

NC DIT GREAT Program
Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology Program

Applicant Information	
Company Name	ATMC
Address	640 Whiteville Road, NW Shallotte, NC 28470
Website	www.focusbroadband.com
Federal Tax ID	
DUNS #	009795113
System Award Management (SAM.Gov) ID	VQY8Y7CU62L4

Authorized Representative		Authorized Representative (Alternative)	
Full Name	Michael Keith Holden	Full Name	Jody Heustess
Contact Title	CEO/General Manager	Contact Title	VP, Marketing & Customer Care
Phone Number	910 755 1720	Phone Number	910 755 1728
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Grant Administrator & Company Name(if applicable):

Full Name	
Contact Title	
Telephone	
E Mail	
Website	
Federal Tax ID	
Address	

Project Information			
Project Title	Faster Hoke 2022		
Project Cost	\$5,337,400		
County	Hoke	Tier #	001
Estimated # of Households with improved access	1,908		
Estimated # of businesses with improved access	27		
Base Speed Minimum Download/Upload	Greater than 100:100 Mbp		

Project Description (provide a brief summary of the project)
<p>The Faster Hoke 2022 GREAT Grant project is a PARTNERSHIP between Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation (dba. FOCUS Broadband) and Hoke County Government to deliver critical broadband service with up to 2 Gigabits per second (Gbps) maximum symmetrical speeds to unserved and underserved areas of Hoke County via a 100% fiber to the home network constructed by FOCUS Broadband. The proposed funding area qualifies for grant eligibility due to Hoke County's status as a Persistent Poverty County and North Carolina Tier 1 Economically Distressed County. 100% of the proposed addresses are within Hoke County.</p> <p>The proposed Faster Hoke 2022 grant area will require construction of 81.3 route miles of fiber optic network to serve 1,935 eligible addresses which includes 27 business/community anchor point addresses. The estimated cost of the Faster Hoke 2022 project is \$5,337,400 or \$2,758.35 per eligible address.</p>

Has the applicant entered into a partnership for this project as defined in S.L. 2019 230?	Yes
Please Identify Partner	
Hoke County Government	

Checklist Details
1) Statement of Qualifications (Please provide a detailed description of qualifications and experience with the deployment of broadband):
<p>The Faster Hoke NC GREAT Grant application is submitted as a joint project between Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation (dba FOCUS Broadband) and Hoke County Government. We affirm that a formalized PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT exists between the two entities for the purpose of provisioning broadband services in unserved areas as outlined in the PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT. FOCUS Broadband is a cooperative that operates primarily in rural, underserved, sparsely populated areas and is well qualified to utilize funds available through the NC GREAT Grant program to achieve success. FOCUS will utilize its experience, assets, and established business practices to provide service to the unserved areas identified in this application.</p> <p>Headquartered in Brunswick County, FOCUS Broadband is the largest rural not for profit communications cooperative in North Carolina. FOCUS Broadband is member owned and operated continuously since it was chartered in 1955. FOCUS Broadband offers local telephone service, high speed internet, Cable TV, business communications solutions, residential and business security services and more to over 54,000 residential and business customers in Brunswick, Columbus, and Robeson counties. FOCUS Broadband will begin offering services in Pender and Robeson Counties in the coming months.</p>

Checklist Details

FOCUS Broadband provides broadband Internet to over 53,500 customers utilizing a variety of different plant types including fiber to the home (FTTH) and DOCSIS over coaxial cable. Approximately 99% of FOCUS Broadband's customers have access to broadband internet speeds of at least 600 Megabits per second, with 50% having access to Internet speeds of up to 1 Gigabit per second. FOCUS Broadband is led by a senior management team with 135 years of combined telecommunications experience, and FOCUS Broadband's staff of over 300 team members are proven and well qualified.

FOCUS Broadband understands the critical role access to reliable high speed internet plays in education, healthcare and business. FOCUS Broadband connected all Brunswick County public schools to a fiber optic network to provide reliable, high capacity broadband communications. Through its relationship with Novant Health, FOCUS Broadband has used fiber optics to link nine rural health care facilities back to Novant Health Brunswick Medical Center so that doctors can have timely access to critical patient records and off site resources. To promote economic growth and supply local businesses with critical bandwidth capability, FOCUS Broadband has built fiber optic broadband services into industrial parks and business districts in the towns of Leland, Shallotte, Ocean Isle Beach, Holden Beach, Oak Island, Sunset Beach, Caswell Beach, Brunswick, Boiling Spring Lakes, and south Whiteville.

