Executive Summary & Grant Rationale

After you’ve completed the preceding application and reviewed the AWARDING GRANTS – Selection Criteria & Weights pages that follow this page, please reflect on your application responses and provide a brief executive summary and grant rationale that includes:

- Brief project description/summary (less than 150 words)

This is a unique community oriented public/private proposal seeking to expand fixed wireless internet to much of unserved Warren County. It is composed of three parts that will provide the opportunity for all WISPs in the county to broaden their reach and residents to invest in bringing internet to their level. It involves:

➢ Two county owned towers, one connected to IFN fiber in the center of the county, one that is located in the heart of the unserved area and on a high point in the county. Space on these two towers will be available to WISPs for lease.
➢ A series of eight middle mile towers installed by Ridge Wireless to connect their fiber access point to various areas of the county.
➢ A cost-share fund for county residents/businesses to use to bring the WISP signals to areas that are inaccessible due to trees and terrain.

- A general geographic location of the project (not census blocks) and total number of passings estimated to be made as a result of the grant project

To provide internet to the unserved areas of Warren County, including, but not limited to the areas along Big Pine Creek and the Wabash River. It will provide internet of a minimum of 10/3 to 370 households, 87 businesses and 7 anchor institutions.

- A brief description of the applicant’s involvement in the project to date and how the applicant (and/or partners) intends to manage and sustain the project

The truth of the matter is, after years of discussions and meetings and no movement on improving the broadband access of Warren residents, I personally invested in and began a fixed Wireless Internet broadband company to improve the quality of life in our county and encourage young residents to stay. I also started a Farm Bureau Young Farmers program and am working on building a maker space in the West Lebanon library for the same reason. I am committed to making this project work.

- A statement on how broadband improvements will advance the quality of life and strengthen economic development opportunities in the communities in the project area