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EMPLOYEE OWNED

Received & Inspected
JUN 26 2017
FCC Mail Room

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

June 20, 2017

Via Electronic Filing

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

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: WC Docket No. 14-58
2017 ETC Annual Report Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 and 54.422
2017 ETC Annual Report of Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp., Study Area Code 230497

Dear Secretary,

On behalf of Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp., we have attached for filing confidential and redacted versions of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to 47 CFR 54.313 and 47 CFR 54.422 of the Commission's rules. Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp seeks confidential treatment under the Commission's existing confidentiality rules at 47 CFR 0.457 and 47 CFR 0.459 for the information filed pursuant to Section 54.313(a)(1) and Section 54.313(f)(2) of the Commission's regulations[1]. The redacted version is also being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Leah Richter*
Senior Financial Analyst
Phone: (605) 995-1793
Fax: (605) 995-1778
Leah.Richter@Vantagepnt.com

Enclosure(s)

cc: Amy Hanson, COO, Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp
Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division

No. of Copies rec'd 0+1
List ABCDE

[1] *Connect America Fund et al.,* WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.,* Protective Order, 27 FCC Rcd 14231 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2012) (Protective Order).

VANTAGEPNT.com 605-995-1777
2211 N Minnesota Street Mitchell SD 57301

[redacted]

<010>	Study Area Code	230497
<015>	Study Area Name	PIEDMONT MEMBERSHIP
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Leah Richter
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	6059951793 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	Leah.Richter@vantagepnt.com
	Form Type	54.313 and 54.422

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<010>	Study Area Code	230497
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<210> For the prior calendar year, were there any reportable voice service outages? No

<220>

<a> NORS Reference Number	<b1> Outage Start Date	<b2> Outage Start Time	<b3> Outage End Date	<b4> Outage End Time	<c1> Number of Customers Affected	<c2> Total Number of Customers	<d> 911 Facilities Affected (Yes / No)	<e> Service Outage Description (Check all that apply)	<f> Did This Outage Affect Multiple Study Areas (Yes / No)	<g> Service Outage Resolution	<h> Preventative Procedures

[redacted]

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<300> Unfulfilled service request (voice) 0

<310> Detail on attempts (voice)

Name of Attached Document

<320> Unfulfilled service request (broadband) 0

<330> Detail on attempts (broadband)

Name of Attached Document

[redacted]

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<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 both fixed and mobile voice
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice	0.0
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice	0.0
<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.	Offered both fixed and mobile broadband
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband	0.0
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband	0.0

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<500>	Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules	Yes
<510>	Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	230497nc510.pdf
<515>	Certify compliance with applicable minimum service standards	

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<600>	Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes
<610>	Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	230497nc610.pdf

[redacted]

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<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

<703>

State	Exchange (ILEC)	SAC (CETC)	Rate Type	Residential Local Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Total per line Rates and Fees

-- See attached worksheet

[redacted]

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<711> [redacted]

State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rate and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached {*select*}
			-- See attached					
			worksheet --					

[redacted]

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<810>	Reporting Carrier	Surry Telephone Membership Corp
<811>	Holding Company	Not Applicable
<812>	Operating Company	N/A

<813> [redacted]

Affiliates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation

-- See attached worksheet --

REDACTED-FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

[redacted]

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<900> 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 PDF, 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;	[redacted]
<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.	

[redacted]

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<1000>	Voice services rate comparability certification	Yes
<1010>	Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance	230497nc1010.pdf Name of Attached Document
<1020>	Broadband comparability certification	Yes - Pricing is no more than the most recent applicable benchmark announced by the Wireline Competition Bureau
<1030>	Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance	230497nc1030.pdf Name of Attached Document

[redacted]

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

[redacted]

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<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

230497nc1210.pdf

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website HTTP http://surry.net/lifeline/

"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. ☑

[redacted]

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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

<2011>	3rd Year Certification 47 CFR §54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 2017 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support.		
<2022>	Recipient certifies, representing year three 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 three - 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 three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
<2025A>	Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?		
<2025B>	Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 2 for year three) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-73, paragraph 35 (May 22, 2013).	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)		

[redacted]

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?

<2017C> Total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2016.

<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)(1)(ii)(A)

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

<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)(1)(ii)(C)

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Select from the drop down menu or check the boxes below to note compliance with 54.313(f)(1). Privately held carriers must ensure 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.

