC-NE and QC-IA. In using this approach, the project will provide additional economic benefits, skills training and jobs to the Tribal communities that are the core focus of this application. The conduit-protected, underground fiber network means that the proposed infrastructure is climate resilient, and accounts for all possible environmental hazards that may impact the proposed service regions. We extend our analysis of climate resilience by detailing how the staff responsible for building, managing, and maintaining the network will be adequately trained to handle any climate-related occupational hazards they may encounter.
We have laid the groundwork to implement a community benefit agreement with the Tribal communities located in the proposed service areas, as evidenced by the Omaha Tribal resolution supporting this application. We have also received letters of support from the states of Nebraska and Iowa, which we will use as a basis to reach out to the non-Tribal communities in the proposed service region to establish similar community benefit agreements.
———

State Collaboration Acknowledgement

NTIA strongly encourages prospective non-state applicants to coordinate and consult with the State Broadband Office or other coordinating body located in the jurisdiction in which the eligible entity proposes to deploy middle mile infrastructure to ensure that the proposal is consistent with the state’s broadband plan and priorities. Please confirm collaboration and consultation.

Do you confirm collaboration and consultation with the appropriate organization?

Yes
———

State and Local Collaboration Narrative

Please provide information on the applicant’s coordination with applicable State, Territory, Tribal, and local governments, including their awareness of the proposed project and any potential impact to respective service areas; and

Information regarding the applicant’s involvement and coordination with community organizations or other relevant partners in the proposed service area.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Quick Current LLC, the applicant that will ultimately bear the responsibility of managing this grant, is a 100% Tribally owned subsidiary of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, who is the co-application. The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska has passed appropriate resolution from the Tribe to proceed with submission of this project proposal.

Additionally, we have also provided the letters of support from The Winnebago Tribe reservation and

the Omaha Tribe reservation, which are the primary areas covered by this application.
Next we have had multiple conversations and communications with the States of Nebraska and Iowa informing them of our application and submitting material for each state to formally review. This including providing the Budget Narrative submitted as part of this application and also creating and providing project scope overview.

We have received letters of support from both state governments based on these submissions and have therefore successfully completed a full collaborative outreach effort to all legislative and other bodies governing the lands in which we propose this project.

———

Will the project connect middle mile infrastructure to last mile networks that provide or plan to provide broadband service to households in unserved areas?

Yes

———

Is the project connecting non-contiguous trust lands?

No

———

Do you commit to offering wholesale broadband service at reasonable rates on a carrier-neutral basis?

Yes

———

The eligible entity adopts fiscally sustainable middle mile strategies. This strategy should be described in the Budget Narrative.

Do you attest to this?

Yes

———

The eligible entity commits to offering non-discriminatory interconnect to terrestrial and wireless last mile broadband providers and any other party making a bona fide request. This policy will be described in the Interconnect Policy.

Do you attest to this?

Yes

———

The eligible entity identifies specific terrestrial and wireless last mile broadband providers that have(i) expressed written interest in interconnecting with middle mile infrastructure planned to be deployed by the eligible entity; and ii) demonstrated sustainable business plans or adequate funding

sources with respect to such interconnection. This may be demonstrated in the Level of Need narrative of the Exec Summary.

Do you attest to this?

Yes

———

The eligible entity has identified supplemental investments or in-kind support (such as waived franchise or permitting fees) that will accelerate the completion of the planned project. Such acceleration may be described in the Project Timeline narrative.

Do you attest to this?

No

———

The eligible entity has demonstrated that the middle mile infrastructure will benefit national security interests of the United States and the Department of Defense. The benefits may be explained in the Benefitting National Security Interests Narrative.

Do you attest to this?

Yes

———

Please describe:

The proposed project will support the national security interest of increasing the redundancy and resiliency of existing telecommunications networks in the midwest portions of the United States, greatly improving the redundancy that support broadband and other services when interconnecting major metropolitan areas of Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Illinois. Specifically, the proposed fiber build will help interconnect the existing network of contractor Great Plains Communications as well as be available as dark fiber to long haul providers such as Zayo . When these entities use the new fiber being built they will be able to create redundant and physically diverse routes for major portions their existing networks that interconnect these metropolitan areas. Furthermore, as per the stipulated requirements of the NOFO, this project will provide high speed internet access to public health community anchor institutions that have been deemed unserved by the Tribes in whose Tribal Lands these institutions reside.

———

Project Duration

Number of Years

2
———

Project Timeline Narrative

The narrative requires the Applicant to describe a project with critical path, including key milestones for implementation of the project, preparations, and risk factors; and a capital investment schedule evidencing that the applicant will complete build-out and the initiation of service within five years of the date on which the entity receives the grant and will meet interim buildout requirements set forth herein and in any other binding document.
If the project is able to be accelerated with supplemental investments or in-kind support to meet a statutory purpose, this should be explained.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

In the attached Timeline File, we describe our project's critical path, key milestones, preparations, and risk factors; and a capital investment schedule evidencing completed build-out and initiation of service within 2 years of receiving the grant and will meet interim buildout requirements herein and in any other binding document.

As we have described in other sections, we are shovel-ready.
Project Milestones:
Figure 1 of the attached Timeline File shows the timeline of major milestones related to this project.

