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June 27, 2014

ARTHUR BLOOSTON
1914 - 1999

WRITER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

gjd@bloostonlaw.com
202-828-5528

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

VIA HAND DELIVERY AND ECFS

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

Accepted/Files

JUN 27 2014

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

**RE: Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form
WC Dockets No. 10-90, 11-42 and 14-58
Home Telephone Company (SAC 341032)**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to sections 54.313(i) and 54.422(c) of the Commission's Rules and the Commission's *Protective Order*¹ in this proceeding, Home Telephone Company ("the Company") hereby submits two copies of its "FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form," which was or will be timely filed with the Universal Service Administrative Company and the appropriate state commission on or before July 1, 2014, and which includes a Redacted Confidential Document containing proprietary and confidential financial and 5-year service quality improvement plan information that has been obscured.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

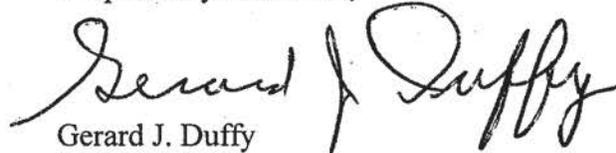
¹ *In the Matter of Connect America Fund, et al.*, PROTECTIVE ORDER, WC Docket No. 10-90, et al., DA 12-1857, released November 16, 2013.

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The Company seeks confidential treatment under the *Protective Order* for the financial information included in its report pursuant to §54.313(f)(2). Confidential treatment of this information is appropriate on the grounds that it is commercially sensitive information that is not normally released to the public. The Company is also submitting a copy of its FCC Form 481 (including the Redacted Confidential Document) via the Electronic Comment Filing System.

The Company has submitted a separate letter requesting confidential treatment pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's Rules for certain proprietary and confidential portions of its "5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan."

Respectfully submitted,


Gerard J. Duffy

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ENGINEERING CONSULTANT

WRITER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

(202) 828-5528

gjd@bloostonlaw.com

FILED VIA ECFS: WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

ACCEPTED/FILED

JUN 27 2014

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

**RE: Rule Section 0.459 Request for Confidential Treatment
Home Telephone Company (SAC 341032)
FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Home Telephone Company ("the Company"), by its attorney, hereby requests, pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's Rules, that the redacted portions of the Company's "5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan" be withheld from public inspection.

In accordance with Section 0.459(b) of the Commission's Rules, the Company states:

1. The specific information for which confidentiality is sought is comprised of the charts detailing annual projected network improvements and upgrades for voice and broadband services during the period from 2015 through 2019, and projecting capital expenditures and operating expenses for voice and broadband services during the same five-year period.
2. This information is submitted in compliance with the requirement in Section 54.313(a)(1) of the Commission's Rules that recipients of high-cost support submit a progress report on their five-year service quality improvement plans.

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
June 25, 2014
Page 2 of 3

3. This information regarding the nature and timing of the Company's construction and network improvement plans, and the estimated costs thereof, is proprietary and confidential commercial and financial information that is routinely withheld from public inspection.

4. The voice and broadband services for which the 5-year service improvement plans have been prepared are subject to potential competition from competitive local exchange carriers, cable television system operators, electric power utilities, fixed and mobile wireless service providers, and/or satellite carriers. Even where such competition is not active at present, the nature and scheduling of the Company's network upgrades and the size and timing of its related expenditures constitute very valuable competitive intelligence for any entity that may be contemplating or planning entry into one or more portions of the Company's service area.

5. Again, whether or not the Company has an active competitor at the present time, there are numerous potential competitors and the nature and scheduling of the Company's network upgrades and the size and timing of its related expenditures constitute very valuable competitive intelligence that can greatly assist the planning of any entity that may be contemplating entry into one or more portions of the Company's service area.

6. The Company limits internal access to its 5-year service improvement plan to its key employees and consultants who need the information for planning, reporting and management purposes. The plan is not posted on any Company website, or included in any Company press release, report or other document that is available to the general public or to unrestricted portions thereof.

7. The Company does not make its 5-year service improvement plans available to the public, and has not previously disclosed the present plan or similar previous plans to third parties.

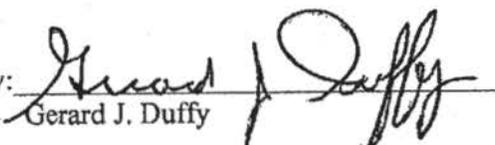
8. The Company requests that the individual annual charts included in the plan not be available for public disclosure until at least the end of the next full calendar year following the calendar year to which the chart applied. Competitors and potential competitors should not be able to see the Company's network deployment and expenditure plans for a particular year prior to the year, during the year, or during the year following the year (particularly because weather and other factors can cause construction delays). After that period, projects are generally completed, and competitors are able to observe directly or read published reports of what the Company actually did to improve its network and services.

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
June 25, 2014
Page 3 of 3

The Company notes that it is also redacting and claiming confidential treatment, pursuant to the Bureau's *Protective Order*, DA 12-1857, released November 16, 2012, for the financial information submitted in compliance with the requirements of Section 54.313(f)(2) of the Commission's Rules.

Respectfully submitted,
Home Telephone Company

By: 
Gerard J. Duffy

Its Attorney

Blooston, Mordkofsky, Dickens,
Duffy & Prendergast, LLP
2120 L Street NW (Suite 300)
Washington, DC 20037
Telephone: (202) 659-0830
Facsimile: (202) 828-5568
Email: gjd@bloostonlaw.com

FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0818

July 2013

Table with 2 columns: Field ID and Value. Fields include Study Area Code (341032), Study Area Name (HOME TEL CO-ST JACOB), Program Year (2015), Contact Name (Robert Butler), Contact Telephone Number (6186442111 ext.), and Contact Email Address (rbutler@hometel.com).

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JUN 27 2014

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary

ANNUAL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS

Table with 2 columns: 54.313 Completion Required, 54.422 Completion Required

Main reporting section with various categories: Service Quality Improvement Reporting, Outage Reporting, Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice/broadband), Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice/broadband), Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance, Functionality in Emergency Situations, Company Price Offerings, Operating Companies and Affiliates, Tribal Land Offerings, Voice Services Rate Comparability, Terrestrial Backhaul, Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers, Price Cap Carriers, and Rate of Return Carriers.

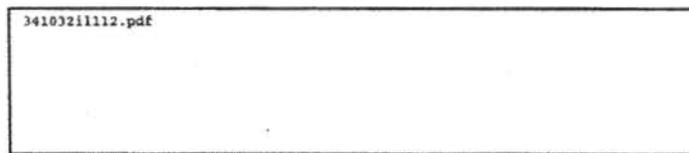
(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
---	--

<010> Study Area Code	341032
<015> Study Area Name	HOME TEL CO-ST JACOB
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6186442111 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@hometel.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) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
<111> year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

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 check these boxes below 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		<input type="checkbox"/>
<114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received		<input type="checkbox"/>
<115> How (USF) was used to improve service quality		<input type="checkbox"/>
<116> How (USF) was used to improve service coverage		<input type="checkbox"/>
<117> How (USF) was used to improve service capacity		<input type="checkbox"/>
<118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.		<input type="checkbox"/>

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**(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	341032
<015> Study Area Name	HOMK TEL CO-ST JACOB
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6186442111 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@hometel.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:

- <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,No, NA)

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(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	341032
<015>	Study Area Name	HOME TEL CO-ST JACOB
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6186442111 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@hometel.com

<1120> Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

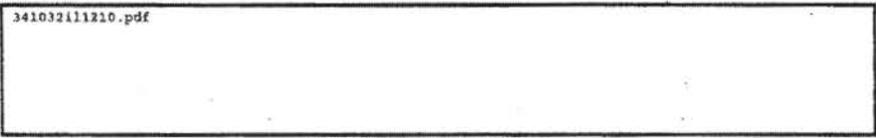
<1130> Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

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(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
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<010>	Study Area Code	341032
<015>	Study Area Name	HOME TEL CO-ST JACOB
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6166442111 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@hometel.com

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans



Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP

"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.

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(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation Data Collection Form <i>Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers</i>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	141032
<015>	Study Area Name	HOME TEL CO-ST JACOB
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6186442111 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@hometel.com

CHECK the boxes below 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.

- Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting
 - <2010> 2nd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1))
 - <2011> 3rd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2))
- Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))
 - <2012> 2013 Frozen Support Certification
 - <2013> 2014 Frozen Support Certification
 - <2014> 2015 Frozen Support Certification
 - <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification
- 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))
 - <2017> 3rd year Broadband Service Certification
 - <2018> 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.
- <2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

(3000) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	341032
<015> Study Area Name	HOME TR; CO-ST JACOB
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6186442211 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@home1.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

(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)(ii))**

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 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

(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

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

(3021) Management letter 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

34103213026.pdf

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

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REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	341032
<015> Study Area Name	HOME TEL CO-ST JACOB
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6196442111 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@hometel.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:	HOME TEL CO-ST JACOB
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	Eric Scheidt
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	President
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	6196442111 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	341032 Filing Due Date for this form: 06/30/2014
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.	

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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	241032
<015> Study Area Name	HOME TEL CO-ST JACOB
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6186442111 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@home1.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) _____ 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: _____
<small>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.</small>	

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 or Employee of Agent: _____	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
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: _____
<small>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.</small>	

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Attachments

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**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**

June 19, 2014

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

Ms. Karen Majcher
Vice President – High Cost Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street NW, Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036

RE: WC Docket No. 10-90: Annual Reporting Requirements for High-Cost Recipients §54.202(a)(1).

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1) of the Federal Communications Commission's rules, enclosed please find the Initial 5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan for Home Telephone Co., Study Area Code 341032.

Should you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me via email at eschmidt@hometel.com or by phone at 618-644-2111.

Sincerely,



Eric Schmidt
President

Enclosures

cc: Illinois Commerce Commission

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

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5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan

47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)

Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)

Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan

Company Information:

Home Telephone Co. ("Company") is a small independent rural local exchange carrier located in central Illinois providing telecommunications services to the Village of St. Jacob, Illinois and the surrounding area. According to the 2010 Census, the total population within the 62281 zip code was 2,155 of which the Company serves a population of 1,098 within the St Jacob village limits and with the surrounding areas may provide services to approximately 1,175 total homes passed in the exchange service territory.

The Company's customer base is primarily rural residential customers located in the service area. The Company also has a few small business customers in the territory who employ less than 20 employees. The Company also provides service to the following schools, governmental and anchor institution customers: St. Jacob Grade School, St. Jacob Middle School, Village of St. Jacob, St. Jacob Police Department, St. Jacob Fire Department, and the local United States Post Office.

The local exchange service territory is over a geographic area of 50.26 square miles which includes 160.26 route miles of facilities with approximately 116.45 miles of copper and fiber distribution cable. The premise density of the total service territory area is approximately 23 households per square mile and the average number of customers per distribution cable mile is approximately 10 customers per cable facility mile.

In order to ensure that Voice Telephony services would continue to be provided in a satisfactory manner, in 2010, the Company installed a soft switch to replace the legacy switch that was at the end of its economic life. To ensure reliability, the network contains the necessary emergency power equipment such as back-up generators and battery-rack, as well as fiber redundancy to ensure continued operation in cases of natural or man-made disasters.

The receipt of Federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") support, combined with other funding sources should allow the Company to continue to provide reliable, state-of-the-art, high-quality voice and broadband service to its rural customers. Home Telephone Co. has one wire center: SJCBLXEDS0 in St. Jacob, Illinois.

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REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**

Contingencies:

With the uncertainty of recovery being received as a result of current and potential regulatory action on rural rate-of-return carriers, the Company is taking a balanced and realistic approach in preparing this plan. Forecasted capital and operating expenditures for the period covered must be viewed as a flexible plan that will be modified based on changing recovery mechanisms and market conditions. Therefore, the Company reserves the opportunity to modify its plan in response to further regulatory decisions and their implications upon the Company's financial viability in providing the required services.

