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Kaktovik Gets 4G Service
ASTAC Finishes First 4G High-Speed Data on the North Slope

Anchorage, Alaska – For the first time in all the villages on the North Slope, residents can enjoy Facebook Live, stream a movie, and the best wireless broadband coverage. Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative (ASTAC) turned up 4G service in Kaktovik today, finishing the conversion in all eight of the villages it serves as well as expansive Prudhoe Bay coverage. The conversion from 2G to 4G, in collaboration with AT&T, started with ASTAC Nuiqsut customers last March, bringing the first HSPA+ high-speed data service to the region.

“Being the first telecommunications company to bring 4G service to the North Slope is a proud and historic milestone for us,” said ASTAC CEO/General Manager Jens Laipeniaks. “Being able to provide our customers with the wireless experiences of urban areas – faster data speeds, better coverage and additional safety - is an exciting transformation in this part of Alaska.”

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

ASTAC and AT&T entered into a long-term strategic agreement in February 2015 to enhance North Slope wireless service.

ASTAC network speeds will be even greater when the Quintillion subsea fiber comes into service in several north slope communities.

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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