	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan		
(3009)	Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)	Yes - Attach Certification	
(3010A)	Certification of Public Interest Obligations {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}		
(3010B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	230497nc3010.pdf
(3012A)	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}	No - No New Community Anchors	
(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	230497nc3017.pdf
(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) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	☐	
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	

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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

[redacted]

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

[redacted]

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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 _____

[redacted]

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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: PIEDMONT MEMBERSHIP

Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE Date 06/20/2017

Printed name of Authorized Officer: Amy Hanson

Title or position of Authorized Officer: Chief Operating Officer

Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 3363744517 ext.

Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 230497 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/03/2017

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.

[redacted]

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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)_____ 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:

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.

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:

Name of Authorized Agent Firm:

Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: Date:

Name of Authorized Agent Employee:

Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent

Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:

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.

Attachments

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<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

<703>

[redacted]

State	Exchange (ILEC)	SAC (CETC)	Rate Type	Residential Local Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Total per line Rates and Fees
NC	336-787		FR	14.0	6.5	1.13	0.0	21.63
NC	336-752		FR	14.0	6.5	1.13	0.0	21.63

[redacted]

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<711> [redacted]

State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rates and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service -Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached {select}
NC	336-752	34.95	0.0	34.95	4.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, None at this time
NC	336-787	34.95	0.0	34.95	4.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, None at this time

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<810>	Reporting Carrier	Surry Telephone Membership Corp
<811>	Holding Company	Not Applicable
<812>	Operating Company	N/A

<813> [redacted]

Affiliates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation
Carolina West Wireless		Carolina West Wireless
WSS, LLC		WSS, LLC
Access On		Access On
Piedmont Communications Services, Inc.	230497	Piedmont Communications Services, Inc.
Piedmont Communications Services, Inc.	230497	Surry Telecommunications, Inc.

CERTIFICATION OF PIEDMONT TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP CORP

Reporting Period January 1 – December 31, 2016

Sec. 54.313(a)(5) and Sec. 54.422 Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules Compliance

Pursuant to § 54.313(a)(5) for High-cost Recipients and § 54.422 for Lifeline Support Recipients, Carrier hereby certifies that it is in compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules. Carrier follows Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) rules and also files the annual CPNI certification with the FCC pursuant to the FCC's current CPNI rules and regulations.

I verify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on June 7, 2017.

/s/ Amy R. Hanson

Amy R. Hanson

Chief Operating Officer

Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp

SAC: 230497

CERTIFICATION OF PIEDMONT TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP CORP

Reporting Period January 1 – December 31, 2016

Sec. 54.313(a)(6) and Sec. 54.422 Ability to Function in an Emergency Situation

Pursuant to § 54.313(a)(6) for High-cost Recipients and § 54.422 for Lifeline Support Recipients, Carrier hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in § 54.202(a)(2). Carrier is able to remain functional in an emergency situation through the use of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source. All Carrier's electronic equipment locations are equipped with battery backup facilities which are designed for eight hours of reserve power. Critical locations such as central offices also are equipped with stand-by generators. This equipment enables it to provide service for a reasonable period of time if external power is lost. Carrier's network is engineered to handle reasonable excess traffic in the event of traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. Carrier has redundancy in its network for use in re-rerouting traffic when facilities are damaged.

I verify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on June 7, 2017.

/s/ Amy R. Hanson

Amy R. Hanson

Chief Operating Officer

Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp

SAC: 230497

CERTIFICATION OF PIEDMONT TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP CORP

Reporting Period January 1 – December 31, 2016

47 CFR 54.313(a)(10) - Voice Services Rate Comparability

Pursuant to 47 CFR 54.313(a)(10) for High-cost Recipients, Carrier hereby certifies that the pricing of Carrier's voice services is no more than two standard deviations above the applicable national average urban rate for voice service, as specified in the most recent public notice issued by the Wireline Competition Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

The WCB announced that the average local end-user rate plus state regulated fees of the surveyed incumbent LECs in urban areas is $49.51. This was published in the FCC's Public Notice, WC Docket No. 10-90, DA 17-167, released February 14, 2017. Carrier's voice service rates are less than two standard deviations in relation to the applicable 2017 national average urban rate as established by the WCB.

I verify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on June 7, 2017.