The Company will evaluate this plan on an annual basis. Action, however, may also be taken abruptly on the initial plan submitted for both current and future years in the event of evolving regulatory conditions and/or changes in technology-driven support change the financial recovery upon which the plan was formulated. All adjustments to the improvement plan in this document will be reflected and explained in subsequent annual reports.

Additionally, due to the current uncertainty of the amounts of support funds the Company may receive in future years, the Company advises the Commission that the deployment of specific network improvement projects may be modified, and the meeting of projected service goals restrained, to accommodate the actual amount of support that will be received. Furthermore, cash flow and the availability of financing sources will have an impact on the timing of dollars spent on certain projects.

Given the incredible number of recent changes in the industry, the regulatory environment, technology and the service demands of customers, the Company is constantly monitoring its network and operations to make the most effective choices with respect to network investments and operational improvements.

Company Plan:

It is critically important that the services offered by the Company are sustainable and that adequate revenues and support for the services are available. Any additional changes to the currently available revenues and recovery sources for the Company would alter the projected investment plan presented in this document. Under the currently available revenue sources and recovery mechanisms, the Company anticipates that it will make the following improvements and/or upgrades to its network over the forecast period:

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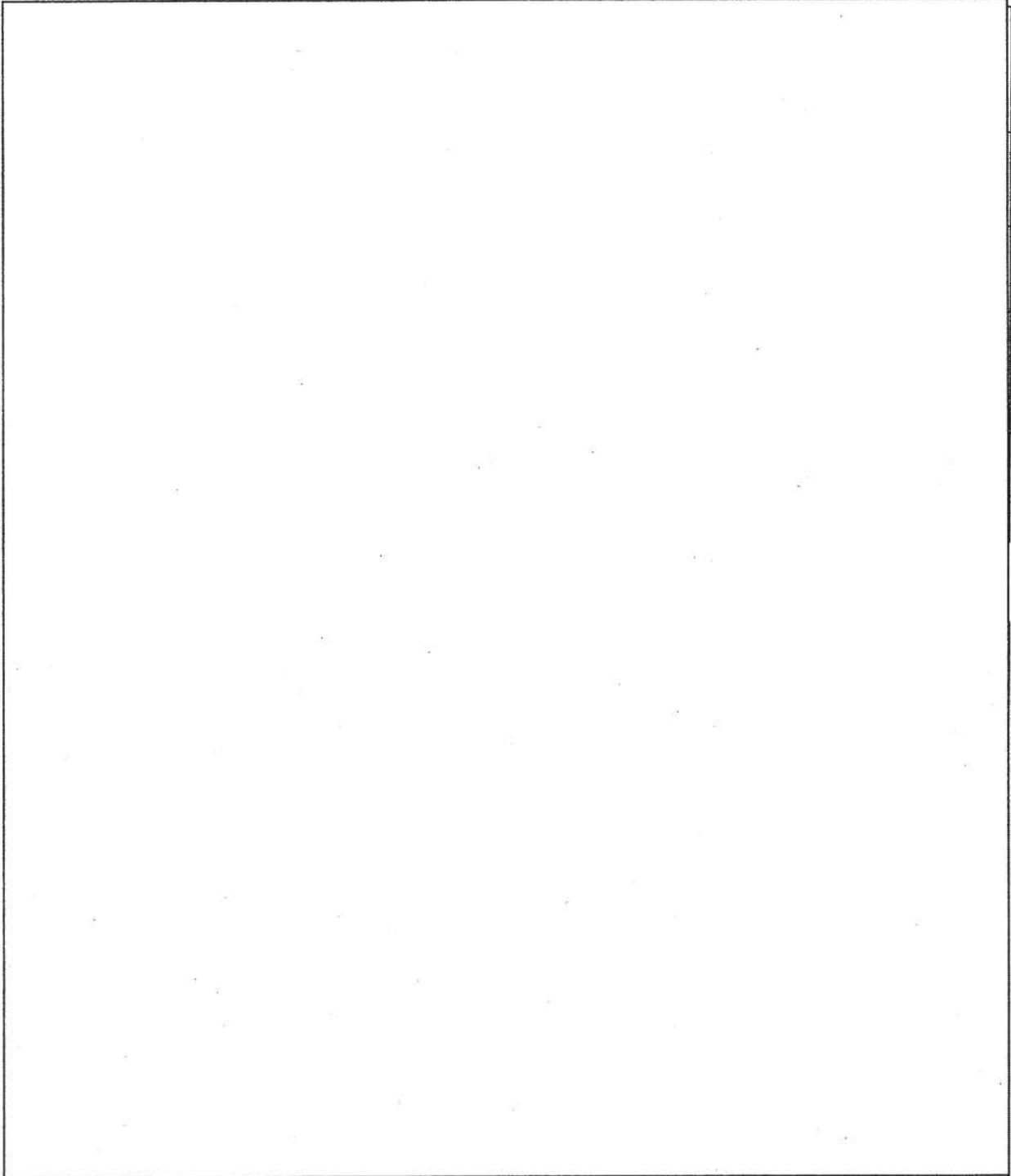
**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**



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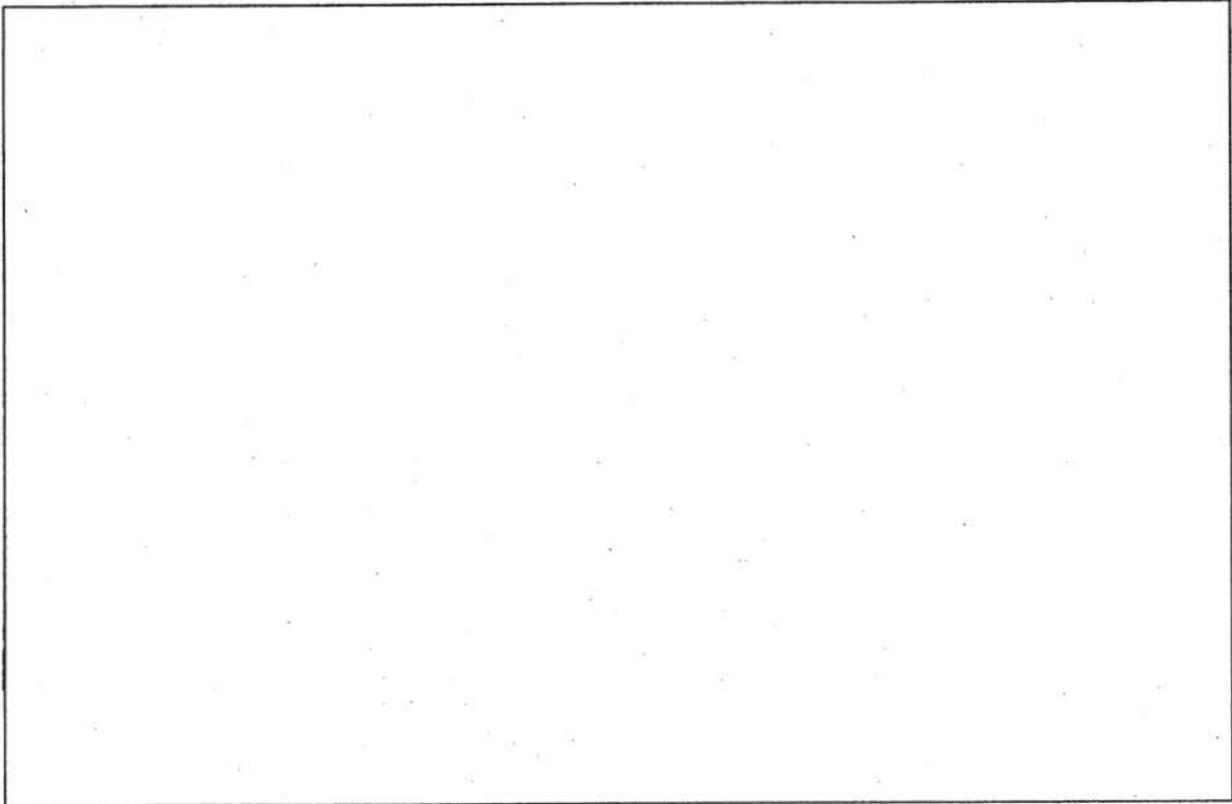
**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**



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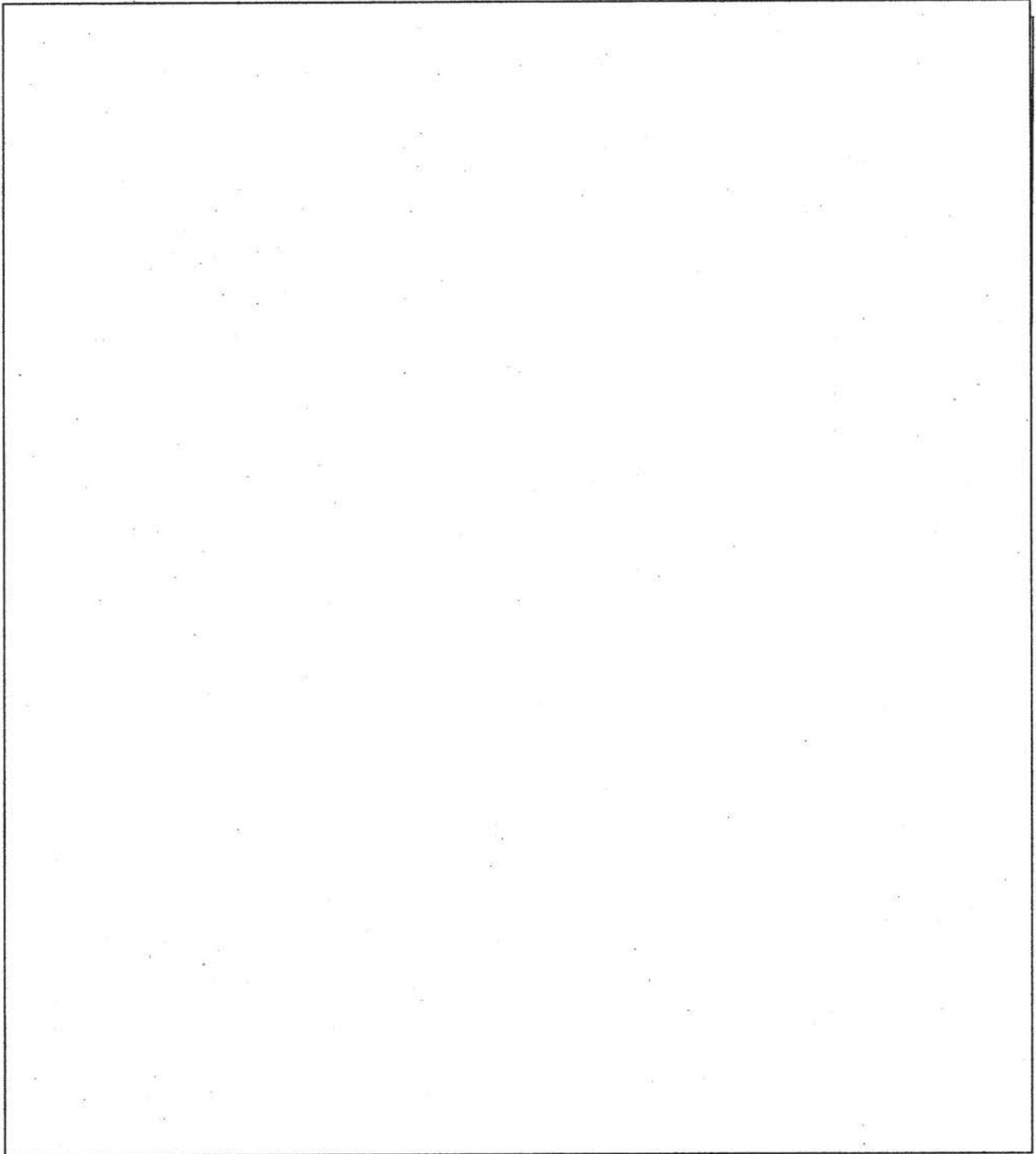
**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**



