



To: State of Kansas – Office of Broadband

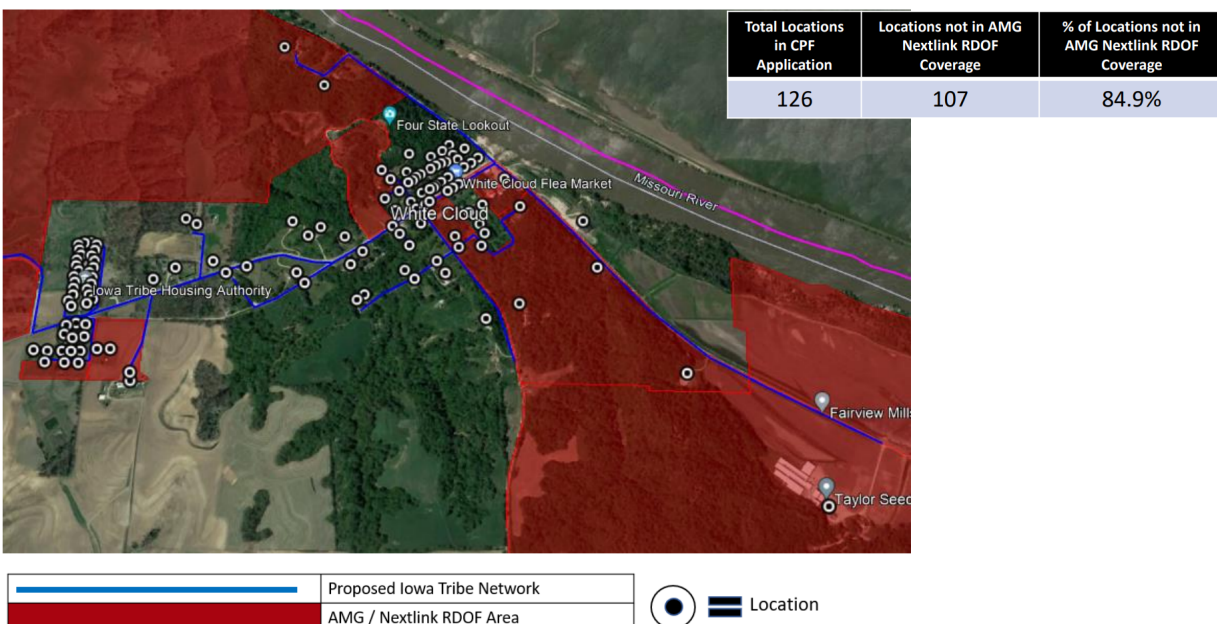
From: Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska

Re: Response to AMG/Nextlink public comments regarding the Iowa Tribe broadband grant application

The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska recently submitted a grant application to the State of Kansas Broadband Office. This proposal was to expand our current broadband fiber solution to White Cloud, Kansas, in order to connect our community housing area and our members that live in White Cloud. The town is named after the Chief of our Tribe and we have a long history of partnership with this community. Many of our members own businesses in this town and live in this community. We have operated our own fiber on our reservation for over 10 years, successfully providing services to our members at affordable prices with great reliability and speed. Since this is our community, we feel we are the best qualified to speak to a solution that meets the needs of our members, families, and community in this area. The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska partnered with the City of White Cloud, Doniphan County, and a local ISP partner in creating our grant. We feel the solution proposed in our grant application is a proven approach that is supported by our community and members.

We have looked at the RDOF maps of the area awarded to AMG/NextLink and these areas do not significantly overlap, or provide service, to the areas we are requesting to add fiber to.

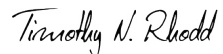
Iowa Tribe CPF Grant Application Network/ Location Map



Furthermore, the public commit submitted by AMG/NextLink to our grant application does not take into consideration the following facts: wireless solutions have been tried in this area before with poor results; people in the areas have stated in meetings and via surveys that they want fast reliable fiber service; the needs of this area would be best served by the tested and proven solution that we have proposed. Because AMG/Nextlink is not a local company, they do not understand the challenges of building solutions in our area and did not coordinate their proposals with us. Because the terrain in our area is wooded and hilly, it inhibits wireless solutions from working well. Previously awarded grants for wireless solutions in our area have not been successful in delivering the promised speeds or service. Additionally, wireless solutions would require significant numbers of towers to be built on our land, which we would not allow due to the impact on our natural and cultural resources.

We respectfully request that you consider our grant application for the good of our community, and to allow us to extend our fiber solution to our community of White Cloud, as it supports the goal of creating digital equity in our area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy N. Rhodd".

Tim Rhodd

Chairman

Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska