



Dave Heineman
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

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May 1, 2014

John Stritt, ESU 10, Co-Chair of the Network Nebraska Advisory Group
Debbie Schroeder, UNK, Co-Chair of the Network Nebraska Advisory Group
Gary Needham, ESU 9, On behalf of the ESU Coordinating Council

Dear John, Debbie and Gary:

On March 19, 2014, I received a summary from the Network Nebraska Advisory Group meeting that included a NNAG recommendation for a cost-sharing proposal for up to .5 FTE, not to exceed \$75,000 for a federated identity management position partially funded by Network Nebraska. This letter is in response to that recommendation.

As I examine the proposal, I am having a difficult time reconciling that this service is something that Network Nebraska should provide. Network Nebraska was created to provide an infrastructure capable of carrying services and applications requested by the participants of the network. The participation fee that is charged by Network Nebraska is allocated to all participants. As I understand the proposal, federated identity management is a service that will be offered to educational institutions on the Network. Whether this service will be used by all the Network Nebraska – Education participants is a bit unclear to me. But even if every participant agreed to the service, it is a service and not part of the infrastructure that Network Nebraska provides.

Network Nebraska certainly should be a partner in assisting with providing the appropriate infrastructure to provide this service. We are more than willing to have discussions on data center hosting and/or co-locating hardware in our facilities to assist in rolling out this service, as well as offering our technical expertise in this area to participate in the discussions.

I want to thank you for your work and involvement in Network Nebraska as we all work to provide better services to our students and educators in the State. I look forward to working with you as you move forward with this service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brenda".

Brenda L. Decker
Chief Information Officer
State of Nebraska

Cc: Scott Isaacson, Interim Executive Director, ESU Coordinating Council
Dr. Bob Uhing, Chair of the Technology Committee, ESU Coordinating Council
Walter Weir, CIO, University of NE