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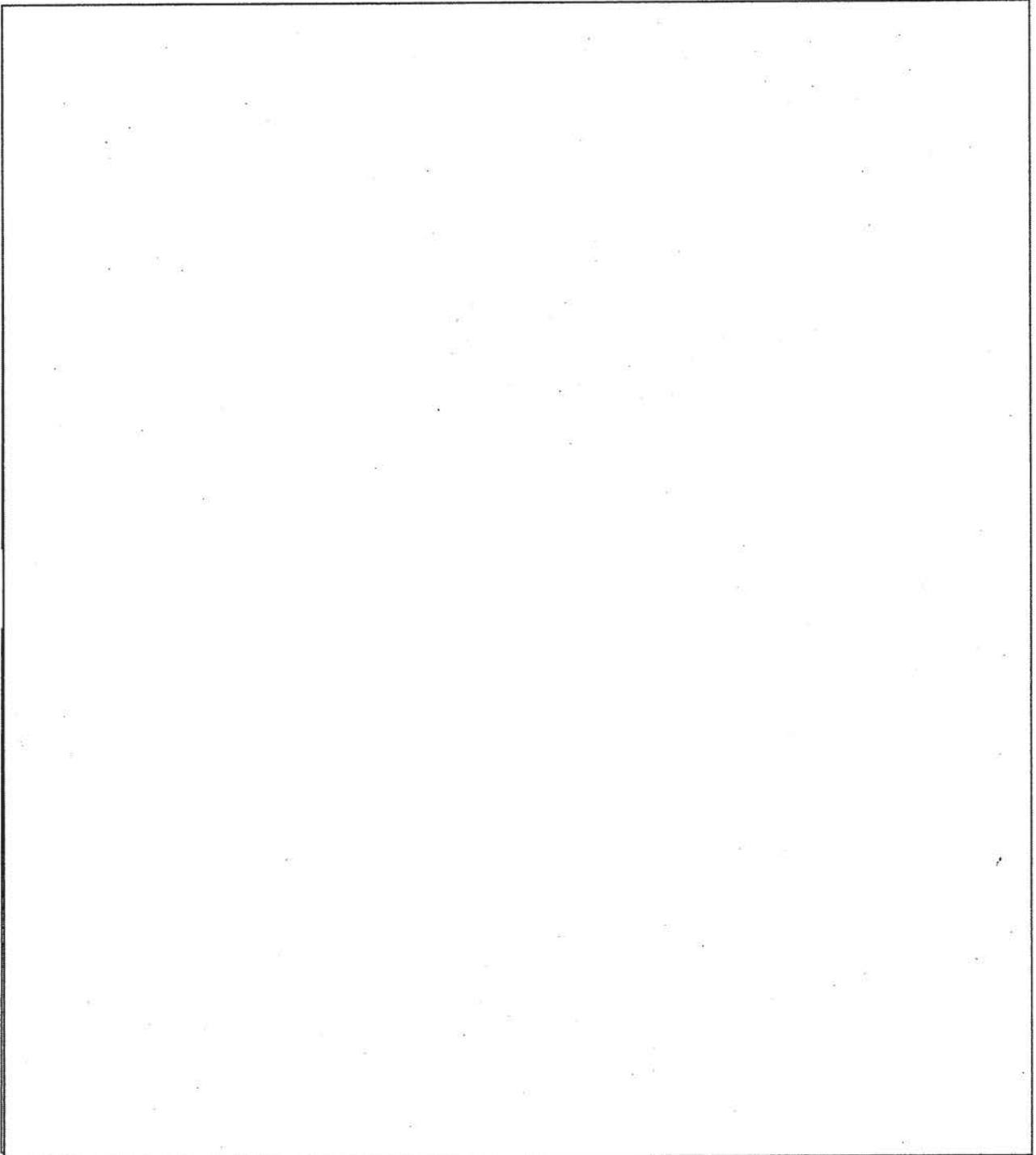
**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**



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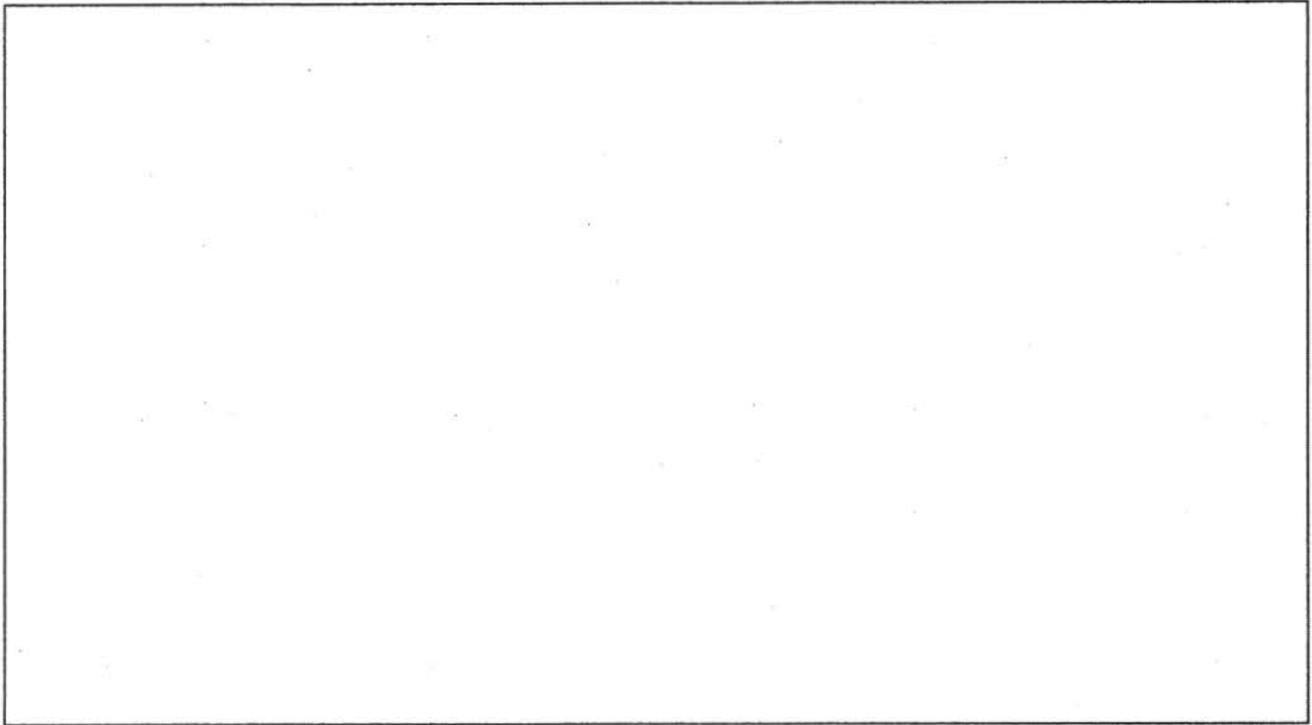
**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**