Perhaps the best example of FOCUS Broadband's qualifications and experience with the deployment of broadband was a project that began in 2011 and was completed under budget and ahead of schedule in just 16 months. Through the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), the company applied for and received a Broadband Initiatives Grant and Loan package totaling \$16 million to build a 100% fiber optic network in southeastern Columbus County. This network covered over 185 square miles and required building approximately 250 miles of mainline fiber optic lines past 2,220 unserved households. FOCUS Broadband currently provides broadband Internet service to over 2,050 customers via this Columbus County network and users have the option to subscribe to Internet packages which deliver symmetrical speeds of 50 Mbps, 250 Mbps, 500 Mbps, and 1 Gigabit the fastest such speeds available in Columbus County.

Over the past 60 months, under the direction of this management team, FOCUS Broadband has completed over \$50 million in substantially similar fiber optic upgrade and expansion projects passing over 35,000 homes and businesses in the company's ILEC and CLP service areas as well as a \$5 million project to expand broadband into rural Brunswick County to serve over 4,000 addresses utilizing a DOCSIS hybrid fiber coax network.

More recently FOCUS Broadband has won over \$45.5 million in grant funds from 11 different state and federal grants to bring high speed internet to underserved rural areas of Brunswick, Columbus, Robeson, Duplin, and Pender counties. These funds were made available through the NC GREAT Grant Program (8 grants), the USDA ReConnect Broadband Grant Program (2 grants), and the USDA Community Connect Program (1 grant). FOCUS Broadband is investing over \$22 million in matching funds to complete these projects and is currently working to construct over 1,100 miles of fiber optic network past more than 18,000 homes and businesses. Upon the completion of these project areas in 30 months, FOCUS Broadband will have brought gigabit high speed internet to 816 square miles of rural service area.

In January of 2022, FOCUS Broadband started a self funded, multi year, \$100 million project to convert its entire coaxial network to fiber to the home to ensure that its customers have access to sustainable, reliable, symmetrical multi gigabit speeds. This project is expected to improve services for an estimated 28,000 broadband subscribers in Brunswick County, North Carolina.

The work FOCUS Broadband has undertaken to provide broadband to rural communities throughout Brunswick and Columbus Counties has received national recognition. FOCUS Broadband is a Certified Gig Provider and has been named a Smart Rural Provider; both designations are given by the Rural Broadband Association. The Smart Rural Provider designation highlights member companies who undertake projects which make rural communities vibrant places to live and do business through the implementation of innovative broadband enabled solutions. In addition, in 2006, FOCUS Broadband became the first company in North Carolina to be a certified fiber to the home provider by the National Fiber to the Home Council.

FOCUS Broadband will use its assets and experience to bring fast, affordable, and reliable broadband internet access to the proposed funding service areas in Hoke County.

2) Assessment of the current level of broadband access in the proposed deployment area supporting data may be uploaded if applicable:

FOCUS Broadband has determined the addresses in the Faster Hoke 2022 grant area fall below the 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload threshold. The methodology used to make this determination is the same methodology FOCUS Broadband used to determine unserved areas in successful grants submitted to NC DIT for Columbus, Robeson, Duplin and Counties in 2019 and 2020, as well as a \$22.7 million USDA Reconnect grant awarded to FOCUS Broadband for Pender County in 2020.

While the Faster Hoke 2022 area consists primarily of areas that are considered by the FCC 477 Report as being within partially served Census Blocks, the addresses included in this project do not have access to qualifying broadband speeds which meet the 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload threshold.

FOCUS Broadband identified a total of 1,935 unserved addresses for this project. The majority of the addresses are in the central and western portions of the county west of Raeford in the Antioch, Bowmore, Five Points, and Montrose communities. All of the addresses included in the Faster Hoke 2022 project are within Hoke County.

According to World Population Review's 2021 population statistics, Hoke County has a population of 56,312. According to FCC 477 data found in the GREAT Grant Guidance Document, there are 18,211 households in the county. ESRI data indicates that nearly 15.95% (2,904 households) in Hoke County households are unserved by 25/3 Mbps broadband. Hoke County is also the home of the Fort Bragg Military Reservation, a military weapons test ground that is not inhabited. This area accounts for nearly 34% of the county's land mass. From a broadband availability perspective, the county has three internet service providers that provide internet service to the county. These include CenturyLink, Spectrum and Windstream.

CenturyLink's incumbent telephone area covers approximately 53% of Hoke County where the provider offers internet service to residential customers almost exclusively via DSL. Based on census block information provided by FCC 477, CenturyLink provides 60.57% of their service area with speeds greater than 25/3; however, independent survey results and NTIA's Indicator of Broadband Needs Map indicates that many within CenturyLink's service area are in fact unserved. Nearly 54% of CenturyLink's service area is overlapped by Spectrum which offers broadband speeds of up to 940 Mbps in Raeford as well as areas off Old Fayetteville Road, Rockfish Road, and along portions of Hwy. 211. Again, while FCC 477 data and the CenturyLink website shows that broadband speeds up to 60 Mbps are available in certain rural areas of Hoke County, no speed test results from our broadband survey support this claim.

Spectrum provides qualifying broadband service delivered over cable modem service to the Town of Raeford, the Timberland community, areas between Raeford and Cumberland County along Fayetteville Road, and areas near the Hoke Moore county line. Spectrum's service area covers approximately 31.6%

Checklist Details

of the county and includes the most densely populated areas of the county. Spectrum's service area overlaps with either CenturyLink (91.1%) or Windstream (8.9%) wherever it offers services in Hoke County. Based on information provided by the 477 database, Spectrum does not provide any fiber optic delivered broadband service in Hoke County. Spectrum does offer broadband speeds up to 940 Mbps and all households who subscribe to Spectrum services would be considered served addresses.

Windstream provides service to a small portion of western Hoke County along the Hoke Richmond county line as well as areas around Aberdeen. Windstream's service area makes up nearly 13% of the Hoke County land area. Based on information provided by the 477 Database all of Windstream's service is provided via DSL; however, speed checks on Windstream's website reflect speeds of up to 200 Mbps in areas closer to Aberdeen. Survey results could not confirm that Windstream was able to provide speeds at this level, and instead indicated that much of the rural area was in fact unserved. Addresses where Windstream reports speeds between 50 Mbps and 200 Mbps will be considered served addresses because Windstream must serve them via a greater technology for users to receive those speeds. Some addresses served by faster speeds also lie within areas that are served by Spectrum. Just over 8% of Windstream's service area is overlapped by Spectrum.

While Spectrum won RDOF funding in some census blocks in Hoke County, FOCUS Broadband was careful to not include any individual addresses in the proposal that fall within census blocks where Spectrum will receive RDOF funding.

MetroNet has reported they are in the process of constructing a fiber optic broadband network around the city of Raeford radiating eastward toward Cumberland County. At the time, MetroNet has not reported serving any customers in Hoke County as required of all facilities based broadband providers by completing the FCC's Form 477.

Additional support data, including survey results, letters from customers, speed checks from provider websites, NC One Map data, NTIA Broadband Indicators of Need Map Data, and more have been uploaded to support our application.

3)Description of Proposed Services, Advertised Speeds, and Pricing Structure for proposed broadband recipients in the eligible project area:

FOCUS Broadband will provide high capacity, high quality broadband internet, delivered over a 100% fiber optic to the premise network at affordable rates. Speeds offered by FOCUS Broadband in the Faster Hoke 2022 GREAT Grant proposal area will offer symmetrical broadband speeds ranging from 50 Megabits per second (Mbps) to up to 2 Gigabit per second (Gbps) with no data caps. In addition to broadband internet, FOCUS Broadband will provide high quality residential and business telephone and video services over the same fiber optic connection.

Residential Broadband Speed Offerings

Broadband and high speed internet packages available to residential customers will mirror those offered in FOCUS Broadband's existing service area served by fiber optics and will feature speeds beginning at 50 Mbps and go up to 2 Gbps. Package options available will not be throttled or contain data caps. Pricing per package will be based on the tier of speed offered. There will be four speed tiers offered to residential customers with symmetrical upload and downloads speeds. The prices and speeds are listed below:

Speed Tier	Prices	Price with Lifeline Discount
50/50 Mbps	\$ 49.95	\$ 31.45
250/250 Mbps	\$ 57.95	\$ 39.45
500/500 Mbps	\$ 67.95	\$ 49.45
1/1 Gbps	\$ 77.95	\$ 59.45
2/2 Gbps	\$ 109.95	\$ 91.45

Low Cost Options

To encourage adoption by low income and financially vulnerable households, customers who qualify for the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) Broadband Lifeline Assistance Program and apply the \$9.25 Lifeline discount to a FOCUS Broadband internet package will receive a matching \$9.25 discount from FOCUS Broadband. The combined total of the two discounts will provide \$18.50 per month off any broadband package. FOCUS Broadband is a participant in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) which offers a savings of \$30 per month.

