

Title **0014** 09/28/2022

by **Stacey Stults** in **Capital Projects Fund (CPF)** id. 32465996
Broadband Infrastructure Program: Phase Two
Applicant Response Form

P.O. Box 158
Lenora, Kansas
67645
KS
United States
8776257872
sstults@nex-tech.com

Original Submission 09/28/2022

Please provide your name: **Stacey Stults**

Please provide your address: **P.O. Box 158**
Lenora
KS
67645
US

Please provide a phone number: **+17856217037**

Please provide your email address: **sstults@nex-tech.com**

I am providing response comments related to the following application (choose one): **Nex-Tech_OberlinTown**

I am responding to the concern that this project: **Proposes to serve an area that already has service**

Please describe: **Nex-Tech, LLC Response to Challenge 0102 by Vyve Broadband**

Please provide your response to the public comments received in the text box below: **Nex-Tech submitted an application for Oberlin town for the following reasons:**

1. The City of Oberlin and the Oberlin community approached Nex-Tech and conveyed a need for a local, reliable fiber provider. Nex-Tech has received 72 additional support comments from customers wanting Nex-Tech services in Atwood, including this from a local

Oberlin resident: “I want to see Nex-Tech fiber in Oberlin because we need high-speed internet at an affordable rate. Vyve has proven to be an unreliable service and does not carry the speed that Nex-Tech could bring. Nex-Tech is already in our community, with a positive impact and involvement. They have been working toward bringing fiber internet to Oberlin for several years, that I am aware of. A few years ago, they brought fiber to our downtown area, with the businesses helping pay some of the expense of bringing it to them. It would be nice to let them expand that service to the residents. They are a "local" company that provides excellent customer service. Nex-tech has been the company that has stepped up to the plate in wanting to bring true fiber internet to Oberlin. Please award the grant to Nex-Tech because it is important to the future of my small town.” The funds being contributed by the city for the project serve as evidence of their support.

2. By submitting both an Oberlin town and Oberlin rural application, Nex-Tech intends to provide quality fiber broadband service to the entire Oberlin exchange, not just the town. Vyve does not service the entire rural area of the Oberlin exchange and Nex-Tech is the best opportunity for those areas to receive better service. Providing service to the collective town and rural areas allows for more subscriber density to improve the long-term sustainability of the projects.

3. At the time Nex-Tech submitted the applications, it was unclear whether Vyve was adequately serving Oberlin town. The interactive FCC Fixed Broadband Deployment map was showing the town as underserved and community feedback suggested the town was being underserved. After the application was submitted, the FCC Fixed Broadband Deployment map has been updated. Yet, even on the updated FCC Fixed Broadband Deployment map, there are still more than 15 census blocks within the town which are still being shown as underserved.

The Capital Project Fund is poised to create a substantial positive impact to the people that live and work in rural Kansas, not just in the near future, but for decades to come. Nex-Tech felt it was important to give these families, business owners and community members a voice. In order to better understand their need for fiber Internet, Nex-Tech created an online form located on the website at <https://www.nex-tech.com/Fiber.aspx> to gather public comments of support.

Attached are the responses Nex-Tech received from this online form in support of our Capital Project Fund Application. The addresses of the responses have been redacted for Propriety Information but can be provided upon request.

Please provide supporting documents relative to your comments. Please submit multiple files as a ZIP file.

[Oberlin_Public_Responses.pdf](#)

Stacey Stults

By submitting this form for public comment and evidence to support your comment, you are accepting responsibility for the accuracy of the information submitted and that it is true and correct to the best of your knowledge. You agree to be contacted by the Kansas Office of Broadband Development, Kansas Department of Commerce should the need arise. Furthermore, by making this submission, you understand that Kansas Department of Commerce and the Office of Broadband Development reserve the right to publicly publish your comment and evidence provided. Falsification of information will result in rejection of future public comment submissions and could result legal action. Please type your name and today's date in the text box below.