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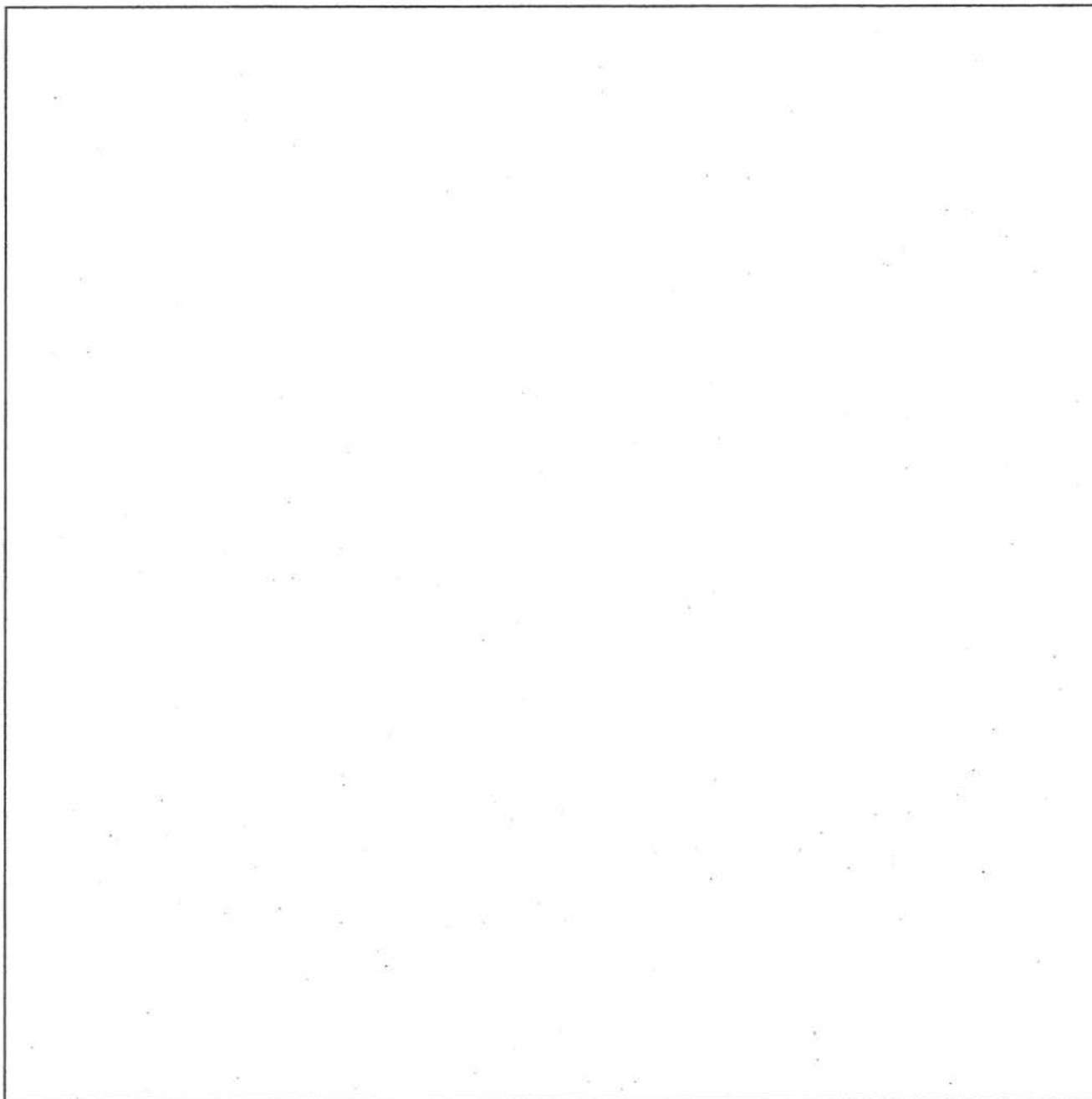
**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**