Business Broadband Speed Offerings

Broadband and high speed internet packages available to business customers will mirror those offered in FOCUS Broadband existing service area served by fiber optics. Package options available will not be throttled or contain data caps. Pricing per package will be based on the level of speed offered. There will be three speed tiers offered to business customers with asymmetrical upload and downloads speeds. The prices and speeds are listed below:

Speed Tier	A La Carte
250/100 Mbps	\$ 69.95
500/200 Mbps	\$ 99.95
1 Gbps/400 Mbps	\$ 149.95

Business Class Broadband tiers which offer service level agreements and symmetrical speeds will also be available as well as managed service options which include IT Support Services, firewall protection, managed networks, and data backup.

Community Anchor Institution Broadband Speed Offerings

The broadband and high speed internet packages available to qualifying community anchor institutions will not be throttled or contain data caps. Pricing per

Checklist Details

package will be based on the level of speed offered. There will be three speed tiers offered to qualifying community anchor institutions with symmetrical upload and downloads speeds. The prices and speeds are listed below:

Speed Tier	A La Carte
50/50 Mbps	\$ 39.95
250/250 Mbps	\$ 49.95
500/500 Mbps	\$ 59.95

Additional Service Offerings

In addition to broadband internet services, FOCUS Broadband will offer additional services including:

- Telephone service with Unlimited Nationwide Calling for as low as \$19.99 per month
- Home Security and Automation Services

FOCUS Broadband will not require contractual obligations to subscribe to services.

4) Description of Adoption Plan:

FOCUS Broadband understands how important it is to effectively communicate the availability of high speed internet service and encourage its use to customers in unserved and underserved areas. FOCUS Broadband has a great deal of experience in communicating to rural, unserved areas and has effectively migrated customers to faster internet service as part of its 2010 grant project in Columbus County where it achieved a penetration of over 75% of residents in an unserved area. In addition, over the past 24 months, FOCUS Broadband has begun serving over 1,000 rural residents in Robeson and Columbus Counties as a result of projects made possible with GREAT Grant funding. For this project, FOCUS Broadband will use its experience and a variety of communication tactics to educate and encourage broadband adoption in the proposed funding area, if a GREAT Grant is awarded. These tactics will include community education forums (COVID dependent), advertising through a variety of media methods, as well as other marketing programs listed below:

- **Online Information and Interest Webpage** FOCUS Broadband will utilize its www.getfocusbroadband.com website to gauge interest and availability of high speed internet access in Hoke County. This website has played a critical role in defining areas that are unserved and underserved for internet access. This website will be used as a focal point to educate customers on the benefits of fiber optics, the progress of construction, contact information and product information. In addition, FOCUS Broadband will utilize www.getfocusbroadband.com to allow customers to pre register for service. Once customers have pre registered, as service becomes available in each service area, FOCUS Broadband personnel will contact pre registered customers to advise them of service availability.
- **Community Education Forums** FOCUS Broadband will host community education forums in a facility located within a ten minute drive of the proposed funding area. The forums will take place outside of regular work hours for ease of attendance. Each household within the proposed service area will be invited to learn about the benefits of fiber optic delivered broadband, project timelines, the construction process, available service and pricing options and provide time for questions and answers. Attendees will also be given contact numbers for the FOCUS Broadband Construction Hotline and they will be encouraged to visit our www.getfocusbroadband.com website where they can view up to date construction status map and pre register for service. Forums will be open to the public at no cost and an incentive will be provided to encourage attendance.
- **Direct Mail** FOCUS Broadband will utilize direct mail campaigns to notify households within the grant application area to inform them initially that fiber optic delivered broadband will be coming to their area, and subsequently of its availability. These direct mail pieces will direct customers to the FOCUS Broadband project webpage, www.getfocusbroadband.com, where they can get information about broadband offerings and pre register for service, as well as provide them with contact information to call FOCUS Broadband directly.
- **E mails** Through surveys of residents living in the grant application area via the FOCUS Broadband project website, www.getfocusbroadband.com, FOCUS Broadband has compiled a database of email addresses from potential customers living in the grant application area. FOCUS Broadband will use these email addresses to contact customers of the coming availability of fiber optic broadband for their community. FOCUS Broadband will also do email campaigns which will direct customers to the FOCUS Broadband project webpage, www.getfocusbroadband.com where customers can get information about broadband offerings and pre register for service as well as provide them with contact information to call FOCUS Broadband directly.
- **Newspapers** FOCUS Broadband will utilize local newspapers and news websites serving Hoke County to promote the availability of service through press releases and advertising. FOCUS Broadband will drive customers to the project website, www.getfocusbroadband.com, both during and after construction. FOCUS Broadband will advertise packages available as well as provide contact information for customers who are interested in signing up for service.
- **Referral Program** FOCUS Broadband will offer a referral program whereby a \$50 credit will be applied to a customer's account when they refer FOCUS Broadband service to another customer who signs up for new service. This has been an effective program for FOCUS Broadband in new communities because it encourages neighbors to spread the word about availability of FOCUS Broadband services in their community.
- **Digital Marketing based on Geo fencing** FOCUS Broadband will employ a variety of digital marketing tactics including geo fencing and search engine optimization (SEO) to place online ads in Hoke County to direct customers to the FOCUS Broadband project webpage, www.getfocusbroadband.com, where customers can get information about broadband offerings and pre register for service, as well as provide them with contact information to call FOCUS Broadband directly.
- **Social Media Marketing** FOCUS Broadband will use its social media platforms to update potential customers on construction and service availability, if awarded grant funding. In addition, FOCUS Broadband will create targeted and boosted posts for residents in these areas that direct them to the