The following describes each of those milestones:

MS01 Finalize Grant Documents
The NTIA grant documents with the Omaha tribe are finalized, executed, and funds have been released to begin work on the project.
MS02 Order Equipment, Huts, Trucks, Tools
Large equipment, trucks and tools (e.g. directional boring drill, fusion splicers, OTDRs, bucket trucks, etc.) needed to support the creation of fiber crews as a part of this project are ordered. Based on initial network design, routers, switches, and fiber optic transceivers used to support the layer 2 and layer 3 applications on the fiber network are ordered.
MS03 Site Surveys
Detailed in-person site surveys are done prior to performing detailed engineering to fully assess the environment and conditions related to fiber, vault, pole and hut placement.
This milestone will include sub-milestones MS03a (Phase I & II ESA) and MS03b (Phase III ESA and Remediation) - see attached Project Timeline File for more details.
MS04 Perform Detailed Engineering
Fiber routes as well as the placement of vaults, poles, and huts are finalized. Required permits are identified. Network design details including fiber paths, switch and router provisioning, hut

engineering, and backup power designs are finalized.
MS05 Establish Agreements (Poles, etc.)
On Fiber routes where utility poles are to be utilized, agreements with pole providers are established.
MS06 Acquire Permits (Railroad, Bridges, Poles, etc.)
Where applicable, required permits are acquired. This can pertain to railroad and river crossings as well as requirements of pole agreements such as make-ready work.
MS07 Order Materials (Fiber, Conduit, Vaults, Splice Kits, etc)
As detailed engineering is completed for various sections to be built, material (fiber, conduit, vaults, etc) for those section are ordered.
MS08 Hiring and Training of Technicians and Forman
Fiber plant technicians, Network Operations Center (NOC) technicians, Network Engineers, and Supervisors are hired and trained to perform 20% of the fiber builds and then run and maintain the networks (fiber, layer 2 and layer 3) going forward.
MS09 Take possession of IRU Fiber
Dark fibers provided a part of the IRU agreement with Great Plains Communications are inventoried and incorporated as per network engineering designs.
MS10 Existing Awarded NTIU Grant Fiber Network Complete
This is a milestone related to an existing NTIA grant that has been awarded to the Omaha Tribe. This grant request will provide routes that complement and interconnect with what is covered by the existing award. This milestone is tracked here as its completion will provide redundant fiber path opportunities for the large network.

To begin, Great Plains Communications will provide 2 separate fiber crews to work on different fiber route segments. Once 1 segment is completed a crew will move on to the next. As fiber crew technicians hired by the Omaha Tribe are trained, they will take over these fiber builds. It is estimated that between 20% and 40% of the fiber builds will be completed by the Omaha Tribe crews. These milestones include installation of pre-spliced vault/pole locations specified in the project description.

Splicing Crew #1 Fiber Builds
MS11 Bureau of Indian Affairs Fiber Build
MS12 Pender to Tekamah Fiber Build
MS13 Norfolk to Emerson Fiber Build
MS14 Bancroft to Lyons Fiber Build

Splicing Crew #2 Fiber Builds
MS15 Emerson to Pender Fiber Build
MS16 Macy to Sioux City via Iowa Fiber Build
MS17 Omaha to Logan Fiber Build

MS18 Data Center Implementation (Building and Equipment)
Engineering and architecture related to the data center building that will be created as a part of this

project are completed. The building is built with designed security, power, back-up power, racks, cages, and NOC technician offices. Monitoring of the network is established.
MS19 Regen Huts (5 Buildings and Equipment)
Land for regen huts is acquired, engineering for the huts including power engineering, is completed. Hut buildings are placed. Power, backup power, racks, routers, switches, and fiber connectivity are established/installed. Network equipment is provisioned.
MS20 QC and Fiber Readings
All dark fiber (IRU and built) is tested and fiber readings are tracked as a part of the fiber inventory process. Inspections are done on all buildings, equipment and fiber connections. Noted issues are addressed.
MS21 Turn up and Testing
Layer 2 and layer 3 networks contemplated in network designs are turned up and tested. Testing includes failover and network resiliency in the event of a fiber cut or network element failure.
MS22 Order Lit DIA Service as Interconnects Become Available
Transport and direct internet access (DIA) services are ordered and established at interconnect points on the network. BGP is established at with external DIA providers to create resiliency in the event of a network outage of a single provider.
MS23 Anchor Builds / Implementation
Anchor customer locations have fiber connectivity established and tested. This includes the placement and provisioning of customer premise equipment (CPE) routers used to hand of the service to the customer.
MS24 Turn up Anchor Customers
Services to anchor customer is turned up and added to the monitoring systems of the NOC.
As seen in the attached Timeline File, we have similar timelines for Critical Path, Preparations, and list Rick Factors and provide the Capital Investment Schedule.
———

Project Timeline File

Applicants are asked to upload a timeline which will denote key milestones for implementation of the project, including but not limited to field survey, network design, equipment/material procurement, environmental assessment, permitting, construction, network testing, network activation and completion.

13 - Timeline File-09-30-2022 04-49-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf, 13 - Timeline FileC-04-07-2023 02-43-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
———

Is an extension being requested?

No
———

Special Rules for Tribal Governments and Native Entities

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act permits the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with Tribal governments and Native entities, to waive, or specify alternative requirements, in connection with most directives governing the MMG Program if the Assistant Secretary finds that waiver or modification of the requirement is necessary for (a) the effective delivery and administration of middle mile grants to Tribal governments or (b) the construction, improvement, or acquisition of middle mile infrastructure on trust land.

Is a waiver or alternative requirements requested?

Yes

———

Upload the Waiver

14 - Cost matching waiver-09-30-2022 03-31-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf

———

Tribal Land Certification

A Tribal Government may certify whether an area within its own Tribal Land is unserved or underserved based on criteria of its choosing. Any such Tribal Government must certify that the areas where middle mile service is proposed (including any such areas where a provider offers, or has proposed to offer, last-mile service) are unserved or underserved and provide a statement on Tribal Letterhead explaining how the determination that the area is unserved or underserved was made and additional supporting information if available.

