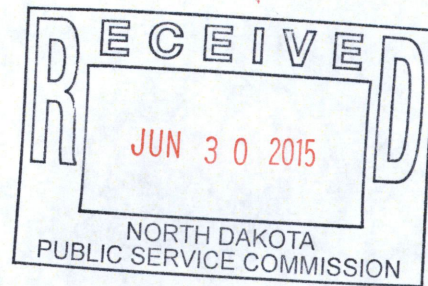




Your business is our business.

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 200
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
phone: 301-459-7590, fax: 301-577-5575
internet: www.jsitel.com, e-mail: jsi@jsitel.com



VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

June 30, 2015

Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Twelfth Floor
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: Federal Communications Commission's ETC Annual Report

Pursuant to Sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules (47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422), attached please find an original and three (3) copies of the ETC Annual Reports (FCC Form 481) that were filed with USAC and will be filed with the FCC. The attached are submitted by JSI on behalf of Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation f/k/a Polar Telecommunications. An electronic copy of the redacted version has also been submitted.

Please note that some of the information included in the completed FCC Form 481 Report is confidential and proprietary. Confidential information has been placed in an envelope marked "Trade Secret - Private" and sealed.

Along with this filing you will find enclosed a copy of this transmittal letter marked "File Stamp Copy" to be stamped and returned to JSI as confirmation that the hard copies of this filing have been received by the Commission as well. Please return the stamped copy of this transmittal letter in the envelope provided for this purpose.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall, Vice President

Authorized Representative for
Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation f/k/a
Polar Telecommunications

Enclosures

Ms. Shari Flanders , Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation f/k/a Polar Telecommunications

Echelon Building II, Suite 200
9430 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759
phone: 512-338-0473, fax: 512-346-0822

Eagandale Corporate Center, Suite 310
1380 Corporate Center Curve, Eagan, MN 55121
phone: 651-452-2660, fax: 651-452-1909

6849 Peachtree Dunwoody Road
Bldg. B-3, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30328
phone: 770-569-2105, fax: 770-410-1608

547 South Oakview Lane
Bountiful, UT 84010
phone: 801-294-4576, fax: 801-294-512



Your business
is our business.

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 200
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
phone: 301-459-7590, fax: 301-577-5575
internet: www.jsitel.com, e-mail: jsi@jsitel.com

**CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION-SUBJECT TO
PROTECTIVE ORDER IN WC DOCKET NOS. 10-90, 07-135, 05-337, 03-
109, 14-58 CC DOCKET NO. 01-92, 96-45, GN DOCKET NO. 09-51, WT
DOCKET NO. 10-208, BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION**

June 30, 2015

Via Hand Delivery

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: WC Docket No. 14-58
2015 ETC Annual Report of Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp. f/k/a Polar
Telecommunications
Study Area Code 381614**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp. f/k/a Polar Telecommunications ("Polar"), JSI files the attached confidential and redacted versions of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules.¹ Polar seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information.² The redacted version is also being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System. In addition, attached is a letter requesting confidential treatment under Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of its Progress Report on its Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan as required by Section 54.313(a)(1).³

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall
JSI Vice President
301-459-7590
jkuykendall@jsitel.com

cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

² *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.*, Protective Order, DA 15-712 rel. June 17, 2015 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459, 54.313(a)(1).

Echelon Building II, Suite 200
9430 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759
phone: 512-338-0473, fax: 512-346-0822

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phone: 770-569-2105, fax: 770-410-1608

547 South Oakview Lane
Bountiful, UT 84010
phone: 801-294-4576, fax: 801-294-5124

FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting
Data Collection Form
 CC DOCKET NO. 01-92, 96-45, GN DOCKET NO. 09-51, WT DOCKET NO. 10-208
 BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
 July 2013
 OMB Control No. 3060-0286/OMB Control No. 3060-0619