NC DIT GREAT Program

Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology Program

Checklist Details

www.getfocusbroadband.com website where they can get more information about broadband offerings and pre register for service, as well as provide them with contact information to call FOCUS Broadband directly.

- Lawn Signs** When a customer in the grant application area has new service installed, FOCUS Broadband places a sign on the customer's lawn for a short period of time which indicates that the customer has chosen to subscribe to FOCUS Broadband service. This was an effective tool utilized during several rural broadband projects because it shows the availability of Internet service as it is happening.

- Outdoor Advertising** FOCUS Broadband will utilize billboards on roads and highways within the grant proposal area to promote the availability of high speed internet.

By checking the appropriate box, you will upload the following documents:

5) Description of Project Area, Identification of locations to be served, relevant maps and mapping files:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6) If submitting other data sources, including field data, to identify unserved locations (households and businesses) outside of the fully unserved census blocks provided on the NC One Map, please provide a narrative describing your methodology for determining the proposed funding area is unserved and eligible for funding in this round.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7) Excel Spreadsheet (NO PDF) that itemizes the eligible activities and cost estimates. Please provide an explanation of how you estimated the costs:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8) Please provide your methodology or explanation of how you calculated cost per location (Households/Businesses):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9) Proof of Financial Solvency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10) Technical Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11) Evidence of Support for the Project (i.e. Letter of Support)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12) Evidence or proof a partnership based on the definition in the guidance document and the authorizing legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SCORING

The GREAT Program is a competitive grant program. Applications shall be scored based upon a system that awards a single point for criteria considered to be the minimum level for the provision of broadband service, with additional points awarded to criteria that exceed minimum levels. Applications receiving the highest score shall receive priority status for the awarding of grants.

The tool below is being provided to Applicants so that they may estimate their score to determine estimated match requirements. All final and official scores will be determined by the BIO during the review process.

	Reviewer	Score
a1) Partnership - One point shall be given for a proposed partnership that will make available existing infrastructure that has been installed for the partner's enterprise, non consumer broadband purposes, or any other property, buildings, or structures owned by the partner, for a proposed project.	Choose One	0
a2) Partnership - A county or nonprofit entity that proposes to provide a financial match shall be given one point. Notwithstanding Article 8 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, or any provision of law to the contrary, a county may use unrestricted general funds or federal American Rescue Plan Act (P.L. 117 1) funds allocated to it for the purpose of improving broadband infrastructure for a financial match.	Choose One	0
a3) Partnership - An applicant shall receive two additional points for a proposed partnership where the county's financial match is comprised entirely from federal American Rescue Plan Act (P.L. 117 2) funds intended for broadband infrastructure.	Choose One	0
b) Unserved Households(HH) Using most recent FCC Data or other information or supporting data, estimated number of unserved households within the eligible county (TIER ONE)	500 or Less	1
c) Unserved Households (HH) to be Served Using most recent FCC Data or other information supporting data, the percentage of the total unserved households with the eligible project area	Less than 15%	1
d) Unserved Business Using most recent FCC Data or other information by NC BIO, provide broadband service to unserved business within eligible county (TIER ONE) and project area (Documentation)	1 and 4	1
e1) Piedmont or Coastal Plain Region	Choose One	
e2) Mountain Region	Choose One	
f) Base Speed - Min Download : Upload	100:20 Mbps to 100:100 Mbps	1.00
Total Score		3

