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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

9-9-2022

Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear National Telecommunication and Information Administration,
This letter is being written to express our support of Dairyland Power Cooperative's (DPC) Tri-State Fiber Deployment Project; a multifaceted endeavor that will bring about much needed middle mile infrastructure to predominately rural communities in south-east Minnesota, northern Iowa, south-west Wisconsin, and northwest Wisconsin through the NTIA's Middle Mile Grant Program.

Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, in addition to being an electric utility, has been providing internet for nearly 20 years. We are continuously improving our methodology and are deploying fiber aggressively. Fiber is truly the gold standard regarding connectivity. Residents and businesses must have it.

Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative is fully cognizant of the significance of middle mile infrastructure to expand internet networks closer to unserved and underserved communities while offering equal opportunity for internet service providers to connect to last mile infrastructure in a cost-effective manner, ultimately promoting economic prosperity and closing the digital divide. DPC is committed to having a positive impact in Northeast Iowa and surrounding areas by implementing middle mile infrastructure that will increase competition among local internet service providers, and subsequently lower costs and offer increased options for citizens.

In this respect, we commit to interconnecting with DPC's Tri-State Fiber Deployment Project to effectively meet the needs of the community by providing reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband connection to all.

Sincerely,

Hollee L. McCormick
Executive Vice President/General Manager

ALLAMAKEE ■ CLAYTON
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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