Upload certification, as applicable.

15 - Omaha-Winnebago Tribe Self Certification-09-30-2022 02-43-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf

———

Fair Labor Practices

Applicants must have a demonstrated record of and plans to be in compliance with federal labor and employment laws as described in III.H in the NOFO. This will help ensure that projects are carried out in accordance with the law, assist NTIA in ensuring that a prospective awardee is capable of carrying out activities funded by an award in a competent manner in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws; and promote the effective and efficient completion of high-quality middle mile broadband infrastructure projects by ensuring a reliable supply of skilled workers and minimizing disruptive and costly delays.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

The Omaha Tribe enforces its Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO) for all projects on the reservation and any contractor working on this project will be required to follow the TERO. As part of our procurement process the Omaha Tribe and Quick Current LLC will only accept proposals from contractors that follow the TERO and have strong labor practices and policies.

The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and all of its owned companies which are part of this application (including Quick Current LLC, Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC)collectively called "Omaha Entities" as a matter of policy adhere to fair labor practices consistent with and described in the NOFO for the NTIA Middle Mile Grant.

Historically, Omaha Entities have created and followed a Personnel Manual (which is uploaded) and intends for that Manual to follow the guidelines set forth in the NOFO.
There are no violations of labor and/or employment laws in the preceding three years, thus there are no violations to disclose.
———
Officer Certification

In order for NTIA to evaluate an applicant's demonstrated record of and plans to be in compliance with federal labor and employment laws, each applicant must provide examples of items described in III.H in the NOFO. Applicants are asked to upload a Certification from an Officer/Director-level employee (or equivalent) of the applicant evidencing consistent past compliance with federal labor and employment laws by the applicant, as well as contractors and subcontractors.

17 - Merge-09-30-2022 02-12-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
———
Highly Skilled Workforce

To ensure that applicants have the technical and operational capacity to carry out the project, applicants must submit a plan for ensuring that the project workforce will be an appropriately skilled and credentialed workforce (including by the applicant and each of its contractors and subcontractors). The plan for a highly skilled workforce should include the information described in III.I in the NOFO.

This response is limited to 6
000 characters as an open field narrative.

A large part of the initial workforce supplied for the deployment of this network will come from Great Plains Communications, a provider of broadband service with extensive experience in deployment of middle mile networks such as the one proposed in this application. This workforce will be appropriately credentialed from the onset of the project given these companies prior experience with such deployments. The Great Plains Communications workforce will be contracted as detailed in the Table

of Funded Participants attached elsewhere in this submission.

Applicant will require all safety/certification/licensing as part of all contracts with Great Plains and will require proper bonding and insurance.

It is important to note that while the initial workforce will come from Great Plains Communications during the deployment phase, Great Plains will also assist in the credentialing and certification of a highly skilled workforce employed by Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC. These two companies will hire and train employees from the tribal areas we aim to service. These areas are both considered socially vulnerable and economically disadvantaged. A further description of this newly established workforce will be provided below, in the Advancing Workforce Development Narrative.

———

Advancing Workforce Development

A skilled workforce is critical to meeting infrastructure buildout timelines under the Infrastructure Act and connecting households across the country to reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband. A well-trained workforce will also allow for the safe deployment of sustainable networks. To meet the workforce needs of the MMG Program, applicants must make appropriate investments to develop a skilled, diverse workforce. Each applicant must provide as part of its application examples of items described in III.J in the NOFO.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

The Omaha Tribe has been working with the Nebraska Indian Community College (NICC) and the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska (ITKN) to establish an Academy to train members of the Omaha Tribe, and other tribal members, on the skills required to operate and maintain fiber and wireless networks. These training programs are scheduled to begin in the winter of 2022 and will initially focus on a twelve -day training program which will result in Omaha Tribe members having the skills needed to construct and maintain their own fiber network. We are developing this program in accordance with a sample, industry accepted and approved curriculum that is based on a similar successful program implemented by tribes in the State of Washington. The program will train Tribe members in the following skillsets that are relevant towards the construction of a fiber-based network:

- 12 Day Underground Construction Certification
- Underground Construction Safety Training

- HDD Certification (Operation & Locating)
- Equipment Maintenance
- Mud Mixology
- Vac-Machine Operation
- Pot Holing Utility Comprehension
- CPR First Aid Certification
- OHSA 1910.268 Certification
- Flagger Certification
- Excavator Instructor (VR and Physical)
- Directional Boring (VR and Physical)
- Hand Hole Placement
- Utility Blueprint Comprehension

Based on the needs of this project, both during the buildout phase of the two-year grant award period and the management and maintenance phase after the end of the award period, we project that the proposed infrastructure will require15 highly skilled jobs to be created. In addition to the training program described above, we plan to include for these jobs apprenticeships with the subcontractors identified in this proposal and other relevant neighboring qualified companies

———

Climate Resiliency

Please demonstrate that the applicant has sufficiently accounted for current and future weather- and climate-related risks to new MMG Program infrastructure projects. In particular, each applicant should clearly demonstrate how it is conducting the items listed in III.K in the NOFO.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

We have identified the proposed tower and datacenter location should all be subject to an initial hazard screening for current and future weather and climate-related risks. We have included the budget for assessments on each location.

Thurston county is a county that is identified as “Relatively Moderate” on the risk index published by FEMA. This rating is attributed to a very high component of social vulnerability in this community. This makes the community very susceptible to hazards such as drought, hail, tornado and winter weather. While it is understandable these hazards will have a deep impact on the community in general; it is only tornados and winter weather that may impact the proposed network.