/s/ Amy R. Hanson

Amy R. Hanson

Chief Operating Officer

Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp

SAC: 230497

CERTIFICATION OF PIEDMONT TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP CORP

Reporting Period January 1 – December 31, 2016

47 CFR 54.313(g) – Broadband Services Rate Comparability

Pursuant to 47 CFR 54.313(g) for High-cost Recipients, Carrier hereby certifies that the pricing of Carrier's broadband services is no more than two standard deviations above the applicable national average urban rates for broadband service, as specified in the most recent public notice issued by the Wireline Competition Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

The following table was published in the FCC's Public Notice, WC Docket No. 10-90, DA 17-167, released February, 2017. The table provides the 2017 benchmark for a number of different broadband service offerings.

Download Speed (Mbps)	Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Benchmark
10	1	100	$76.47
10	1	150	$76.97
10	1	250	$77.37
10	1	Unlimited	$77.98
25	3	250	$89.92
25	3	Unlimited	$90.53
25	5	250	$90.16
25	5	Unlimited	$90.76

I verify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on June 7, 2017.

/s/ Amy R. Hanson

Amy R. Hanson, Chief Operating Officer

Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp

SAC: 230497

Application for Lifeline

- Lifeline is a federal benefit and willfully making false statements to obtain the benefit can result in fines, imprisonment, de-enrollment or being barred from the program
- Only one Lifeline service is available per household
- A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses
- A household is not permitted to receive Lifeline benefits from multiple providers
- Violation of the one-per-household limitation constitutes a violation of the Federal Communications Commission's (or "FCC") rules and will result in the subscriber's de-enrollment from the program
- Lifeline is a non-transferable benefit and the subscriber may not transfer his or her benefit to any other person.

How to apply: four steps

1. Choose whether you will apply because you participate in a qualifying program or because your total household income falls within the guidelines.
2. Fill out the form. You must indicate your service address as well as your billing address (if not the same as your service address), as well as your SSN and your date of birth.
3. You must provide photocopies of either the program or income documents.
4. You must sign the bottom of the application indicating that you are complying with the Lifeline benefit rules.

Qualifying Methods

You may qualify for Lifeline either because you participate in one of the following programs or because your income is within the following guidelines. **NOTE**: **You may receive Social Security and Medicare benefits, but to qualify for Lifeline, you must receive benefits from one of the following programs or your income must fall within the guidelines.**

You MUST send photocopies of any qualifying documentation. NOTE: SEND PHOTOCOPIES ONLY; WE WILL NOT RETURN ANY DOCUMENTATION.

Program Eligibility

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Federal Public Housing/Section 8
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (NSL) free lunch program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or *Work First*

Documentation includes a photocopy of a card or an award letter.

Income Eligibility

Annual Income Based on Household Size								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	For each add'l person
$11,880	$16,020	$20,160	$24,300	$28,440	$32,580	$36,730	$40,890	+ $4,160/person

Documentation needed to qualify for Lifeline through income is noted on next page.

REDACTED-FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Attachment 1210

Piedmont Telephone North Carolina Lifeline Applicatio

When completed, mail form to:

Piedmont Telephone P.O. Box 646, Dobson, NC 27

Customer Name:_____

Customer Service Address: _____Temporary **(required):** Yes:__No:__

City:_____ State:_____ Zip Code:_____

Customer Bill Address: _____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip Code:_____

Customer's Home Telephone:_____

Customer's Social Security Number : _____

Customer's Date of Birth xx/xx/xxx: _____

Please choose 1 OR 2.

1. I certify that I participate in at least one of the following programs (chec ply) and I am providing a photocopy of a document that demo rates my participation e of these programs. NOTE: SEND PHOTOCOPIES ONLY; WE WILL NO RETURN ANY DOCUMEN ION.

☐ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	☐ Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
☐ National School Lunch – Free Lunch Program	
☐ Medicaid	☐ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
☐ Federal Public Housing/Section 8	☐ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

2. I certify that my total household income falls within the guidelines listed on Page 1 and I also certify that this is how many people live in my household **(required):** Adults ____ Children _____. I am providing a photocopy of the following qualifying documents:

☐ Prior year's state or federal tax return	☐ Retirement / pension statement of benefits
☐ Current income statement from an employer	☐ Unemployment/Workmen's Compensation statement of benefits
☐ Paycheck stubs for most recent 3 months	☐ Federal notice letter of participation in General Assistance
☐ Social Security statement of benefits	☐ Veterans Administration Statement of Benefits
☐ Child Support document	☐ Other official document containing income information
☐ Divorce decree	

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that:

