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July 6, 2016

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**ASTAC and AT&T Bring First 4G Wireless Service to Barrow
*Coming Soon to other North Slope Villages***

Anchorage, Alaska – Wireless service just got better and faster for Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative’s (ASTAC) Barrow customers. ASTAC, in collaboration with AT&T, has upgraded its wireless service from 2G to 4G in Barrow, bringing the first HSPA+ high-speed data service to the region and with it, new opportunities.

“This is an exciting time for our company and for ASTAC customers who can now experience wireless service available in large markets,” said Jens Laipenieks, ASTAC Director of Operations. “Not only does 4G mean faster data speeds, it also provides greater coverage and additional safety for those out fishing and camping in areas that didn’t used to receive service.”

The new service extends miles out to sea and onto the tundra. Customers will now also be able to enjoy streaming media, picture messaging and shared data plans.

ASTAC signed a long-term strategic agreement with AT&T earlier this year to enhance North Slope wireless service. ASTAC has already brought 4G speeds to Prudhoe Bay and the Nuiqsut markets. The other villages ASTAC services, Kaktovik, Atqasuk, Point Hope, Wainwright, Point Lay and Anaktuvuk Pass, are scheduled to be upgraded to 4G by year end.

ASTAC, headquartered in Anchorage, is a member-owned telephone utility cooperative that has provided telecommunication services to residents in the North Slope Borough of Alaska since 1981. Services include local, long distance, Internet, wireless and LAN/WAN. For more information, visit www.astac.net

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