A portion of our proposed network runs through Iowa, which is identified as “Mid-West” by the

National Climate Assessment. From the Mid-West chapter of the 2018 National Climate Assessment report, storm water management systems, transportation networks, and other critical infrastructure are already experiencing impacts from changing precipitation patterns and elevated flood risks.
At-risk communities in the Midwest are becoming more vulnerable to climate change impacts such as flooding, drought, and increases in urban heat islands. Tribal nations are especially vulnerable because of their reliance on threatened natural resources for their cultural, subsistence, and economic needs.
From the NOAA National Center for Environmental Information 2022 Iowa State Climate summary, temperatures in Iowa have risen more than 1*F since the beginning of the 20th century, with warming concentrated in the winter and fall.
This makes increased temperatures, drought, flooding and wildfires the most important to account for in the Iowa portion of our proposed service area.
The remainder of our proposed network runs through Nebraska, which is identified as “Northern Great Plains” by the National Climate Assessment. From the Northern Great Plans chapter of the 2018 National Climate Assessment report, impacts of climate change throughout the Northern Great Plains include changes in flooding and drought, rising temperatures, and the spread of invasive species.
The highly variable climate of the Northern Great Plains poses challenges for the sustainable use of water, land, and energy resources by competing urban, suburban, rural, and tribal populations.
From the NOAA National Center for Environmental Information 2022 Nebraska State Climate summary, temperatures in Nebraska have risen more than 1.6*F since the beginning of the 20th century, with warming concentrated in the winter and spring. Droughts pose a particular risk to Nebraska’s agricultural economy, and projected increases in temperature and evaporation rates may increase the intensity of future naturally occurring droughts.
From the NOAA National Center for Environmental Information 2022 Iowa State Climate summary, the intensity of future droughts is projected to increase even if precipitation increases. Rising temperatures will increase evaporation rates and the rate of soil moisture loss. Thus, periodic summer droughts, a natural part of Iowa’s climate, are likely to be more intense in the future.
Similar projections are stated in the NOAA National Center for Environmental Information 2022 Nebraska State Climate summary, The intensity of droughts is projected to increase.
When looking at the identified climate and weather-related hazards, it is critical to understand and analyze what these changing climate conditions can do, specifically, to our proposed infrastructure.
Our biggest mitigation strategy is that the majority of our proposed middle mile infrastructure will be underground. This means our infrastructure likely will have little impact from drought and high temperatures. Wildfires and tornadoes would be a hazard in any last-mile infrastructure connecting to our middle mile network.
Increasing temperatures, drought and flooding are the most important weather and climate hazards in our proposed service area. High wind and lightning strikes are also likely in the service areas. We expect these hazards to be present and increase in intensity through the 20 years following our deployment. We plan to follow an ongoing climate mitigation plan throughout the life of the solution. There are three primary components of the mitigation plan.
Indoor Equipment: Much of the equipment deployed will operate inside controlled environments. This equipment will be subject to constant monitoring and protection. Indoor equipment will have power

backup, as well as temperature and moisture protection.
Underground Equipment: Fiber that is buried is some of the most reliable and environmentally resilient. We have intentionally avoided pole deployment to ensure maximum resiliency. Our technical staff will be trained in fiber testing and fiber replacement. Fiber will be tested annually and repaired on a regular course of business.
Outdoor Equipment: Some assets will be deployed out of doors in protected enclosures. This equipment is designed for extreme weather conditions and is expected to operate at very high and very low temperatures.
Finally, we are developing an expertise for supporting and maintaining the network that is local, consisting of Tribal persons and citizens from the neighboring communities. Our proposed network will be owned by the Tribe and operated primarily on Tribal land. We feel it is a key initiative in this project to provide training and education to develop a skilled, local workforce.
Since the network Core is located on Tribal lands, our workforce will have the ability to dispatch to the network assets as events occur. Therefore, as climate issues happen and evolve; we will have the ability to react locally. As a practical example, as any natural disaster should occur and cause any damage to our infrastructure, the Quick Current staff will be able to locate, repair and/or replace affected assets quickly.
———
Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination Law Compliance

Prior to distributing any MMG Program funding to a prospective awardee, NTIA will require the prospective awardee to agree, by contract or other binding commitment, to abide by the non-discrimination requirements set forth in III.J in the NOFO.

Do you agree to abide by the non-discrimination requirements?

Yes
———
Certification of Technical Capability

Each applicant must supply a certification attesting that it is technically qualified to complete and operate the proposed project.

21 - Technical Capability Certification-09-30-2022 02-39-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
———
Interconnect Policy

The Applicant must describe in detail the nondiscrimination, interconnection, and network management practices that would be adopted for the project facilities. The Applicant should describe how it will comply with nondiscrimination and interconnection obligations, particularly with connectivity to the public Internet and physical interconnection for the exchange of traffic. In

addition to describing network management practices, the Applicant should disclose any practices in place to block access to illegal or harmful content.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Quick Current LLC, which is a 100% Tribally Owned subsidiary entity of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, will commit to providing open access to both the middle mile infrastructure built as part of this application as well as the interconnect points included in the proposed build for last mile broadband service providers.

By including collocation facilities as part of the planned huts and buildings included in the project, where we will also pre-terminate dark fiber, we will ensure that any other middle mile providers in the area will be able to access the middle mile network at reasonable rates AND will be able to install fiber electronics as they deem necessary.

By including pre-terminated aerial splice points at multiple locations along the proposed network (see Planned Network Routes for more detail), we will also ensure that any last mile broadband service provider in the region seeking to make use of the middle mile infrastructure will be able to do so at reasonable rates that ensure equal access to the infrastructure while also generating sufficient revenue to meet fiscal sustainability objectives as outlined in the Pro Forma Financial analysis.

