



**OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE**  
**STATE OF IOWA**

Rob Sand  
Auditor of State

State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0004  
Telephone (515) 281-5834

July 14, 2025

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Council  
L O C A L

Subject: Exposed Cable Along Highway 65 in Franklin County Due to Excessive  
Erosion and Rodent Chewing on April 15, 2025  
Iowa Communications Network (ICN)  
Claim dated May 15, 2025  
AOS Claim ID: 4066

In accordance with Executive Council policy, we have examined the claim for 29C.20 funds for the above-mentioned damage. It is our conclusion that the above-mentioned damage incurred by the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) is covered by Chapter 29C.20 of the Code of Iowa. The amount requested may include costs that will be covered by a monthly maintenance contract for technician services that are not additional expenses to ICN. The actual claim for reimbursement should only be for expenses that exceed the technician hours per the maintenance agreement.

Therefore, we recommend an Executive Council allocation for the requested amount of \$26,261.52, subject to audit of actual invoices and supporting documentation and demonstration that no costs covered by the maintenance contract have been included.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian R. Brustkern".

Brian R. Brustkern, CPA  
Deputy Auditor of State

cc: Ryan Mulhall, Executive Director, ICN  
Kammy McHone, Finance Division, ICN  
Dave Augspurger, Operations Division, ICN  
Heather Hackbarth, Department of Management



May 15, 2025

Ms. Kristi Onstot  
Executive Secretary  
Executive Council of Iowa  
State Capitol  
LOCAL

Re: Emergency Allocations of Funds

Dear Ms. Onstot,

On or about May 8, 2024 the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) received physical damage to ICN Communications equipment in Des Moines, Iowa. An email was sent to the Office of the Auditor of State and the Executive Council. This letter represents a claim for \$26,261.52 in accordance with Chapter 29C.20 of the Code of Iowa for an emergency allocation of funds to repair damages sustained. Paid invoices will be included upon completion of repairs.

It was determined ICN equipment was damaged due to excessive erosion and further damage incurred by rodent chewing on the exposed along Highway 65, approximately 1200-feet north of 170<sup>th</sup> Street in Franklin County, IA. Enclosed are the damage assessment and cost estimate to relocate and restore that damaged equipment to normal operating condition.

If you have any questions regarding this claim, please call my office at 515-725-4666 located in the Grimes State Office Building.

Sincerely,

  
Ryan Mulhall (May 16, 2025 09:27 CDT)

Ryan Mulhall  
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Office of Auditor of State (Tammy Hollingsworth)  
ICN Operations Division (Dave Augspurger)  
ICN Finance Division (Kammy McHone)



May 12, 2025

Estimate for ICN Fiber Cable Damage Repair: Outside Plant Log #35250107

This estimate is for the relocation of an exposed and rodent chewed fiber optic cable at a culvert along Highway 65, approximately 1200-ft north of 170<sup>th</sup> St in Franklin County. The exposure is the result of excessive erosion at the base of the culvert. The Executive Council was notified of the ICN's intent to submit this as a claim for reimbursement on May 8, 2025.

Restoration will require placement of approximately 1500-ft of new cable, 700-ft of conduit, and two new maintenance splice/handholes.

ESTIMATED COSTS:

Contracted Labor and Materials	
Construction Labor	\$19,132.50
Construction Materials	\$3,043.08
Splicing Labor	\$3,770.00
ICN Provided Materials	\$315.94
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
Engineering Design	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$26,261.52</b>

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

**Dave Augspurger**  
**Sr Telecom Specialist | OSP Lead**  
Outside Plant  
Iowa Communications Network  
400 East 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319  
515-725-4604 office  
515-229-2013 cell  
[daugspurger@icn.state.ia.us](mailto:daugspurger@icn.state.ia.us)  
[icn.iowa.gov](http://icn.iowa.gov)

# ESTIMATE

<b>PROJECT</b>	Cable Replacement - HWY 65 North of 170th St	<b>COUNTY</b>	Franklin
<b>OSP LOG #</b>	32550107	<b>INC/PRB</b>	0
<b>LINK ID(S)</b>	204	<b>FIBER CT</b>	12

<b>Contracted Labor and Materials</b>		
Construction Labor	\$19,132.50	
Construction Materials	\$3,043.08	
Splicing Labor	\$3,770.00	
ICN Provided Materials	\$315.94	
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	
Engineering Design	\$0.00	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$26,261.52</b>	

