September 20, 2022

National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce – Assistant Secretary
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 4874
Washington, DC 20230

RE: NTIA-Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program
Letter of Interest

Dear Assistant Secretary,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Scott County Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (SCTC). As a telecommunications provider in middle Tennessee, Twin Lakes would like to express our full support of the NTIA - Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program Grant application for SCTC.

SCTC has been providing telecommunications services in Southwest Virginia and Eastern Tennessee for over sixty (60) years and has a proven record of deploying and operating advanced broadband services in difficult to serve areas. SCTC's demonstrated technical capability combined with its commitment to serving rural communities make it an ideal recipient for funding under the MMG Program.

With funding assistance from the middle mile broadband grant, SCTC will be able to enhance broadband connectivity with a fiber middle mile network design. The project proposed by SCTC will add substantial middle mile infrastructure in areas where economic opportunities are greatly needed. This $30.5 million project with a $20.35 million grant and SCTC match of $10.152M with existing network, will build 155 miles of fiber network equipped with electronics capable of delivering a mixture of 10 Gig and 100 Gig circuits up to 400 Gig of total bandwidth. This network provides many unserved/underserved communities with reliable, robust, and affordable bandwidth going forward, if awarded.

It is extremely important that grant funding under the NTIA Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program be obtained to provision for much needed broadband transport and connectivity to our area to provide last mile service to unserved and underserved residents and businesses in areas of deployment.

We strongly urge the NTIA and the review committee to fund this Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program Grant application. Not only will this help with sustaining the future of advanced broadband services in Southwest Virginia and Eastern Tennessee, but also promoting the future economic stability of our community.

Respectfully,

Jonathan West
General Manager/CEO
Twin Lakes

931-268-2151
P.O. Box 67
Gainesboro, TN 38562
www.twinlakes.net