We also pledge to uphold net neutrality principles in the deployment of this network to ensure open access to the public internet for end users, community anchor institutions, and any middle mile/last mile providers seeking to utilize the proposed fiber infrastructure.

As far as blocking access to harmful or illegal content, we will ensure that our data systems are compatible with any firewalls erected by Community Anchor Institutions that are connected directly to the network as well as any other such security mechanisms put in place by last mile providers seeking to utilize the middle mile infrastructure.

Amendment 2023-04-10:
Quick Current commits to offer our Interconnection Policy publicly and in perpetuity.
———

Technical Overview

Please describe targeted last mile service objectives, including last mile service provider letters of commitment, agreements, or contracts; and a description of the proposed service offerings, including the pricing of the services to be offered over the proposed facility.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

AMENDMENT 2023-04-10 Removed Retail pricing/service and costs associated with direct service to Anchor Customers.

=

We have established the wholesale pricing for our middle mile services as listed below (prices shown in Service price / Month).

For wholesale DIA Services

committed 10G	$3,000
committed 100G	$13,000
committed 1G	$1,000

Wholesale Transport

P-T-P 1G service	$300
P-T-P 10G service	$1,000
P-T-P 100G service	$4,000

Wholesale Data Services Other (WAN)

per 10G WAN port	$1,000
per 100G WAN port	$3,500

Dark Fiber between any 2 pre-terminated points on a fiber-built segment $20

Colocation $800 per rack

We have attached commitment letters of interest from the tribally owned last mile providers Quick Current-Nebraska LLC and Quick Current-Iowa LLC to purchase significant wholesale services. The revenue from these services allow for our network to be operated sustainably. We purposely do not require term commitments and anticipate that substantial dark fiber will be used by other regional providers to create fiber-based diversity and to replace lower speed wireless backhaul in the region. We also believe other last mile providers in the region will purchase services.

(Amendment 2023-04-10)

In addition, we have added letters of interest from the Omaha Tribe Law Enforcement, the Carl T Curtis Health Care Center, the Walthill School District and the Blackbird Casino in becoming retail customers of the network enabled by this middle mile project.

=

As is detailed in the Network Diagrams document, we will be creating a highly resilient network architecture capable of maintaining services for the vast majority of customers in almost all fiber “cut” power and/or equipment failure scenarios.

Network resiliency is addressed on many levels:

- The network itself will have multiple geographically diverse interconnect points to and from the internet with connectivity to these interconnect points provided by Great Plains Communications.
- These interconnection points are accessible to both of the fiber ringed network architectures.
- Each equipment hut in the network will be capable of providing service for up to a minimum of 24 hours during a power failure.
- Lit services will be protected by the various fiber ring configurations.
- Dark fiber customers will be able to choose amongst several possible combinations of fiber paths to create their own fiber ringed network architecture.

Initially, we will be setting up East and West fiber ring configurations that will provide optimal fault tolerance for our lit service offerings.
As can be seen in the file upload Figure 2, the network elements to be used by our lit fiber services that will feature 1G, 10G and 100G broadband services. As these are fiber services , bandwidth will be symmetrical (i.e. same speed for upload as for download).
Each of the Ciena 5171 network switches will be capable of supporting up to 36 customers. Anchor customers and other direct internet access (DIA) customers will receive service over a layer 3 network managed by two geographically redundant Cisco ASR 9006 Routers. These routers will be configured for BGP in order to accommodate dual geographically redundant interconnection points to the internet from our network.
———
Applicants are encouraged to upload supplemental documentation.

23 - Technology Supplemental Info-09-30-2022 05-29-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf, OmahaTribeLawEnforcementLetter-04-05-2023 07-41-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf, WalthillSchoolLetter-04-05-2023 07-41-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf, BBC Letter of Support 2023-03-10-04-05-2023 07-40-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf, CTC ltr of supportNC-04-05-2023 07-41-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
———
Competitive Landscape

The Applicant should describe existing middle mile offerings in the area, if any, including competitor data if applicable. This should include a description of the proposed service offerings, including the pricing and technology of the services to be offered over the proposed facility. Where possible, Applicant's project should be able to demonstrate a decline in middle mile costs that are likely to flow through to consumer broadband prices.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Our proposal includes providing high speed broadband service to a number of locations in both Nebraska and Iowa. These areas are primarily unserved and underserved today. We have taken the time to analyze the current broadband coverage in these areas and have come to the following determinations.

We are proposing bringing our Middle Mile broadband service to several locations that cover tribal lands of the Omaha and Winnebago tribes. These include:

- Wakefield, NE with a population of 1834 and 607 households
- Emerson, NE with a population of 1117 and 415 households
- Pender, NE with a population of 1377 and 564 households
- Bancroft, NE with a population of 725 and 285 households
- Macy, NE with a population of 1347 and 290 households

- Decatur, NE with a population of 556 and 279 households
- Salix, IA with a population of 993 and 407 households
- Albaton, IA with a population of 106 and 43 households
- Blackbird Bend, IA with a population of 167 and 89 households

The tribes have certified to us that these areas do not have retail broadband availability today. This is the primary focus of our buildout in this area, to provide broadband to these tribal lands that do not currently have any providers.

