



318 3rd Avenue West
PO Box 228 • Durand, WI 54736
715-672-4204 • 855-672-Ntec (6832)

June 9, 2020

The Honorable Elaine Chao
U.S. Dept of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20509

Dear Secretary Chao:

The City of Mondovi, Wisconsin is in the process of rebuilding their infrastructure, including curb and gutter, roads, water & wastewater utilities, stormwater, and pedestrian sidewalks and paths. Part of the projects they are completing connect with regional access points to the community and beyond. Together we are a vital part of business, especially with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic, as we have seen many businesses shift to online work models. Unfortunately for the City of Mondovi and Buffalo County regions, reliable internet service and telecommunications are sparse at best.

Luckily for those who reside within the City of Mondovi, NTEC provides broadband service to its residents, but surrounding areas are provided by another service. Individuals outside City limits do not have reliable service from that other provider. It is the City of Mondovi, Buffalo County, and NTEC's desire to work together to incrementally increase broadband service outside City limits. Increasing reliable internet access outside of City limits, would positively impact their and the City's economies as more residential properties could thereby be used for remote work.

The City of Mondovi and Buffalo County have planned to improve their infrastructure; and we are interested in partnering with them during this process when appropriate. In the case of Buffalo County Highway H, which runs north to south and through the City of Mondovi, we have the opportunity to expand our services at an opportune time. This occurs by laying broadband lines during base course disturbance and prior to top surface completion, saving NTEC the expense of repairing the base course and surface material from an existing road. The portion of each expense is to be negotiated with the City and County at a future date.

NTEC has the desire to expand and this partnership could further expand broadband service in this rural region as other projects are planned within and outside the City of Mondovi's limits with future road work by the City, County and State in the next 10 years.

Sincerely,

Christy Berger
Executive Vice President