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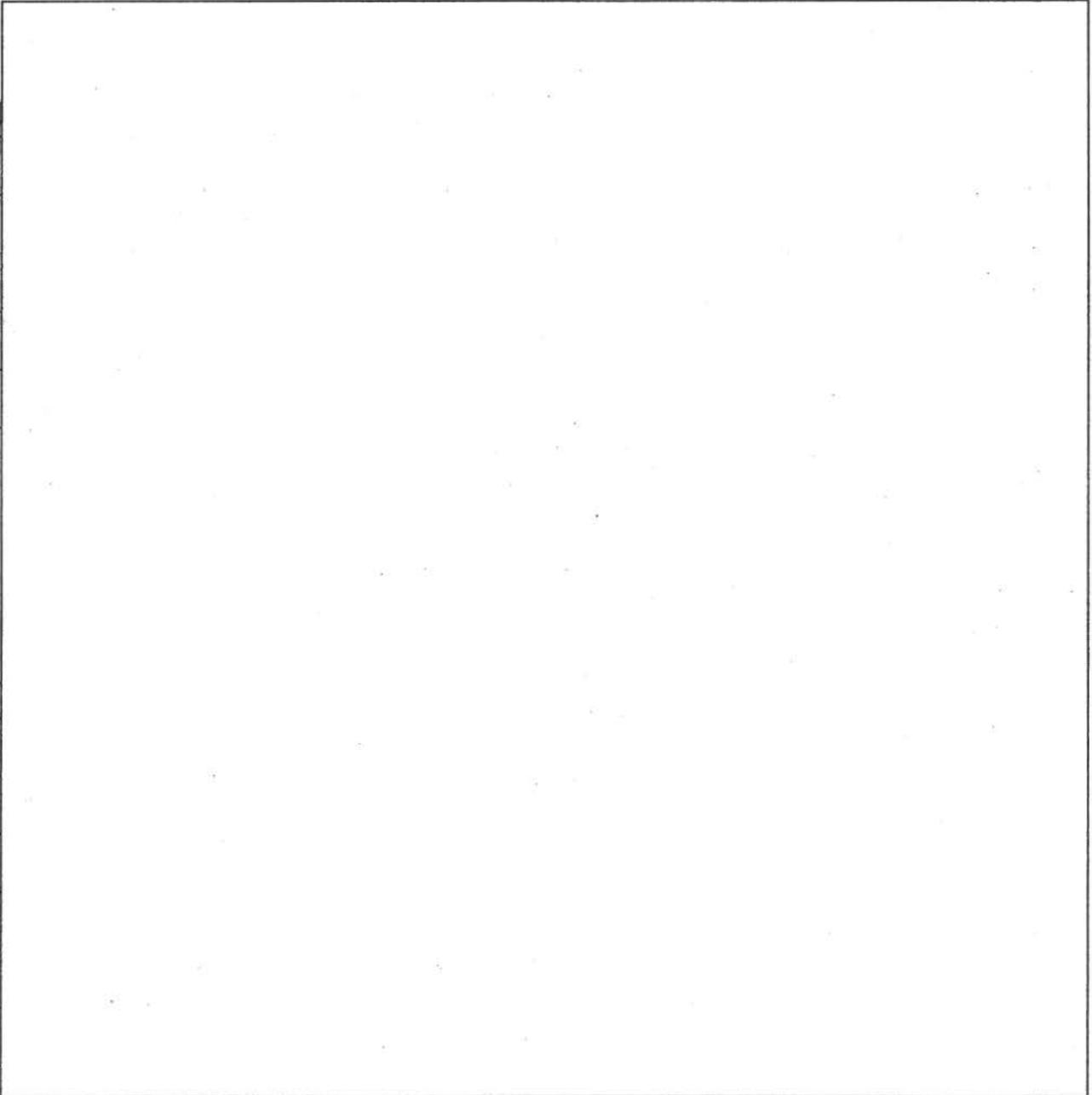
**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**



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**5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan
47 C.F.R. §54.202(a)(1)
Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)**



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341032il510.pdf

Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)
FCC Form 481 – Line 510
Program Year – 2015

Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Compliance Explanation Document:

The company is in compliance with all Federal and State service quality standards and consumer protection rules.

The Illinois Commerce Commission has defined standards for service quality in its administrative rule parts 730, 732 and 735 for incumbent local exchange carriers. The company is in compliance with these rules. The company has systems in place for customers with regard to service trouble reporting, billing issues questions and complaints, service offerings information, after hours service problem reporting and other customer issues resolution.

The company reports the results of these quality standards items to the state commission on a quarterly basis through an internet-based reporting system.

The company also complies with all applicable consumer protection rules including the implementation of customer data protection under the Federal Communications Commission's rules for Customer Proprietary Network Information.

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341032il610.pdf

Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)
FCC Form 481 – Line 610
Program Year – 2015

Emergency Functionality Explanation Document:

The company maintains emergency backup power for the local distribution plant and central office and transmission facilities that keep the company functional in an emergency which deprives the company equipment of commercial electrical power.

The central office facility is powered with commercial electric power and battery banks that continue power to the office and transmission equipment in the event of a power source outage. The central office is equipped with a Diesel powered generator to continue supplying power in the event of a power outage. The company can remain operational in the situation.

The company's customer distribution network transmission equipment, field cabinets & customer pedestal electronics have power backup that will also provide service in the event of a commercial power outage.

The company has additional route capacity to keep emergency service (911 service) available in the event of an emergency situation. The company also supplies emergency answering points for emergency personnel in the event of an isolation or emergency situation.

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341032il1010.pdf

Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)
FCC Form 481 – Line 1010
Program Year – 2015

Voice Services Rate Comparability Report

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 (a) (10) Home Telephone Co. certifies that it is in compliance with the requirement that voice services is no more than two standard deviations above the national average urban rate for voice service of \$46.96 as specified in Public Notice DA 14-384 issued on March 20, 2014.

Home Telephone Co. current total local end-user rate¹ of \$20.63 (which includes a local fee of \$7.99 and mandated state fees of \$12.64) is not above the standard deviation as specified in the USF/ICC Transformation Order.²

¹ Local End User Rate as defined in USF/ICC Transformation Order 26 FCC Rcd at 17751, Para. 238

² USF/ICC Transformation Order, 26 FCC Rcd at 17694, Para. 84 (footnote included) "The standard deviation is a measure of dispersion. The sample standard deviation is the square root of the sample variance. The sample variance is calculated as the sum of the squared deviations of the individual observations in the sample of data from the sample average divided by the total number of observations in the sample minus one. In a normal distribution, about 68 percent of the observations lie within one standard deviation above and below the average and about 95 percent of the observations lie within two standard deviations above and below the average."

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341032il1210.pdf

Home Telephone Co. (SAC 341032)

FCC Form 481 – Line 1210

Program Year – 2015

Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Program

The Lifeline Program is a federally funded program established to provide monthly assistance to low income households. Eligible subscribers may receive a discount of \$9.25 for the monthly Federal subscriber line charge and voice telephony service, or a bundled service that includes voice telephony service.

To qualify for the program, the Lifeline applicant must participate in any of the following assistance programs. The Illinois Department of Human Services may certify the applicant's participation in assistance programs listed below for purposes of determining eligibility.