Additionally, we will be able to provide Middle Mile broadband services to other communities that are currently underserved by broadband providers. We have done an analysis of all our proposed locations in the state of Iowa and can confirm that these areas do not have broadband coverage and have been identified by the state as "likely eligible" for subsidies to bring broadband providers to the area.
These areas in the state of Iowa include:

- Sloan with a population of 1270 and 525 households
- Whiting with a population of 963 and 411 households
- Crescent with a population of 1650 and 625 households
- Underwood with a population of 2157 and 809 households
- Neola with a population of 2028 and 769 households
- Minden with a population of 193 and 71 households
- Persia with a population of 693 and 257 households
- Logan with a population of 2185 and 850 households

Please see the supplemental information for images from the state of Iowa's broadband map that will support the above claim.

The remaining proposed areas of coverage for our service are all located in Nebraska. Some of these areas do appear to have current options for retail broadband service. However, the provided state data only states advertised broadband speeds, and future mapping data may show the actual coverage is substantially less. In addition, most of these areas only currently have one provider of broadband identified, or even a provider identifying a future buildout which will bring coverage. Introducing our service in these area will enhance competition by allowing other providers and ultimately result in lower broadband costs for the consumers.

We are proposing our Middle Mile broadband services include the following areas in the state of Nebraska:

- Hoskins, NE with a population of 866 and 340 households. Cable One currently advertises broadband availability of 1000/50 in the state data for this area.
- Winside, NE with a population of 697 and 289 households. Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company currently advertises broadband availability of 100/100 in the state data for this area.

- Wayne, NE with a population of 6444 and 2265 households. AMG Technology Investment Group currently advertises broadband availability of 100/20 in the state data for this area. We understand that this is not currently available but is part of the submitted proposal to build out over the next 10 years.
- Lyons, NE with a population of 1049 and 462 households. Skywave Wireless, Inc and HunTel CableVision (dba HunTel Communications) currently advertise broadband availability of 100/20 and 500/50 respectively in the state data for this area.
- West Point, NE with a population of 5676 and 2323 households. Cable One, Skywave Wireless and LTD Broadband currently advertise broadband availability of 1000/50, 1000/1000 and 250/250 respectively in the state data for this area.
- Oakland, NE with a population of 1623 and 660 households. Midstates Data Transport (dba Stealth Broadband), LTD Broadband, Skywave Wireless and HunTel CableVision (dba HunTel Communications) currently advertise broadband availability of 200/20, 250/250, 100/20 and 500/50 respectively in the state data for this area.
- Craig, NE with a population of 421 and 158 households. Skywave Wireless and Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company currently advertise broadband availability of 100/20 and 100/100 in the state data for this area.
- Wisner, NE with a population of 2284 and 966 households. Great Plains Communications, Cable One and Skywave Wireless currently advertise broadband availability of 100/10, 1000/50 and 100/20 respectively in the state data for this area.
- Tekamah, NE with a population of 2395 and 999 households. Midstates Data Transport (dba Stealth Broadband) and HunTel CableVision (dba HunTel Communications) currently advertise broadband availability of 200/20 and 500/50 respectively in the state data for this area.
- Finally, in Omaha, NE we connecting our network to large backbone providers and building a small data center of our own that can host our customers.

We believe strongly that bringing our broadband services to these areas will have nothing but a positive impact to these communities. Better access to broadband will improve the quality of life for these households, increase capabilities of the area businesses and result in a cost competitive solution for all. Additionally, we believe the deployment of our middle mile infrastructure will not only reduce overall end-user costs for broadband services in the region, but the deployment of resilient, fiber-based infrastructure in these regions, both served and unserved, will provide significant latency reductions in the last-mile service offerings provided.

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Applicants are encouraged to upload supplemental documentation.

25 - Competitive Landscape Supplemental-09-30-2022 02-04-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf

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Type of technology to be used in proposal:

Fiber Optic Technology

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Each applicant of an award to build middle mile infrastructure using fiber optic technology shall certify that the proposed project, upon completion, will include direct interconnection facilities that will facilitate the provision of lit broadband service, at speeds not less than 1 Gigabit per second for downloads and 1 Gigabit per second for uploads to anchor institutions located within 1,000 feet of the middle mile infrastructure, as detailed in the Template CAI below.

Do you agree to certify to the above?

Yes

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Upload Template CAI. Required for Fiber Optic Technology, optional for Wireless or Other.

27 - MMG Community Anchor Institution Final-09-30-2022 04-22-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.xlsx

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An eligible entity applying for a middle mile grant may seek, and the Assistant Secretary may grant, a waiver of the requirements set out in the previous paragraph, in full or in part, to the extent the eligible entity demonstrates that the requirement is not technically or economically feasible.

Do you plan to apply for a waiver? If yes, please attach the waiver application in the Application Workspace, the Application Information section, Required Documents under Required Document Question 4 "Additional Waiver Upload".

Yes

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Network Route Maps

Applicants should provide a physical network map that includes the following (if applicable):

The Project Area and those unserved and underserved areas which it will enable.
Applicant‘s pre-existing service area that demonstrates current service levels.
The physical path of the network‘s transmission medium (e.g., backbone and lateral cable routes, microwave links), transmission type, technology, operating bandwidth, capacity (e.g., dark vs. lit strand count), and cable placement (e.g., aerial, burial) should be displayed.
Points of interconnection (purely passive and non-environmentally controlled nodes, e.g., splice points are optional):Provider Facilities
Collocation Facilities
Private Interconnection Points with partnering service provider/private network

Wireless towers and associated coverage areas.

Anchor institutions within 1,000 feet, if desired.
Additionally, the maps should delineate between network and facilities that are:Part of the Applicant's/key partners' existing network;
Proposed as part of this project;
Leased from a third party;
Utilized under some alternative arrangement; or
Relevant to interconnection with either Last Mile or Middle Mile service providers.

PLEASE NOTE: Only ESRI Shapefiles will be accepted and uploaded.

