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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Congressman Don Bacon visits NNTC in Saunders County

Nebraska Congressman Don Bacon and Public Service Commissioner Tim Schram came for a visit and tour of Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company's (NNTC) central office in Prague on Monday, November 22nd.

Rep. Bacon got a firsthand look at how fiber brings internet to homes and businesses in Saunders County. NNTC Central Office Technician, Matt Muessigmann showed the congressman how the fiber inside the central office is connected to underground pods and then to Optical Network Terminals or ONTs (those boxes on the outside of homes and businesses which transmit services). The congressman was curious about power outages affecting the ONTs.

"10 minutes after a power-outage, it automatically kills the connections here," said Muessigmann. "Except for the phone?" asked Rep. Bacon. "Yes, except for the phone," replied Muessigmann.

Congressman Bacon was surprised to learn NNTC is an all-fiber company and commented on how more customers can be served without a loss in internet speed, like with wireless internet. He also learned NNTC customers have a "wide-open" internet, meaning speeds are never throttled and everyone gets the maximum speed upload and download. NNTC GM Pat McElroy told Rep. Bacon that means 1 GB of speed for many customers.

A change in Nebraska's congressional districts now brings Saunders County into Representative Bacon's second congressional district. The congressman also represents Douglas and Sarpy counties, which includes Omaha and its suburbs.

Also in attendance were NNTC Board Member LeRoy Dvorak of Prague and Bank of Prague President Roger Paseka.

About NNTC:

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company is a telephone, internet and television service provider headquartered in Jackson, NE. NNTC serves 30 communities throughout 24 counties in northeast Nebraska. Founded in 1955, NNTC is one of Nebraska's first telephone cooperatives providing fiber service to 100% of its customers.