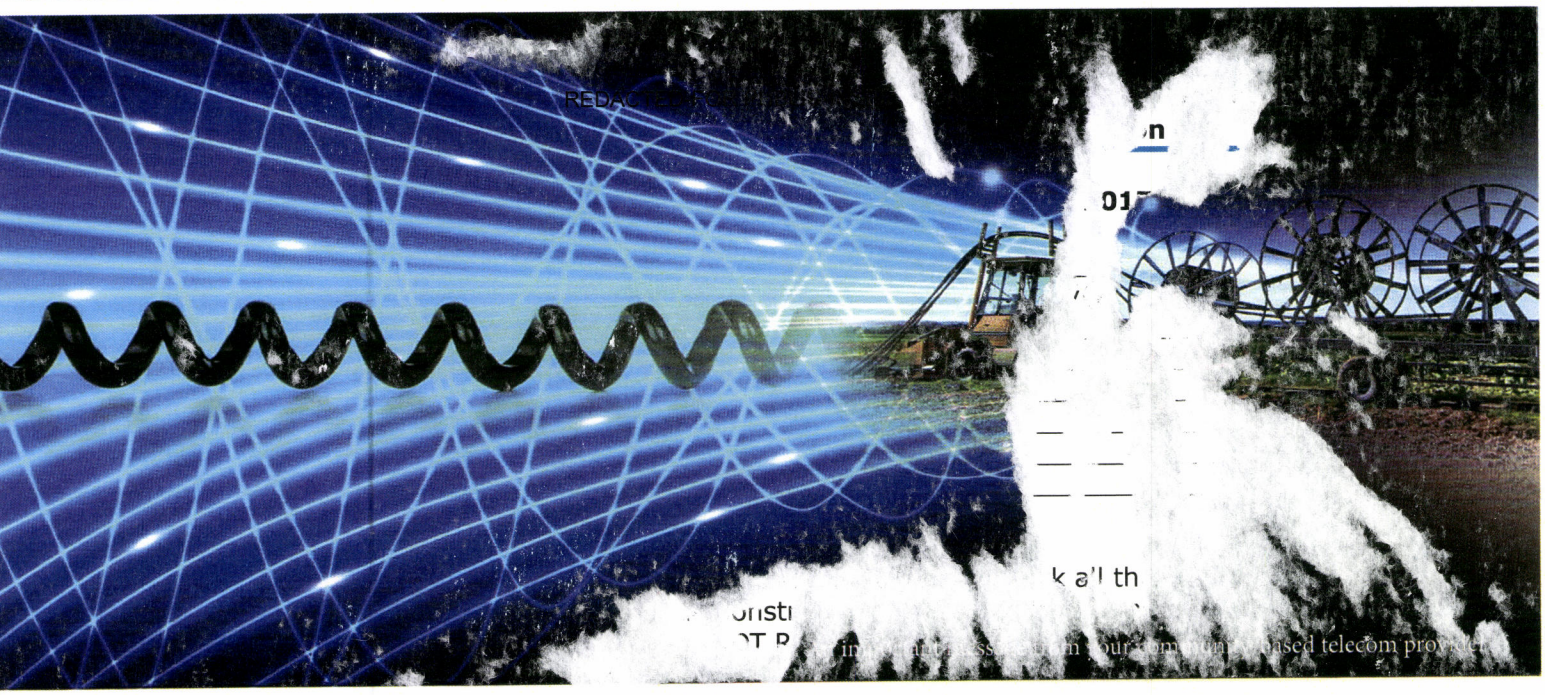
1. I meet the income-based or program-based eligibility criteria for receiving Lifeline, shown above.
2. I will notify the carrier within 30 days if for any reason I no longer satisfy the criteria for receiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I am receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit.
3. If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to Piedmont Telephone within 30 days.
4. My household will receive <u>only one Lifeline service</u> and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not already receiving a Lifeline service.
5. The information contained in this certification form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
6. I acknowledge that providing false or fraudulent information to receive Lifeline benefits is punishable by law.
7. I acknowledge that I may be required to re-certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline at any time, and my failure to re-certify my continued eligibility will result in de-enrollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits.

I hereby authorize Piedmont Telephone to release any of my information contained in this Lifeline Application required for the administration of the Lifeline program to the FCC or its designee, including the Universal Service Administrative Company, and to any state and federal agency, as required by law.