28 - Network Route Maps-09-30-2022 06-42-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.zip
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Data Submission Specification

There is a template "Upload Template Data Submission Specification" which shall be uploaded. Applicants must complete the table with information for all interconnection points proposed for the network. This table has three required fields: Point Name, Latitude and Longitude. This should accommodate all of the points of interconnection (passive, non-environmentally controlled points of interconnection, e.g., splice points, may be excluded), collocation facilities, central offices, head ends, and other centralized facilities, network access points to Last Mile service providers, Internet peering points, and towers.

29 - Data Submission Specification-09-30-2022 04-52-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.xlsx, 29 - Data Submission Specification-updated 2--02-16-2023 08-14-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.xlsx
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Network Diagram

The Applicant must provide a high-level network diagram to be uploaded for the project that is a representation of the network, capacities, and facilities. The diagram must clearly denote which of the network elements already exist. The diagram should show:

The links between the network nodes. The types of facilities used in connecting the network elements (fiber, wireless microwave, etc.).

The points of interconnection and collocation facilities, including Internet peering points, access to local exchange carriers, central offices, or cable head ends.

The proposed aggregation node facilities that will provide the egress point(s) from the broadband

backbone to the networks of the selected service provider(s), named Last Mile service providers, and the selected named Internet Service Provider(s) in the new infrastructure.

The Applicant should show which technologies are used and include bandwidth capacity constraints.

30 - Network Diagrams - Technical Description-09-30-2022 04-00-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf

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Environmental Narrative

Any project-related activity that may adversely affect the environment must not be undertaken prior to the completion of the environmental review process prescribed by NTIA. Doing so may jeopardize consideration of the application.

All Applicants for MMG projects must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Endangered Species Act, and other applicable environmental regulations.

Please provide a service-area environmental description that describes the physical project area and its surroundings (e.g., disturbed or developed land vs. open space; adjacent natural resources, such as rivers, wetlands, or forestlands; and any protected lands or resources in or near the project area), including site photographs and aerial photographs (e.g., Google Earth or Google Maps images), if the project includes construction and/or ground disturbing activities.

This response is limited to 12000 characters as an open field narrative with image files to be uploaded.

The proposed project utilizes three types of methods for Fiber deployment, listed here in order of increasing potential disturbance/adverse impact on the local environment: Directional boring, aerial fiber, and plowing. Below we describe these methods in additional detail and provide further explanation on why we believe our use of these methods will not have significant adverse impacts on the local environment.

Directional boring as a method for deploying fiber is intentionally designed to minimize disturbance to the surrounding area by drilling entirely underground, with minimum impact on the land surface beyond the entry and exit holes. We plan to use directional boring primarily in the urban environments through which the proposed fiber build passes, so we feel confident based on a review of said urban areas that we will not violate any provisions of NEPA, NHPA, or the Endangered Species Act.

Aerial fiber deployments similarly have a small impact on the surrounding environment, with the only

exception being the locations at which new towers/poles must be built to support the string of fiber. As we plan to place most of these poles along the sides of highways and other major roads running through the more rural areas of our proposed fiber build, we do not anticipate any significant disturbance to the surrounding areas that would cause our project to violate any provisions of the aforementioned Acts.

Lastly, plowing fiber does have some adverse impact on the surrounding environment as it requires digging a hole in the ground. However, most of the plowing that our propose build will require will occur either on the sides of highways (as with the aerial fiber deployments) or on currently unused farmlands or other areas in which plowing of said land to deploy fiber is unlikely to have adverse environmental impacts that would violate any provisions of the aforementioned Acts.

We will also construct 5 small buildings or Huts and one 2,000 square foot building. The Huts are designed to be placed near some of the more populated areas (small towns of a few hundred people) so they may possibly serve as location where a last mile provider could launch a fiber to the home service. They are small buildings and will be of similar disturbance to the many other small buildings common to a small town. The 2,000 square foot building will be approximately 2 miles from downtown Omaha Nebraska near the major interconnection facility that our lit transport will connect to. These facilities are unlikely to have adverse environmental impacts that would violate any provisions of the aforementioned Acts.

To summarize, we plan on deploying this project almost entirely on what the NOFO and the aforementioned acts would classify as “developed land” or “open space” and as such are confident that the proposed build will not violate any provisions of NEPA, NHPA, or the ESA. Furthermore, as you will be able to see when loading our Network Route Diagrams into a software like Google Earth, the proposed build does not disturb any natural resources (rivers, wetlands, forestlands,) or any protected lands or resources in the project area.

As a final note, we have received confirmation from the Tribal entities on whose land we wish to build (The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, which is the applicant for this proposal, and the Winnebago Tribe), that this proposed build will not infringe on any important Tribal lands or areas that have cultural or historic significance to the Tribal entities.

Please see the attached supplemental documentation for images of the proposed build superimposed on Google Earth as additional evidence that this project will primarily take place on developed land or open space (as opposed to disturbing land) and will not disturb any protected lands or resources in or near the project area.

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Upload Map Images:

32 - Environment Map Images-09-30-2022 02-09-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf

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Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement

This is a document published to reflect an estimate of indirect cost rate negotiated between the Federal Government and a Grantee's organization which reflects the indirect costs (facilities and administrative costs) and fringe benefit expenses incurred by the organization. This must be completed, if applicable.

33 - OTN - 2022C Omaha Tribe of Nebraska NICR-09-29-2022 04-23-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf

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Template Table of Funded Partners and Unfunded Collaborators

List all funded and unfunded project collaborators, including partners, subrecipients, match providers, major contractors/supplies, details on role/scope of work for project. A fillable Template of Funded Partners and Unfunded Collaborators can be found in found in the MMG ZIP folder.

34 - MMG Table of Funded Part-09-30-2022 03-40-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447. and Unfunded Collaborators Final.xlsx

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Certificate of Operational Capability

Each applicant must supply a certification from an officer-level employee (or individual of comparable rank) attesting to the applicant's operational capability to complete and operate the proposed project.

If the applicant has provided a voice and/or broadband internet access service, it must supply a certification from an officer-level employee (or individual of comparable rank) attesting that it has filed FCC Form 477s and the Broadband DATA Act submission, if applicable, to the extent required during this time period and otherwise complied with the Commission's rules and regulations. Alternatively, the applicant must explain any pending or completed enforcement action, civil litigation, or other matter in which it was alleged to have failed to comply with Commission rules or regulations.

If the applicant has operated only an electric transmission or distribution service, it must submit qualified operating or financial reports that it has filed with the relevant financial institution for the relevant time period along with a certification that the submission is a true and accurate copy of the reports that were provided to the relevant financial institution.

If applicable, the applicant must submit a certification from an officer-level employee (or individual of comparable rank) that is has operated a middle mile broadband network for at least two years or that it is a wholly owned subsidiary of such an entity and must specify the number of years the

applicant or its parent company has been operating.

35 - Operational Capability Certification-09-30-2022 02-19-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
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Certification of Financial Capability

Each applicant must supply a certification from an officer-level employee (or individual of comparable rank) attesting that it is financially qualified to meet the obligations associated with a project, that they will have available funds for all project costs that exceed the amount of the grant, and that they will comply with all MMG Program requirements, including service milestones.

36 - Financial Capability Certificate-09-30-2022 02-20-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
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Letter of Credit

During the application process, each applicant must submit a letter from a bank meeting eligibility requirements consistent with those set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.804(c)(2) committing to issue an irrevocable stand-by letter of credit, in the required form, to the applicant. The letter shall at a minimum provide the dollar amount of credit offered and the issuing bank's agreement to follow the terms and conditions of NTIA's model letter of credit. NTIA shall publish on its website a model letter of credit substantially similar to the model letter of credit established by the Federal Communications Commission in connection with the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF - Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Order, 35 FCC Rcd at 773-77, Appx. C.).

NTIA will ensure, prior to issuing a middle mile grant award, that each eligible entity obtains an acceptable, irrevocable standby letter of credit in a value of no less than 25 percent of the award amount.

Each eligible entity shall provide with its letter of credit an opinion letter from its legal counsel clearly stating, subject only to customary assumptions, limitations, and qualifications, that in a proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101 et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), the bankruptcy court would not treat the letter of credit or proceeds of the letter of credit as property of the winning bidder's bankruptcy estate under Section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code.

07 - LOC and Waiver-09-30-2022 05-27-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf, Copy of Omaha Tribe 093022-SAC Submission_063-02-19-2023 04-17-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.xlsx, OTN - FY21 Financial Statement and Single Aud-02-19-2023 04-17-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf, Screenshot of Fed Audit-02-19-2023 04-21-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.docx
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Audited Financial Statement (Previous 3 Years)

Each applicant shall submit financial statements from the most recent fiscal year that are audited by

an independent certified public accountant. If the applicant is not audited in the ordinary course of business, in lieu of submitting audited financial statements it must submit unaudited financial statements from the three prior fiscal years and certify that it will provide financial statements from the three prior fiscal years that are audited by an independent certified public accountant by an NTIA specified deadline.

***You must provide 3 years of audited financial statements.**

38 - merge-09-30-2022 02-31-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
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Historical Financial Statements (Previous 3 Years)

Each applicant shall submit financial statements from the three prior fiscal years that are audited by an independent certified public accountant. If the applicant is not audited in the ordinary course of business, in lieu of submitting audited financial statements it must submit unaudited financial statements from the three prior fiscal years and certify that it will provide financial statements from the three prior fiscal years that are audited by an independent certified public accountant by an NTIA specified deadline.

***You must provide 3 years of historical financial statements.**

38 - merge-09-30-2022 02-31-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.pdf
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Budget Narrative

Applicants will create and submit a budget narrative that adequately describes all proposed activities and costs for their grant-funded project. Applicants must complete the file template, fill in all required information, and upload the file
. The file must be uploaded as a Word file, and not converted to a PDF. You can find additional guidance in the MMG Application Guidance.

41 - 2022-09-30 MMG Budget Narrative-09-30-2022 06-03-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.docx, 41 - 2023-04-04 MMG Budget NarrativeC-04-06-2023 04-52-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.docx
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Template Detailed Budget Justification

The Detailed Budget Justification spreadsheet must reflect the cost categories that appear on the SF-424 and SF-424C and include itemized calculations for each cost placed under those categories. A fillable Template Detailed Budget Justification can be found in found in the MMG ZIP folder.

42 - 09-26-2022 Detailed Budget Justification-09-30-2022 03-39-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.xlsx, 42 - 04-04-2023 Detailed Budget Justification-04-06-2023 04-53-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska -GRN-001447.xlsx

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Any other funding provided for this project?

No

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Template Pro Forma

Pro forma financial projection and analysis related to the project's sustainability, inclusive of subscriber (e.g., last mile network connections, other wholesale services), across an eight-year forecast period. A fillable Template Pro Forms can be found in the MMG ZIP folder.

43 - MMG Template Pro Forma - Omaha - final-09-30-2022 06-03-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.xlsx, 43 - MMG Template Pro Forma - Omaha - finalC-04-06-2023 04-53-Omaha Tribe of Nebraska-GRN-001447.xlsx

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