## VENDOR CONSTRUCTION

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	RATE	QTY	SUBTOTAL
Horizontal Boring	Rural 1 ea 1.25" conduit	LF	\$12.00	670	\$8,040.00
Handhole Placement	Rural Std 24x36x30	EA	\$1,000.00	2	\$2,000.00
Fiber Installation	New Duct Rural	LF	\$2.00	670	\$1,340.00
Expose/Lower Cable	Rural Expose Existing Live Cable	LF	\$20.00	160	\$3,200.00
Plowing	Rural Direct Bury Armored Cable	LF	\$2.50	805	\$2,012.50
Trenching	Rural Open Trench	LF	\$5.00	52	\$260.00
Misc	Mobilization	LS	\$2,000.00	1	\$2,000.00
Misc	Line Verification (Locating)	LF	\$0.20	1,400	\$280.00
<b>VENDOR CONSTRUCTION SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$19,132.50</b>

## SPLICING LABOR

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	UNIT RATE	QTY	SUBTOTAL
Splicing labor	Splicing Mobilization	LS	\$1,250.00	1	\$1,250.00
Splicing labor	Prep Splice Closure	EA	\$350.00	2	\$700.00
Splicing labor	Fusion Splicing	Splicing	\$55.00	24	\$1,320.00
Splicing labor	Off Hours Charge	LS	\$500.00	1	\$500.00
<b>SPLICING LABOR SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$3,770.00</b>

## ICN PROVIDED MATERIALS

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT RATE	SUBTOTAL	PART #
Splice Closure	*450A Splice Closure (w/lugs)	EA	2	\$143.38	\$286.76	FOSC450-A4-4-NT-0-A1V
Splice Tray	*A Tray 12-pos	EA	2	\$12.01	\$24.02	497817-000
Shield Bond Connector	*Shield Bond Connector	EA	4	\$1.29	\$5.16	4460-D
<b>ICN PROVIDED MATERIALS SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$315.94</b>	

## VENDOR PROVIDED MATERIALS

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT RATE	SUBTOTAL	
Duct	1.25" Orange HPDE Duct	LFT	670	\$0.68	\$455.60	0
Fiber Cable	12F Armored SM Cable	LFT	1475	\$0.52	\$767.00	0
Handholes	24x36x30 Tier 15 HH w/lid	EA	2	\$910.24	\$1,820.48	0
<b>VENDOR PROVIDED MATERIALS SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$3,043.08</b>	

## ENGINEERING DESIGN

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT RATE	SUBTOTAL
<b>ENGINEERING DESIGN SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>

## MISCELLANEOUS

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT RATE	SUBTOTAL	NOTES
<b>MISCELLANEOUS SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>	



McHone, Kammy &lt;kammy.mchone@iowa.gov&gt;

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**LOG 35250107 - Franklin Co - ICN Cable Damage - HWY 65 Approximately 1200ft North of 170th St**

1 message

**Augspurger, Dave** <daugspurger@icn.state.ia.us>

Thu, May 8, 2025 at 10:15 AM

To: "Harris, Victoria [ICN]" <victoria.harris@iowa.gov>, Kammy Mchone <kammy.mchone@icn.state.ia.us>, Executive Council group email <ExecutiveCouncil@tos.iowa.gov>, "Dana [AOS] Davis" <Dana.Davis@aos.iowa.gov>, Scott Pappan <scott.pappan@icn.state.ia.us>, "Hollingsworth, Tammy [AOS]" <tammy.hollingsworth@aos.iowa.gov>, Ryan Mulhall <ryan.mulhall@icn.state.ia.us>, Connor Kuehl <connor.kuehl@icn.state.ia.us>

Cc: Michael Dalen <mike.dalen@iowa.gov>

Good morning,

An ICN field technician was made aware of an exposed ICN fiber optic cable along Highway 65, approximately 1200-ft north of 170th St in Franklin County. Investigation revealed the exposed cable was the result of excessive erosion and further damage incurred by rodent chewing on the exposed cable. The cable will require replacement by installation of HDPE conduit, new cable, and maintenance handholes/splices. The ICN would like to submit this as a claim for reimbursement for damages due to natural causes (erosion). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

**Dave Augspurger****Sr Telecom Specialist | OSP Lead**

Outside Plant

Iowa Communications Network

[400 East 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319](#)

515-725-4604 office

515-229-2013 cell

[daugspurger@icn.state.ia.us](mailto:daugspurger@icn.state.ia.us)[icn.iowa.gov](http://icn.iowa.gov)**Iowa Communications  
Network**

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**2 attachments**



**Damaged Cable (1).jpg**  
800K



**Damaged Cable (2).jpg**  
555K