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <010> Study Area Code | 381614 |
| <015> Study Area Name | POLAR TELECOMM. |
| <020> Program Year | 2016 |
| <030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data | Shari Flanders |
| <035> Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030> | 7012847221 ext. |
| <039> Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030> | sflanders@polartel.com |

ANNUAL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS

| | 54.393 Completion Required | 54.422 Completion Required |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|

| | | | (check box when complete) | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <100> Service Quality Improvement Reporting | (complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <200> Outage Reporting (voice) | (complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <210> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -- check box if no outages to report | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <300> Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice) | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <310> Detail on Attempts (voice) | (attach descriptive document) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <320> Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband) | 0 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <330> Detail on Attempts (broadband) | (attach descriptive document) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <400> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice) | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <410> Fixed | 0.0 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <420> Mobile | 0.0 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <430> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadband) | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <440> Fixed | 0.0 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <450> Mobile | 0.0 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <500> Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance | (check to indicate certification) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <510> 381614nd510.pdf | (attached descriptive document) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <600> Functionality in Emergency Situations | (check to indicate certification) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <610> 381614nd610.pdf | (attached descriptive document) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <700> Company Price Offerings (voice) | (complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <710> Company Price Offerings (broadband) | (complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <800> Operating Companies and Affiliates | (complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <900> Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)? | (if yes, complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1000> Voice Services Rate Comparability Certification | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1010> | (attach descriptive document) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Yes or No) | (if not, check to indicate certification) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1110> | (complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1200> Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers | (complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional Documentation Worksheet
 Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

| | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <2000> | (check to indicate certification) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <2005> | (complete attached worksheet) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional Documentation Worksheet

| | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <3000> | (check to indicate certification) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <3005> | (complete attached worksheet) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting
 Data Collection Form**

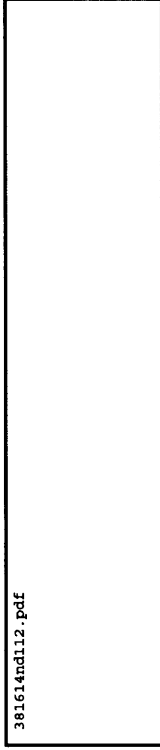
FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 381614
 <015> Study Area Name POLAR TELECOMM.
 <020> Program Year 2016
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Shari Flanders
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012847221 ext.
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> sflanders@polartel.com

<110> Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?
 if your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5
 year plan" filed with the FCC? (yes / no) (yes / no)
 <111> (yes / no) (yes / no)

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.



Name of Attached Document

Please select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to §54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <113> Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets | Yes |
| <114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received | Yes |
| <115> How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to improve service quality | Yes |
| <116> How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to improve service coverage | Yes |
| <117> How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and how support was used to improve service capacity | Yes |
| <118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year. | Not Applicable |

**(900) Tribal Lands Reporting
 Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 381614
 <015> Study Area Name POLAR TELECOMM.
 <020> Program Year 2016
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Shari Flanders
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012847221 ext.
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> sflanders@polartel.com

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes,No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

| Select Yes or No or Not Applicable |
|------------------------------------------|
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
 Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

| | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 381614 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | POLAR TELCOMM. |
| <020> | Program Year | 2016 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Shari Flanders |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 7012847221 ext. |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | sflanders@polartel.com |

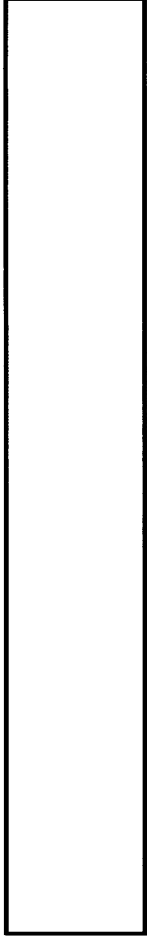
<1120> Please confirm whether terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g) (Yes, No).

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

**(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers
 Lifeline
 Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0966/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 JULY 2013

<010> Study Area Code 381614
 <015> Study Area Name POLAR TELECOMM.
 <020> Program Year 2016
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data *Shari Flanders*
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012847221 ext.
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> *sflanders@polaratel.com*



<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP <http://www.polarcomm.com/resources/phone-assistance-program/>

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,
- <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,
- <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.

(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation

Data Collection Form

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers Affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

FCC Form 483
 OMB Control No. 3060-0566/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 381814
 <015> Study Area Name FOIAK TELECOMM.
 <020> Program Year 2016
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data smartfrander
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012957221 ext.
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> sfrander@foiakrei.com

Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

- <2010> Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting
- <2011a> 2nd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)i)
- <2011b> 3rd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii)
- <2011b> Attachment (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii)

Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information

- <2012> Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(e))
- <2013> 2013 Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(1))
- <2014> 2014 Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(2))
- <2015> 2015 Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(3))
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4))

- <2016> Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support (47 CFR § 54.313(d))
- <2016> Certification Support Used to Build Broadband
- <2017> Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e))
- <2018> 3rd year Broadband Service Certification
- <2019> 5th year Broadband Service Certification
- <2019> Interim Progress Certification
- <2020> Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information

- <2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions

BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(3006) State Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation

Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
Call Center No. Subscribers/Forms Covered No. 3006-0439
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 381614
 <015> Study Area Name POLAR TELECOMM.
 <020> Program Year 2016
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data SHAFI, Flanders
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012847221 EXT.
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> sf.landers@polartel.com

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3010) Progress Report on 5 Year Plan Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i))
 Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
 381614nd3010.pdf

(3011) Please check this box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3012 contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), the carrier shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

(3012) Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(iii))
 Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
 381614nd3012.pdf

(3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2))
 (3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:
 (3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)
 (3016) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

(3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation
 Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information (Yes/No)

(3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?
 If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains
 (3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications
 (3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows
 (3021) Management letter and audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:
 (3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers,
 (3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant
 (3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.
 (3025) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

(3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information
 Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
 381614nd3026.pdf

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form | FCC Form 491 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <010> Study Area Code | 381614 |
| <015> Study Area Name | POLAR TELECOMM. |
| <020> Program Year | 2016 |
| <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Shari Flanders |
| <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 7012847221 ext. |
| <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | sflanders@polartel.com |

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients | |
| I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate. | |
| Name of Reporting Carrier: | |
| Signature of Authorized Officer: | Date |
| Printed name of Authorized Officer: | |
| Title or position of Authorized Officer: | |
| Telephone number of Authorized Officer: | |
| Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: | Filing Due Date for this form: |
| Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0619 July 2013 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <010> Study Area Code | 381614 |
| <015> Study Area Name | POLAR TELECOMM. |
| <020> Program Year | 2016 |
| <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Shari Flanders |
| <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 7012847221 ext. |
| <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | sflanders@polartel.com |

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

| Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>John Staurulakis, Inc.</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate. | |
| Name of Authorized Agent: | John Staurulakis, Inc. |
| Name of Reporting Carrier: | POLAR TELECOMM. |
| Signature of Authorized Officer: | CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/19/2015 |
| Printed name of Authorized Officer: | David Dunning |
| Title or position of Authorized Officer: | GM/CEO |
| Telephone number of Authorized Officer: | 7012847221 ext. |
| Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: | 381614 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2015 |
| Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. | |

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

| Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate. | |
| Name of Reporting Carrier: | POLAR TELECOMM. |
| Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: | JSI |
| Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: | CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/19/2015 |
| Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: | Cassandra Heyne |
| Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: | Consultant |
| Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: | 3014597590 ext. |
| Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: | 381614 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2015 |
| Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. | |

**Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp.’s Demonstration of Compliance with
Applicable Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules**

In establishing this certification in its *2005 ETC Order*,¹ the FCC found that an ETC must make “a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers.”² The Commission found that for wireless ETCs, compliance with CTIA’s Consumer Code for Wireless Service would satisfy this requirement” and that the sufficiency of other commitments would be considered on a case-by-case basis.³ In this context, the FCC stated, “to the extent a wireline or wireless ETC applicant is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law, compliance with such laws may meet our requirement.”⁴

Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp. f/k/a Polar Telecommunications

(“Company”) hereby certifies that it is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules. The Company is subject to consumer protection obligations under federal law and, to a limited extent under North Dakota state law as a telecommunications carrier subject to North Dakota Public Service Commission regulation. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) adherence to state requirements that the Company complies with consumer protection

¹ *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46 (rel. Mar. 17, 2005) (“*2005 ETC Order*”).

² *Id.* at para. 28.

³ *Id.* The FCC noted that under the CTIA Consumer Code, wireless carriers agree to: “(1) disclose rates and terms of service to customers; (2) make available maps showing where service is generally available; (3) provide contract terms to customers and confirm changes in service; (4) allow a trial period for new service; (5) provide specific disclosures in advertising; (6) separately identify carrier charges from taxes on billing statements; (7) provide customers the right to terminate service for changes to contract terms; (8) provide ready access to customer service; (9) promptly respond to consumer inquiries and complaints received from government agencies; and (10) abide by policies for protection of consumer privacy.” *Id.* at n. 71.

⁴ *Id.* at n. 72.

and service quality standards pursuant to North Dakota Administrative Code Article 69, including customer requests for lowest price service alternatives (69-09-05-01), discontinuance of telecommunications services (69-09-05-02), deposits and guarantees (69-09-05-03); (2) truth-in-billing requirements, and (3) CPNI, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy.

The Company also provides service in Minnesota and is subject to consumer protection obligations under Minnesota state law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) filing a Local Exchange Tariff pursuant to the requirements of Minnesota Public Utility Commission which disclose rates, terms and conditions of service to customers; (2) adherence to state consumer protection and service quality requirements governing telephone providers which require compliance with the Minnesota Administrative Rules listed below; (3) truth-in-billing requirements; and (4) CPNI, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy.

Minnesota Administrative Rules:

RECORDS AND REPORTS

7810.0400 RETENTION OF RECORDS.
7810.0500 DATA TO BE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION.
7810.0600 REPORT TO COMMISSION ON SERVICE DISRUPTION.
7810.0900 LOCATION OF RECORDS.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

7810.1000 INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMER AND PUBLIC.
7810.1100 COMPLAINT PROCEDURES.
7810.1200 RECORD OF COMPLAINT.

CUSTOMER BILLING; DEPOSIT AND GUARANTEE REQUIREMENTS

7810.1400 CUSTOMER BILLING.
7810.1500 DEPOSIT AND GUARANTEE REQUIREMENTS.
7810.1600 DEPOSIT.
7810.1700 GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT.

DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE; SERVICE DELAY

7810.1800 PERMISSIBLE SERVICE DISCONNECTIONS WITH NOTICE.
7810.1900 PERMISSIBLE SERVICE DISCONNECTIONS WITHOUT SERVICE.
7810.2000 NONPERMISSIBLE REASONS TO DISCONNECT SERVICE.
7810.2100 MANNER OF DISCONNECTION.
7810.2200 RECONNECTION OF SERVICE.
7810.2300 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.
7810.2400 BILL DISPUTES.
7810.2500 ESCROW PAYMENTS.
7810.2600 WAIVING RIGHT TO DISCONNECT; EMERGENCY STATUS.
7810.2800 DELAY IN INITIAL SERVICE OR UPGRADE.

DIRECTORIES

7810.2900 CONTENT OF DIRECTORIES.
7810.3000 MAINTENANCE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT.
7810.3100 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.

ENGINEERING

7810.3200 CONSTRUCTION OF TELEPHONE PLANT.
7810.3300 MAINTENANCE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT.
7810.3900 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.

INSPECTIONS, TESTS, SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

7810.4100 ACCESS TO TEST FACILITIES.
7810.4300 ACCURANCE REQUIREMENTS.
7810.4900 ADEQUACY OF SERVICE.
7810.5000 UTILITY OBLIGATIONS.
7810.5100 TELEPHONE OPERATORS.
7810.5200 ANSWERING TIME.
7810.5300 DIAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.
7810.5400 INTEROFFICE TRUNKS.
7810.5500 TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS.
7810.5800 INTERRUPTIONS OF SERVICE.
7810.5900 CUSTOMER TROUBLE REPORTS.
7810.6000 PROTECTIVE MEASURES.
7810.6100 SAFETY PROGRAM.

The Company is subject to consumer protection obligations for broadband services under federal law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: public disclosure of accurate information regarding network management

practices, performance, and commercial terms of broadband internet access services; as a means of providing sufficient information for consumers to make informed choices regarding use of such services, and for content, application, service and device providers to develop, market, and maintain internet offerings as specified in F.C.C. 47 C.F.R. Part 8 §8.3. The Company furthermore will comply with all requirements set forth in the *2015 Open Internet Order* when it becomes effective.

Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp.'s Demonstration of Ability to Function in Emergency Situations

Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp. f/k/a Polar Telecommunications (“Company”) hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in §54.202(a)(2)¹ and North Dakota Administrative Code 69-09-05-12. The Company’s voice and broadband network is designed to remain functional in emergency situations without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as required by Section 54.202(a)(2). The Company can change call routing translations as needed to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Changing call routing translations will also allow the Company to manage traffic spikes throughout its network, as emergency situations require.

Specifically, each central office building is supplied with standby generators and battery back-up that enable the central office to keep running until power is restored so long as fuel is available, or until system changes are made to reroute traffic. The Company’s central office can maintain 8 hours, plus or minus 15 percent, of battery reserve rated for peak traffic load requirements, and a permanent auxiliary power unit is installed or a mobile power source is available which can be delivered and connected within four hours. The Company has battery backup at all office locations and in its electronic equipment sites capable of running for a minimum of 8 hours, plus or minus 15

¹ Section 54.202(a)(2) requires ETCs that are designated by the Commission to “demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.”

percent. Length of run time is determined by the equipment serving the area and the number of customers working out of the equipment. Generators are installed at all Central Office locations. They will continue to run as long as the Company has access to fuel. The Company tests the batteries at least once per year.

The Company also provides service in Minnesota. Pursuant to Minnesota Administrative Rule 7810.3900, "Emergency Operations," the Company has established reasonable provisions to meet emergencies resulting from failures of lighting or power service, sudden and prolonged increases in traffic, illness of operators or from fire, storm, or acts of God including provisions for emergency power that meet or exceed the rule requirement to provide:

- A minimum of four hours of battery service in each central office.
- A permanently installed power unit in exchanges exceeding 5,000 lines.
- Mobile power units that can be delivered on short notice and which can be readily connected in offices without installed emergency power facilities.

The Company has informed employees as to the procedures to be followed, including reasonable rerouting of traffic around damaged facilities and the deployment of emergency power in the event of emergency in order to prevent or mitigate interruption or impairment of telecommunications service.

Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation (SAC 381614)

Response to Line 3010 – Milestone Certification (47 CFR §54.313(f)(1)(i))

Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation hereby certifies that throughout 2014, it took reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, and currently, it is taking reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream broadband service at with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to comparable offerings in urban areas as determined in an annual survey, and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time.

Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation (SAC 381614)

**Response to Line 3012 - List of Community Anchor Institutions to Which the ETC Newly
Began Providing Service**

The FCC's *USF/ICC Transformation Order* requires a listing of community anchor institutions to which the ETC newly began providing broadband service. Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation did not newly begin providing community anchor institutions with access to broadband service in calendar year 2014.