



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News media information 202 / 418-0500
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830
TTY 202 / 418-2555
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
<ftp.fcc.gov>

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THE COMMON CARRIER BUREAU ANNOUNCES THE FIRST QUARTER SCHEDULE FOR NATIONAL THOUSANDS-BLOCK NUMBER POOLING

CC Docket 99-200

In this Public Notice, the Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau) announces the first quarter schedule for the rollout of national thousands-block number pooling. NeuStar, Inc., the National Thousands-Block Number Pooling Administrator, will coordinate and administer the allocation of thousands-blocks for national pooling rollout.

In the *Numbering Resource Optimization First Report and Order*, the Commission determined that implementation of thousands-block number pooling is essential to extending the life of the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) by making the assignment and use of NXX codes more efficient.¹ Thousand-block number pooling is an alternative method for the assignment of numbering resources which involves the allocation of blocks of a thousand sequential numbers within an NXX code² to different service providers in a particular rate area.

Starting in March 2002, number pools will be established in approximately 21 numbering plan areas (NPAs) each quarter, with an initial concentration on NPAs in the top 100 MSAs, and a special focus on jeopardy NPAs that are within the largest 100 MSAs. Pooling trials that have commenced before March 2002 will be transitioned into the national pooling program prior to national pooling rollout.

In a *Public Notice* released on October 17, 2001, the Bureau sought comment on the proposed national rollout schedule.³ In response to comments received, the Bureau now modifies

¹ *Numbering Resource Optimization*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 15 FCC Rcd 7574, 7625, para. 122 (rel. Mar. 31, 2000)(*First Report and Order*).

² NXX code or central office code refers to the second three digits (also called digits D-E-F) of a ten-digit telephone number in the form NXX-NXX-XXXX, where N represents any one of the numbers 2 through 9 and X represents one of the numbers 0 through 9. 47 C.F.R. § 52.7(c).

³ *The Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on the National Thousands-Block Number Pooling Rollout*

the proposed 1st quarter schedule as follows. First, to accommodate requests by 5 states to substitute NPAs, we move the 440, 734, 573, 214/469/972, and 507 NPAs into the 1st quarter of the schedule.⁴ Second, per the California Commission's request, we delete the 760 NPA from the 1st quarter of the schedule. Finally, per the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's request, we move the 901 NPA into the 1st quarter schedule.⁵

We will address other issues raised by parties in their comments regarding the rollout schedule in general, and specific requests for changes to the remaining quarters of the rollout schedule, in the near future.

The 1st quarter rollout schedule is attached to this Public Notice, which will be available for review and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Suite CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554, (202) 418-0270. A copy may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 202-863-2893, facsimile 202-863-2898, or via e-mail at qualexint@aol.com.

This is a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules.⁶ As a "permit but disclose" proceeding, *ex parte* presentations will be governed by the procedures set forth in Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules applicable to non-restricted proceedings.⁷

Parties making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain a summary of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required.⁸ Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in Section 1.1206(b) as well.

For further information contact Sanford Williams of the Common Carrier Bureau, Network Services Division, at (202) 418-2320 or swilliam@fcc.gov. The TTY number is (202) 418-0484.

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Schedule, Public Notice, CC Docket No. 99-200, DA 01-2419.

⁴ The five states are Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, Texas, and Minnesota.

⁵ See Tennessee Regulatory Authority Comments. Absent an unforeseen delay due to the unavailability of NPAC 3.0 software, *see id.* at 3-4, pooling in the 901 NPA would have been implemented prior to national pooling rollout, and thus transitioned into the national pooling program.

⁶ See generally 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-1.1216.

⁷ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206.

⁸ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).