

## December 22, 2023 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Photos Provided

Surf Internet Unveils Major Infrastructure Development in Four Communities Near Warsaw, Indiana High-speed fiber-optic internet coming soon to Larwill, North Webster, Pierceton, and South Whitley

ELKHART, Ind. (December 22, 2023) – Surf Internet<sup>SM</sup> announces the start of construction in four strategically-located communities located between Warsaw and Columbia City, Indiana. The towns of Larwill, North Webster, Pierceton and South Whitley all held groundbreaking ceremonies to celebrate the milestone on Tuesday, December 5.

Surf is investing over \$3.5 million across these four areas to build over 2,500 passings by the end of 2023 and into next Spring, with additional passings planned in the coming year. Catering to both residential and commercial properties, subscribers to Surf Internet's high-speed fiber-optic network will enjoy speeds of up to 1 gig, with the prospect of multi-gig speeds in the near future.

"Despite their proximity to larger cities like Fort Wayne and Warsaw, these four towns have been underserved when it comes to high-speed internet," said Surf CEO Gene Crusie. "Where other ISPs have not seen value, we are committing our own capital to serve people who deserve to be on the forefront of digital technology, just as much as residents and business owners in larger communities."

In a statement regarding the groundbreaking ceremonies in Pierceton and North Webster, Kosciusko County Community Coordinator Amy Roe expressed gratitude, stating, "Kosciusko County, through multiple broadband planning activities, including the most recent HELP program, has identified unserved and underserved Broadband Investment Priority Areas. We are grateful that Surf Internet has chosen to partner with two of those areas, North Webster and Pierceton, to address those identified broadband needs and provide services for our residents."

Randy Cokl, President of the South Whitley Town Council, remarked, "We are excited to welcome Surf into our community, bringing high-speed fiber to our residents and businesses. In today's world, broadband internet is essential in all facets of our lives, as well as business and industry. We look forward to working with Surf and making South Whitely a great place to live, work, and play."

Attendees at Larwill's groundbreaking ceremony expressed their enthusiasm, with Larwill Town Clerk-Treasurer Renee Sills stating, "Nice to have fiber internet with faster speeds!" Larwill Town Council President Lore Wolfe added, "I'm excited to bring light into the darkness!"



The work in northern Indiana is part of Surf's overall commitment to build an advanced fiber-optic network serving rural communities across the Great Lakes region of Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan. Updates on construction are available on the company's website at <a href="https://construction.surfinternet.com/">https://construction.surfinternet.com/</a>.

## **About Surf Internet**

Surf Internet is an innovative fiber-optic internet company that serves as the essential gateway to connectivity across the Great Lakes region of Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan. The company is building a bridge to the wide-open future by delivering high-speed, reliable internet to homes and businesses in underserved, rural communities. Surf's 170-plus person team is local, giving them an edge when it comes to customer care and advocacy for the region. Headquartered in Elkhart, Ind., Surf also has offices in La Porte, Ind., Byron Center and Fowlerville, Mich., and Coal City and Rock Falls, Ill. Learn more at <a href="https://surfinternet.com">https://surfinternet.com</a>.

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PHOTO CAPTION: Surf Internet employees Scott Franko, Jim Morris, and Phil Cox pose with town leaders of Larwill, North Webster, Pierceton and South Whitley for photos at their groundbreaking ceremonies on December 5, 2023.