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch program
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- Head Start
- Customer household income is at or below 135% of the National Poverty Guidelines, for a household of that size

The Telephone Company's verification of income eligibility will be through the Department of Human Services or, in lieu of electronic verification, applicants will sign a form certifying that the applicant qualifies under the program criteria, and provide program participation or income documentation to the Company for review and verification of eligibility.

The Lifeline program credit shall be limited to one credit per low income household or economic unit.

Lifeline service shall not be disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.

Qualifying low-income subscribers who voluntarily elect toll blocking, where available, will not be required to pay a service deposit in order to initiate Lifeline Service. This service will only be provided at the customer's request.

Qualifying Lifeline customers will not be charged a monthly number-portability charge.

Basic Residential Local Exchange service is available to all Lifeline qualified customers.

Basic Residential Local Exchange Service offers the customer unlimited local calling, emergency service calling (at no additional charge), access to directory assistance service (additional charge per call), equal access to interexchange toll carrier service (additional charges based on carrier toll plans) and access to operator services.



SECTION 54.313(f)(2)(iii) OFFICER CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Section 54.313(f)(2)(iii) of the FCC Rules, I, Eric Schmidt, hereby certify the following under penalty of perjury:

1. I am the President of Home Telephone Co. (the "Carrier"; Study Area Code 341032), and am authorized to make this certification on its behalf.
2. The Carrier was not audited in the ordinary course of business for the preceding fiscal year.
3. The reported data in the accompanying financial statements of the Carrier are accurate.
4. The accompanying financial statements of the Carrier have been subject to review by Marlett & Associates, CPAs Ltd., an independent certified public accountant.



Signature

Eric Schmidt

Printed Name

June 19, 2014

Date

(3005b) Operating Report for Privately-Held Rate of Return Carriers	FCC Form 481
Income Statement - Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0586
Page 2 of 3	OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010: Study Area Code	341032
<015: Study Area Name	Home Telephone Co.
<020: Program Year	2015
<030: Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035: Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	618-644-2111
<039: Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@hometel.com

PART B. STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS OR MARGINS		
ITEM	PRIOR YEAR	THIS YEAR
1. Local Network Services Revenues		
2. Network Access Services Revenues		
3. Long Distance Network Services Revenues		
4. Carrier Billing and Collection Revenues		
5. Miscellaneous Revenues		
6. Uncollectible Revenues		
7. Net Operating Revenues (1 thru 5 less 6)		
8. Plant Specific Operations Expense		
9. Plant Nonspecific Operations Expense (Excluding Depreciation & Amortization)		
10. Depreciation Expense		
1. Amortization Expense		
2. Customer Operations Expense		
3. Corporate Operations Expense		
4. Total Operating Expenses (8 thru 13)		
5. Operating Income or Margins (7 less 14)		
6. Other Operating Income and Expenses		
7. State and Local Taxes		
8. Federal Income Taxes		
9. Other Taxes		
10. Total Operating Taxes (17+18+19)		
1. Net Operating Income or Margins (15+16-20)		
2. Interest on Funded Debt		
3. Interest Expense - Capital Leases		
4. Other Interest Expense		
5. Allowance for Funds Used During Construction		
6. Total Fixed Charges (22+23+24-25)		
7. Nonoperating Net Income		
8. Extraordinary Items		
9. Jurisdictional Differences		
10. Nonregulated Net Income		
1. Total Net Income or Margins (21+27+28+29-30-26)		
2. Total Taxes Based on Income		
3. Retained Earnings or Margins Beginning of Year		
4. Miscellaneous Credits Year-to-Date		
5. Dividends Declared (Common)		
6. Dividends Declared (Preferred)		
7. Other Debits Year-to-Date		
8. Transfers to Patronage Capital		
9. Retained Earnings or Margins end-of-Period [(31+33+34)-(35+36+37+38)]		
10. Patronage Capital Beginning of Year		
1. Transfers to Patronage Capital		
2. Patronage Capital Credits Retired		
3. Patronage Capital End-of-Year (40+41-42)		
4. Annual Debt Service Payments		
5. Cash Ratio [(14+20-10-11)/7]		
6. Operating Accrual Ratio [(14+20+26)/7]		
7. TIER [(31+26)/26]		
8. DSCR [(31+26+10+11)/44]		

(3005c) Operating Report for Privately-Held Rate of Return Carriers Cash Flow - Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986 OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
Page 3 of 3	

<010> Study Area Code	341032
<015> Study Area Name	Home Telephone Co.
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Robert Butler
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	618-644-2111
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rbutler@hometel.com

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PART C. STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS	
1. Beginning Cash (Cash and Equivalents plus RUS Construction Fund)	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
2. Net Income	
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	
3. Add: Depreciation	
4. Add: Amortization	
5. Other (Explain)	
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities	
6. Decrease/(Increase) in Accounts Receivable	
7. Decrease/(Increase) in Materials and Inventory	
8. Decrease/(Increase) in Prepayments and Deferred Charges	
9. Decrease/(Increase) in Other Current Assets	
10. Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable	
11. Increase/(Decrease) in Advance Billings & Payments	
12. Increase/(Decrease) in Other Current Liabilities	
13. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Operations	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
14. Decrease/(Increase) in Notes Receivable	
15. Increase/(Decrease) in Notes Payable	
16. Increase/(Decrease) in Customer Deposits	
17. Net Increase/(Decrease) in Long Term Debt (Including Current Maturities)	
18. Increase/(Decrease) in Other Liabilities & Deferred Credits	
19. Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Stock, Paid-in Capital, Membership and Capital Certificates & Other Capital	
20. Less: Payment of Dividends	
21. Less: Patronage Capital Credits Retired	
22. Other (Explain)	
23. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Financing Activities	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
24. Net Capital Expenditures (Property, Plant & Equipment)	
25. Other Long-Term Investments	
26. Other Noncurrent Assets & Jurisdictional Differences	
27. Other (Explain)	
28. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Investing Activities	
29. Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash	
30. Ending Cash	