



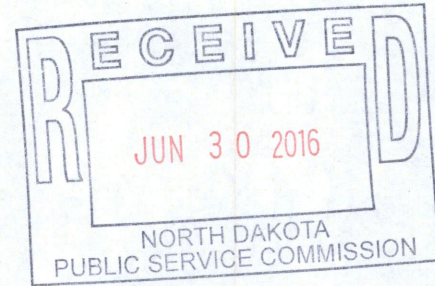
Your business  
is our business.

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, 2016

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 2016 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 copy of the ETC Annual Report (FCC Form 481) that was filed with USAC and the FCC. The attached is submitted by JSI on behalf of Polar Telcom, Inc. An electronic copy has also been submitted.

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,

Cassandra Heyne, Consultant  
Authorized Representative for  
Polar Telcom, Inc.

Enclosures

Shari Flanders, Polar Telcom, Inc.

1 PU-16-424 Filed 06/30/2016 Pages: 28  
Copy of FCC 47 CFR Sections 54.313 & 54.422 Local Rate Floor Data & Collection  
Polar Telcom, Inc.

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: 801-294-5124

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
SIPIS Control No. 3050-0545/0618 Control No. 3050-0219  
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	389003
<015> Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020> Program Year	2017
<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>	7012844343 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com
Form Type	54.313 and 54.422

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

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

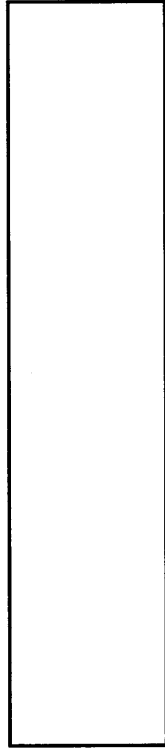
<010> Study Area Code 389003  
 <015> Study Area Name POLAR TELCOM, INC.  
 <020> Program Year 2017  
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Shari Planders  
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012844343 ext.  
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> splanders@polarcel.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, please 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
- <114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received
- <115> How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to improve service quality
- <116> How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to improve service coverage
- <117> How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and how support was used to improve service capacity
- <118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.



**(300) Unfulfilled Service Request  
Data Collection Form**

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

<010> Study Area Code 389003

<015> Study Area Name POLAR TELCOM, INC.

<020> Program Year 2017

<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Shari Flanders

<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012844343 ext.

<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> sflanders@polartel.com

<300> Unfulfilled service request (voice)

<310> Detail on attempts (voice) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Attached Document

<320> Unfulfilled service request (broadband)

<330> Detail on attempts (broadband) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Attached Document

(400) Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers  
Data Collection Form

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

<010>	Study Area Code	389003
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com
<400>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.	Offered only fixed voice
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice	0.0
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice	
<430>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report end-user customer complaints (zero or greater) for broadband service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.	
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband	
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband	

**(500) Compliance With Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules**  
**Data Collection Form**

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

<010> Study Area Code	389003
<015> Study Area Name	POLAR TELCON, INC.
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com
<500> Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules	Yes
<510> Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	389003nd510.pdf

**(600) Functionality in Emergency Situations  
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	389003
<015> Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOV, INC.
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polarcel.com
<600> Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes
<610> Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	389003nd610.pdf







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

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

<900> Study Area Code 389003  
 <901> Study Area Name POLAR TELCOM, INC.  
 <902> Program Year 2017  
 <903> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Shari Planders  
 <904> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <903> 7012844343 ext.  
 <905> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <903> splanders@polar1.com

<906> Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N) No

<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:

- <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.

Select Yes or No or Not Applicable

**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0985/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	385003
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polar.tel.com

<1000> Voice services rate comparability certification Yes

<1010> Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Attached Document

<1020> Broadband comparability certification

<1030> Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Attached Document

**(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 389003

<015> Study Area Name POLAR TELCOM, INC.

<020> Program Year 2017

<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Shari Flanders

<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012844343 ext.

<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> sflanders@polartel.com

<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

<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. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 389003

<015> Study Area Name POLAR TELCOM, INC.

<020> Program Year 2017

<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Shari Flanders

<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 7012844343 ext.

<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> sflanders@polartel.com

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 lists-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0619

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	389003
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7072843343 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polarcel.com

Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental 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.

**Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting**

<2010> 2nd Year Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(i) - Note that for the July 1 2016 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support

<2011> 3rd Year Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 1 2016 certification, this applies to Round 1 recipients of Incremental Support

<2022> Recipient certifies, representing year two after filing a notice of acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the locations in question are not receiving support under the Broadband Initiatives Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at least 4 Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only.

<2023> The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the total amount of capital funding expended in the previous year in meeting Connect America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied by a list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers year two - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.

<2024A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?

<2024B> Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent in year two - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.

<2025A> Round 1 or Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

<2025B> Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 1 for year three and Round 2 for year two) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

<2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)

**(2009) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)**

Data Collection Form

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

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

**Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}**

<2016> Certification support used to build broadband

**Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}**

<2017A> Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

<2017B> Attach information for Phase II - 54.313(e)(1) - list of geocoded locations already meeting the 54.309 public interest obligations at the end of calendar year 2015 and total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price

cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2015.

<2018> Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(2)(ii)

<2019> Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(2)(v)

<2020> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 40% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2017 - 54.313(e)(3)

<2021> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 60% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2018 - 54.313(e)(4)

<2026> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 80% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2019 - 54.313(e)(5)

<2027> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 100% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2020 - 54.313(e)(6)




Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

<010>	Study Area Code	389003
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com

Complete the items below to note compliance with 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.

(3009) Progress Report on 5 Year Plan  
Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)

(3010A) Milestone Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}

(3010B) Please Provide Attachment

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3012A) Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}

(3012B) Please Provide Attachment

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}

(Yes/No)

(3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

(Yes/No)

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, 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) with 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

(3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?

(Yes/No)

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 Borrowers

(3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

(3021) Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below 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

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0965/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)  
Data Collection Form

<010> Study Area Code	389003
<015> Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polarata.com

Financial Data Summary

(3027) Revenue	
(3028) Operating Expenses	
(3029) Net Income	
(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)	
(3031) Total Assets	
(3032) Total Debt	
(3033) Total Equity	
(3034) Dividends	

<010>	Study Area Code	389003
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polarcom.com

**4005 Rural Broadband Experiment**

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

**Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)**

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission's public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

**4001.** Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

**Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)**

**4003a.** RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

**4003b.** Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information \_\_\_\_\_

**Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 80)**

**4004a.** Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information \_\_\_\_\_

**4004b.** Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband speed and data usage allowances available in the relevant geographic area.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0585/OMB Control No. 3060-0619 July 2015
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<010>	Study Area Code	389003
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 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:**

<b>Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients</b>	
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.	

<b>Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0996/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2015
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<010> Study Area Code	389003
<015> Study Area Name	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012844343 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:**

<b>Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier</b>	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>JSI</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:	JSI
Name of Reporting Carrier:	POLAR TELCOM, INC.
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/20/2016
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	David Dunning
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	Executive Vice President
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	7012847221 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	389003 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2016
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:**

<b>Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier</b>	
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 TELCOM, INC.
Name of Authorized Agent Firm:	JSI
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/20/2016
Name of Authorized Agent Employee:	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:	389003 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2016
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.	

## Attachments



## **Polar Telecom Inc.'s Demonstration of Compliance with Applicable Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules**

In establishing this certification in its *2005 ETC Order*,<sup>1</sup> the FCC found that an ETC must make “a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers.”<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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.”<sup>4</sup>

**Polar Telecom Inc.** (“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 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

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<sup>1</sup> *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*”).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at para. 28.

<sup>3</sup> *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.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at n. 72.

(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 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 Telecom Inc.'s Demonstration of Ability to Function in Emergency Situations**

Polar Telecom Inc. ("Company") hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in §54.202(a)(2)<sup>1</sup> 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 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

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<sup>1</sup> 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."

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 complies with the FCC's backup power requirements, effective October 16, 2015.