

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of Telephone Number) DOCKET NO. 99-999-04
Conservation Measures for (801) Area Code)
Relief)
)
-----) DOCKET NO. 99-999-05
)
In the Matter of the Request of the North) ORDER
American Numbering Plan Administrator for)
a New Area Code within the (801) Area Code)

ISSUED: November 2, 2000

By The Commission:

On July 20, 2000, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granted the Commission's petition for delegated authority to implement number conservation measures to extend the life of the 801 Area Code. On September 19, 2000, the Commission held a technical conference with telecommunications carriers, the Division of Public Utilities (DPU or Division), the Committee of Consumer Services (CCS), and NeuStar, designated as the number block pooling administrator by prior Commission order. The conference was set to discuss aspects of implementing 1000-number block pooling for all local number portability (LNP) capable carriers as part of our numbering resource conservation efforts. On November 1, 2000, telecommunications carriers held a telephone conference call, initiated by carrier request to Neustar, to reopen the Consensus Agreement for the 801 NPA Jeopardy to alter the allocation process of remaining central office codes (COCs or NXX codes) for the 801 Area Code. The Commission, Commission staff, Division staff, and CCS staff participated in the

November 1, 2000, conference call as well. During the conference call, consensus was reached to reduce the monthly NXX code allocation from nine codes to six and to eliminate the roll-over of codes not allocated in the monthly allocation to the next month's allocation. It was agreed that codes not allocated in the monthly allocation would, instead, be returned to the pool of available codes for later allocation. The Commission also learned that eleven NXX codes that had previously been given to telecommunications carriers had been returned and will become available for future allocation after previously assigned numbers in the NXX code block have been appropriately aged. With the agreed upon reduction in the monthly allocation and the number of NXX codes that are or will be available for allocation, it was determined that the 801 Area Code exhaust date would likely be extended for approximately fifteen months beyond prior estimate of exhaust.

While the Commission has ordered a 1000 number block pooling trial, the Commission has delayed implementation of mandatory pooling while the Commission and telecommunications carriers have awaited the release and availability of revised software for use in a number pooling program. Originally scheduled to be available in early 1999, release dates for the NPAC 3.0 software are now given for February, 2001. Pooling is expected to extend the exhaust date of the 801 Area Code even further and will permit more efficient utilization of numbering resources in the Utah area codes. Because of the change in central office code allocation and the other conservation measures which we order herein, we

have concluded that implementation of mandatory pooling may be delayed past the date discussed at the September 19th technical conference, but no later than March 1, 2001.

As part of our consideration to delay implementation of mandatory number pooling, the Commission has also incorporated the impact of additional steps available to us in monitoring and insuring the efficient use of the number resources available in the State of Utah. We have determined that we will utilize these additional tools. We will require that telecommunications carriers provide us with their forecast and utilization information for their NXX codes submitted to the NANPA and will require that such data, as required by the FCC's March 31, 2000, Report and Order, In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization,

CC Docket No. 99-200, FCC 00-104, be submitted directly to the Commission. We will require telecommunications carriers to also provide us their applications for initial or growth numbering resources and will require direct submission of this information as well. Like the FCC, we recognize the confidential nature of this information and will treat it accordingly. All such information will also be subject to the protective orders previously entered in these dockets.

We conclude that it is appropriate to require telecommunications carriers to efficiently use the number resources assigned to them. To that end, we will require that telecommunications carriers seeking number resources to establish that they have a utilization factor of 90% of their existing number resources before seeking additional resources. This utilization factor shall apply to each carrier until further order of the Commission, a preempting factor is established by the FCC, or a LNP capable carrier begins participation in the 1000 number block pooling trial and pooling blocks are made available. We will also require that telecommunications carriers submit proof that NXX codes assigned to them have been activated, assignment of numbers has commenced, and that number blocks have been utilized pursuant to FCC requirements. We will require that telecommunications carriers submit proof that all future NXX codes and number blocks assigned to them have been properly activated within the time frames required and pursuant to the utilization manner required.

Relative to the 1000 number block pooling trial, we have concluded to follow the following schedule:

August 10, 2000 - Commission Order mandating number pooling trial for the 801 Area Code

September 19, 2000 - First Implementation Meeting

November 15, 2000 - Carrier Forecast Reports and beginning of monthly forecast and utilization information submissions to the Commission

November 15, 2000 - Block Donation Identification submission to NeuStar, pool administrator

November 15, 2000 - Begin Intra-Service Provider Porting

December 1, 2000 - Pooling Assessment of industry inventory by NeuStar

December 1, 2000 - Carriers sign and submit joinder letter

February 19, 2001 - End Intra-Service Provider Porting

February 20, 2001 - 1000 number block donation date

February 26, 2001 - Completion of software testing with NeuStar (either version 1.4 if 3.0 is not available or 3.0 if available for use)

March 1, 2001 - Commencement of the pooling trial and Pool Allocation start date, first day to request 1000 number blocks

March 21, 2001 - Block effective date

March 23, 2001 - Carriers may begin assigning telephone numbers from blocks assigned to them

We will continue to monitor the use of the number resources in the 801 Area Code to determine the efficacy of the conservation measures taken. Because of the steps already agreed to, we have concluded that the permissive and mandatory dialing dates associated with the area code split previously set may be vacated and new dates established. The Commission has concluded that the new dates may be extended by approximately fifteen months; viz, the new commencement date for permissive dialing is March 30, 2002, and the new mandatory dialing date is September 30, 2002.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that:

- The number pooling trial will be implemented following the schedule and dates previously set forth in this Order.
- Telecommunications carriers that have or will receive central office codes or 1000 number blocks from the 801 Area Code shall submit their forecast and utilization data directly to the Commission. Such data shall be submitted to the Commission's Secretary and the carrier shall designate which portions of such information or data are considered confidential and submit such material on yellow colored paper to aid in segregating and protecting such confidential material.
- All telecommunications carriers seeking initial or growth number resources in the 801 Area Code shall submit copies of their applications to the Commission. The submissions shall follow the same procedure applicable to forecast and utilization information in order to protect the confidential information associated with number resources applications.
- All telecommunications carriers seeking numbering resources in the 801 Area Code shall utilize their existing number resources at a 90% utilization factor before seeking additional number resources. A telecommunications carrier shall submit proof that it has appropriately activated and utilized its existing number resources. A telecommunications carrier shall continue to submit such proof for future number resources assigned to the carrier until exempted from this requirement.
- The previous permissive and mandatory dialing dates associated with the 801 Area Code split, contained in our April 26, 2000 Order are vacated. We now order that the beginning date for permissive dialing is March 30, 2002, and anticipate that the permissive dialing period will end close to the exhaust of number resources, now expected

September 30, 2002. We give notice that we may alter the permissive dialing period and delay the commencement of mandatory dialing beyond September 30, 2002, if the number conservation efforts undertaken by the Commission and the telecommunications industry further extend the estimated exhaust date for the 801 Area Code.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 2nd day of November, 2000.

/s/ Stephen F. Mecham, Chairman

/s/ Constance B. White, Commissioner

/s/Clark D. Jones, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Julie Orchard
Commission Secretary