NC DIT GREAT Program

Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology Program

g) Community Broadband Plan defined by NCBIO	No	0
h1) For counties that received an aggregate of eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) or more directly from the federal government, the following points shall be added to the application score:	Choose One	
h2) For counties that (i) received less than an aggregate of eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) directly from the federal government from the American Rescue Plan Act (P.L. 117 2) and (ii) are providing a portion of a project's matching funds using the entirety of the federal funds the county received, together with any other unrestricted general fund monies, if needed, the following points shall be added to the application score:	Choose One	
i1) Are the matching funds partially comprised of ARPA funds a county received directly from US Treasury?	Choose One	
i2) Are the matching funds entirely comprised of ARPA funds a county received directly from US Treasury?	Choose One	
Final Score		3

List all expenses related to the project, the amount of each expense, and the corresponding funding source(s) in the table below. The table should include all of the eligible costs such as: installation, acquiring or updating easements, equipment, fiber, construction, backhaul infrastructure for the end user, and testing costs. Ineligible costs should not be included in the project budget. The table should clearly show all planned expenditures and all funding sources for the project.

Reviewer Score:	3	Matching Requirement (%):	50%
Based on your scoring matrix, Your minimum match requirements:		\$2,668,700	
Total Project Cost:	\$5,337,400	Grant Amount Requested (\$):	\$0

Please indicate which documents were submitted with your application, by checking the appropriate box.

~ Reference guidelines booklet for document details ~

1) Excel Spreadsheet (NO PDF) that itemizes the eligible activities and cost estimates. Please provide an explanation of how you estimated the costs	<input type="checkbox"/>
2) What is the total cost per location for the project? Please provide your methodology or explanation of how you calculated cost per location (Households/Businesses)	<input type="checkbox"/>
3) Proof of Financial Solvency	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project Expense	GREAT Funds	Matching Funds	Total
Easements (one time fees)			0
Materials (fiber, equipment, etc.)			0
Construction/Installation			0
Testing			0
Engineering			0
Lease/Collocation Fees (one time fees)			0
Other 1			0
Other 2			0
Other 3			0
Total Eligible Project Cost			0

Company Certifications

1	Overdue Tax Debts	Does the Company or the Related Member(s) currently have any overdue tax debts with any City, Town or County in, or with the State of North Carolina?	No
2	Occupational Safety and Health Act Violations	Does the Company, or the Related Member(s) have any citation under the Occupational Safety and Health Act that have become a final order within the past three years for willful serious violations or for failing to abate serious violations?	No
3	Loan Defaults	Is the Company, or the Related Member(s) currently in default on any loan or grant previously made by the State of North Carolina?	No
4	Incentive History	Has the Company, or Related Member(s) ever defaulted on an economic development grant or incentive or been sued by a grantor with respect to an economic development grant or incentive from the State of North Carolina?	No

NC DIT GREAT Program

Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology Program

5	Creditor Losses, Litigation, Government Investigations	Has any member of management or any principal of the Company, or the Related Member(s) been involved in a financial reorganization, a bankruptcy, or other situation that led to losses by creditors or bond buyers, investor lawsuits, or government investigation alleging fraud or impropriety?	No
6	Pending or Threatened Litigation	Is the Company, or Related Member(s) subject to any claim, suit, action, proceeding, or government investigation that is pending or threatened that, individually or in the aggregate, would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on the proposed grantee's finances or operations or the ability to conduct the proposed project, or that would reasonably be expected to impact the NC DIT's decision to award a grant?	No

Internet Service Provider (ISP) Certification and Attestation

The attached statements and exhibits are hereby made part of this application, and the undersigned representative of the applicant certifies that the information in this application and the attached statements and exhibits are true, correct, and complete to the best of the signatory's knowledge and belief. The signatory further certifies:

1. as Authorized Representative, the signatory has been authorized to file this application by formal action of the governing body;
2. agrees that if a grant is awarded, the applicant will provide proper and timely submittal of all documentation requested by the Grantor Agency;
3. that the applicant has substantially complied with or will comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances as applicable to this project;
4. that the applicant certifies the financial and organizational strength regarding the ability to successfully meet the terms of the grant requirements and the ability to meet the potential for repayment of grant funds; and
5. attests that the proposed project area is eligible.

Authorized Representative

Name:	Michael Keith Holden	Title:	Chief Executive Officer	Date:	03/23/2022
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