[Date]

Matt Varilek, Commissioner

Office of Broadband Development

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

180 E 5th St Suite 1200

St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Commissioner Varilek:

Please accept this letter of support for this application to the Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program. This project would provide long-needed, reliable broadband connections to underserved and unserved areas in Kandiyohi County. Additionally, this project will be critical in closing the digital divide in our outstate region.

Following are a few reasons why reliable internet connections are important:

* Economic growth and quality jobs in rural Kandiyohi County
* Growing use of precision agriculture
* Telehealth and healthcare internet options for patients
* Educational opportunities and distance learning for all individuals
* Assistance with public safety issues
* Help senior citizens stay connected with friends and family
* Increase property values

Without a reliable internet connection, rural residents will continue to fall behind their urban neighbors and rural businesses will suffer. [In my household/at my farm/in my business, I’ve experienced….]

This project will support the resilience of our region, businesses, and families, for years to come. Kandiyohi County needs effective fiber-based broadband infrastructure that will serve our area’s needs, both now and into the future. An investment today will help shape the success of tomorrow.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Address, City or Township]