Applicant's Signature:_____Date:_____

For agent use only:

Type of document for program eligibility: Type of document for income eligibility:

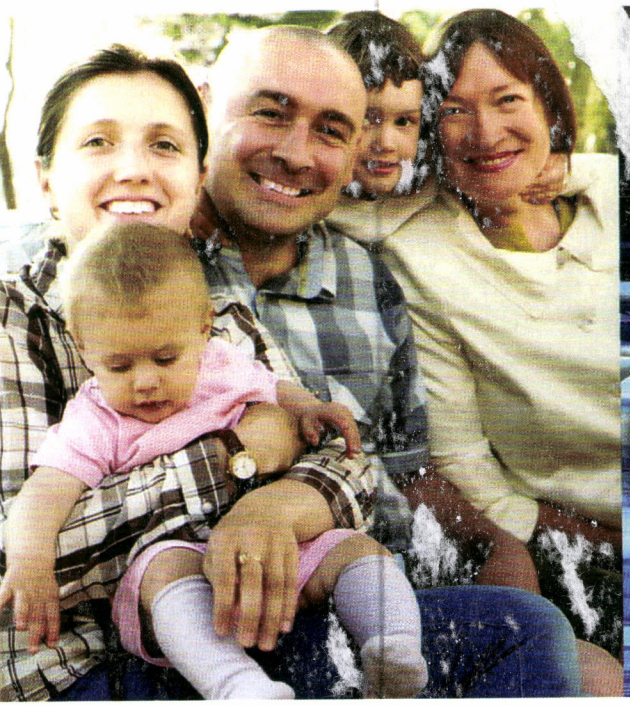


FOUNDATION FOR
RURAL SERVICE

4121 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1000
Arlington, VA 22203

www.frs.org

An important message from your community-based telecom provider



Attachment 1210

Your community-based telecom provider is pleased to offer Lifeline service – providing discounted telephone or internet service for eligible consumers.

The Lifeline Universal Service Program is a government supported program available to qualified, low-income consumers and offers a discount for eligible services. Eligible services include telephone and internet service (the latter as of December 2, 2016). If you are an existing telephone service subscriber receiving the monthly Lifeline discount, you can continue to apply that discount to your home or cell phone voice service. But you can only receive a discount on ONE option — telephone or internet.

How to Qualify for a Lifeline Discount

You must participate in at least one of the following programs to be eligible for a Lifeline Program discount:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Program
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally-administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- HEAD Start
- Income below the Federal Poverty Guideline

If you signed up for a Lifeline discount through the National School Lunch Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or any other state-run program, your phone or internet provider may ask you to confirm your enrollment in one of the above, eligible programs when they do your next eligibility confirmation.

Services Eligible for the Lifeline Discount

Lifeline telephone and internet services will have to provide certain minimum features. Lifeline-discounted services must offer at least:

- 500 minutes per month for cell phone voice plans
- 500 MB per month at 3G speeds for cell phone data plans
- 150 GB per month at 10/1 download/upload speeds for home internet plans

Exception: In those areas where the provider does not offer speeds at or above 10/1 download/upload, they must provide the highest performing, generally available home internet plans, which must be at least 4/1 download/upload.

Changing Companies

If you decide to apply your monthly Lifeline discount to either home internet service or a data plan for your cell phone, you must remain with the company that provides your service for at least 12 months. After that, you are free to switch to a different company. If you move to a different state or to an area where your company does not offer service, let your company know. They will guide you through the process of changing companies.

If you sign up for new home or cell phone voice service, you need to stay with your company for at least 2 months. If you choose to apply your discount to a bundle, ask the company which change policy applies.

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL SERVICE

This brochure was produced by the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), the philanthropic arm of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association. FRS seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life in America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. For more information on FRS visit www.frs.org. This educational campaign is supported by the Rural Telephone Finance Cooperative (RTFC).

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CERTIFICATION OF PIEDMONT TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP CORP

Reporting Period January 1 – December 31, 2016

Sec. 54.313(f)(1)(i) Milestone Certification

Pursuant to § 54.313 f)(1)(i) for Rate-of-Return Carriers, Carrier hereby certifies it is taking reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, 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.

I verify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on June 7, 2017.

/s/ Amy R. Hanson

Amy R. Hanson

Chief Operating Officer

Piedmont Telephone Membership Corp

SAC: 230497

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

PIEDMONT MEMBERSHIP (SAC 230497)

ATTACHMENT LINE 3017

Financial Reports
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R § 54.313(f)(2)

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY