

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Office of Broadband

600 East Main Street, Suite 300,

Richmond, VA 23219

November 22, 2024

Toll-Free: (800) 760-2232

Local: (540) 864-5121

Fax: (540) 283-0585

Re: Letter of Intent for Virginia Broadband Opportunity Expansion (BEAD) Program

Dear Dr. Holmes,

Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative and Bee Online Advantage is pleased to submit this Letter of Intent (LOI) for the Virginia Broadband Opportunity Expansion (BEAD) Program. We are committed to bridging the digital divide and ensuring that all residents and businesses in Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Giles, Montgomery, and Roanoke counties have access to affordable, high-speed broadband internet service.

Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative and Bee Online Advantage has partnered with Botetourt, Roanoke, and Alleghany counties, along with Virginia DHCD to build fiber/broadband networks. We are currently serving fiber to the premises with symmetrical Gig service.

Proposed Project:

Our proposed project aims to provide high-speed internet service to unserved and underserved locations within Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Giles, Montgomery, and Roanoke counties. This includes the following zip codes: 24070, 24085, 24087, 24090, 24131, 24153, 24127, 24150, 24019,2 4128, 24060, 24066, 24162, 24136, 24426, 24422, 24175. The project will involve constructing an XGS-PON fiber network to the premises.

Project Benefits:

Our project will deliver significant benefits to the community, including:

- **Economic Development:** Broadband access will attract new businesses, create jobs, and stimulate economic growth.
- Educational Opportunities: Students will have access to online learning resources, enabling them to succeed in the 21st-century workforce.

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- Telehealth Services: Broadband will enable residents to access remote healthcare services, improving their health and well-being.
- Public Safety: First responders and emergency services will benefit from improved communication and data transmission capabilities.

Financial and Technical Resources:

Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative and Bee Online Advantage has a strong financial foundation and a proven track record of successful broadband projects. We are prepared to leverage our relationships with CFC, CoBank, and RUS to support this project. Our team of experienced engineers, technicians, and project managers will ensure the efficient and timely implementation of this initiative.

We are eager to work with the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development and other stakeholders to bring high-speed broadband to the proposed areas. We believe that this project will have a lasting positive impact on our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this LOI. We look forward to the opportunity to provide more details about our project and answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Jeff M. Ahearn

Chief Executive Officer Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative & Bee Online Advantage 26198 Craigs Creek Road New Castle, Virginia 24127 (540) 864-5121 ext 122





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