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CHEROKEE NATION®

P.O. Box 948 • Tahlequah, OK 74465-0948
918-453-5000 • www.cherokee.org

Chuck Hoskin Jr.

Principal Chief

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Bryan Warner

Deputy Principal Chief

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August 19, 2025

Oklahoma Broadband Office
301 NW 63rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73116

RE: Support and Expansion of Support for BEAD Grant Applications

Dear Governing Board Members & OBO Staff,

As the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, I am pleased to convey our support for the initiatives proposed by Connect Holding II LLC d/b/a Brightspeed, Cross Telephone Company, L.L.C., Dobson Fiber, Southern Plains Cable, Atlas Broadband, Resound Networks, and Amazon Kuiper Commercial Services LLC to expand and enhance connectivity within the Cherokee Reservation.

As the largest federally recognized tribe in the United States, with approximately 472,943 registered citizens, Cherokee Nation is a sovereign government and economic leader dedicated to fostering opportunity for our people and enterprises. We are steadfast in our responsibility to protect inherent sovereignty, preserve and promote Cherokee culture, language, and values, and improve the quality of life for future generations.

Cherokee Nation supports investments in infrastructure that directly serve the rural communities within our reservation. Fiber and fixed wireless remain our top priorities for deployment, followed by low-earth-orbit technologies in areas where costs are prohibitive or where other providers have not applied. Reliable and affordable connectivity is essential for our citizens and aligns with our commitment to ensure every household has access to the tools necessary to thrive.

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the critical importance of broadband access. Connectivity is indispensable for workforce development, education, healthcare, and the delivery of essential social services. To that end, Cherokee Nation actively partners with local and state governments, as well as private industry, to expand opportunities and strengthen the well-being of our citizens and neighbors. We deeply value these long-standing, mutually beneficial relationships with our regional partners.

For these reasons, I am honored to express Cherokee Nation's full support for these applications and respectfully request their favorable consideration. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Robin Allen, Director of Grant Services, at grants@cherokee.org.

Respectfully,

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., *Principal Chief*
Cherokee Nation