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NRUF ON FILE DISTRIBUTION LIST

NANPA has created a new mailing list for NRUF related announcements ("nruf-info"). The new mailing list provides a fast and efficient way to disseminate important and urgent information about NRUF. NANPA strongly suggests that anyone involved with submitting NRUF inputs subscribe to the list.

To subscribe, send an email message to: nanp-info-request@lists.nanpa.com Leave the subject line blank. In the text of the message, type only the line: Subscribe nruf-info. If the sender has a "signature line" inserted automatically in the e-mail, it should be deleted.

The subscriber will then receive a written confirmation that their name has been added to the mailing list, along with instructions on how to unsubscribe and other major features. 

NEW NANPA STAFF

Clare Larca, formerly with Ameritech, joined NANPA on January 8 as an NPA Relief Planner in the Central Region. Larca is based in Middleburg Heights, OH, and can be reached by phone at 440-234-8602; fax, 440-234-8667; pager, 877-645-7690, and via email at clare.larca@neustar.com

The State Scene

A Numbering Resource Publication for State Public Utility Commissions

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If you would like to be added or have changes to the mailing list, please submit to mary.strickland@neustar.com

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January

February

2001

STATE ROUNDUP

California

On February 9, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) selected NeuStar as California's Interim Thousands-Block Number Pooling Administrator (PA) for six of nine NPAs designated for number pooling. NeuStar will serve as PA for the 408, 650, 510, 619, 562, and 858 NPAs. In January, the CPUC issued a Request for Information (RFI) for PA for 10 additional NPAs in 2001. This followed a November Order in which the CPUC adopted a pooling implementation schedule for the additional NPAs. NeuStar was named to implement pooling in the first NPA – 310 – to avoid any possible delays.

In a series of reports filed by the Telecommunications Division of the CPUC late last year, Staff recommended the CPUC undertake further investigation of rate center consolidation by ordering the industry to develop a consolidation plan within 180 days.

Oregon

NeuStar was selected by the Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) to serve as the pooling administrator for the trial in the 541/503 NPA. On December 12, the Oregon PUC released the Request for Applications (RFA) for pooling administrator.

Arizona

On December 28, the Arizona Corporation Commission issued an invitation for proposals to serve as pooling administrator in Arizona. The invitation stated that pooling will be rolled out in the first NPA in 2Q2000 and subsequent NPAs at 3-month intervals. Proposals were due January 30.

Pennsylvania

On December 20, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) adopted an Order naming NeuStar as the pooling administrator for Pennsylvania's first number pooling trial in the 610/484 NPA. NeuStar held an implementation meeting on January 12 where a schedule was set to implement pooling on April 2.

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FCC RELEASES SECOND ORDER ON NUMBER OPTIMIZATION

On December 29, the FCC released its Second Report and Order on Number Resource Optimization (NRO). The Order addressed a number of areas that were raised in the First Report and Order that became effective in July 2000.

In the Second Report and Order, the FCC establishes a utilization threshold of 60% that carriers must meet before receiving additional numbering resources in a given rate center. This threshold will become effective three months after publication of the Second Report in the Federal Register. This threshold will increase by 5% on June 30, 2002, and annually thereafter until the utilization threshold reaches 75%. Carriers seeking growth numbering resources will be required to meet both the current Month-to-Exhaust criteria and the utilization threshold.

The utilization for a given geographic area (rate area or NPA) must be calculated by dividing all assigned numbers by the total numbering resources assigned to the carrier in that geographic area and multiplying by 100.

With regard to NPA relief planning, the FCC declined to amend the existing federal rules for area code relief or to specify any new federal guidelines for the implementation of area code relief at the present time. State commissions may continue to authorize area code relief in accordance with previous FCC rulings.

The FCC did conclude that a comprehensive audit program will be established and consist of "for cause" audits and random audits.

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REGIONAL CONFERENCE CALLS

Central Region

AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KY,
LA, MI, MN, MO, MS,
TN, TX, WI

Thurs., April 19,

10 a.m. (CST)

Bridge: TBD

Passcode: TBD

Western Region

AK, AZ, CA, CNMI, CO,
Guam, HI, ID, KS, MT,
ND, NE, NM, NV, OK,
OR, SD, UT, WA, WY

Thurs., April 19,

11 a.m. (PST)

Bridge: TBD

Passcode: TBD

Eastern Region

CT, DC, DE, GA, FL, MA,
MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ,
NY, OH, PA, PR, RI, SC,
USVI, VA, VT, WV

Fri., April 20,

11 a.m. (EST)

Bridge: TBD

Passcode: TBD

NANPA BEGINS RECLAMATION PROCESS WITH FCC, STATES

Effective January 12, NANPA established a process to work with the FCC and state commissions to reclaim central office codes that have not been activated by service providers.

In the NRO Order, the FCC granted authority to state commissions to investigate and determine whether code holders have "activated" NXXs assigned to them. If a state commission determines that a central office code has not been opened and decides that it should be reclaimed, NANPA will abide by that determination and reclaim the code. The FCC further noted that if state commissions declined to participate in NXX reclamation, the FCC could order NANPA to be responsible for reclamation activities. In such instances, NANPA should consult with the FCC before conducting this activity.

States that want to participate in reclamation have appointed a contact. Each month NANPA sends these contacts a list of "delinquent" central office codes for consideration. Once the list is transmitted, NANPA takes no further action on these codes until directed by the state commission.

For the states where the state commission has opted not to participate, NANPA has developed a process to ensure effective and uniform code reclamation. Highlights of the process include:

- NANPA will compile a list of central office codes to be reclaimed (i.e., codes for which no Part 4 form was provided by the code applicant to NANPA) and provide the list

to the FCC by the 5th business day of the month. NANPA will proceed with the reclamation process for those code appearing on the list unless or until otherwise directed by the FCC.

- Service providers will be notified of central office codes to be reclaimed and will have 14 calendar days to respond. If the service provider provides a Part 4 form, NANPA will cancel the reclamation. If the service provider does not respond (and no further direction is received from the FCC), NANPA will send a disconnect notice to Telcordia TRA.
- A service provider desiring an extension must direct its request to the FCC. NANPA is not authorized to grant an extension and will not request extensions on behalf of the service provider. If a service provider requests an extension from the FCC, NANPA will continue the reclamation process unless directed by the Commission. NANPA will only accept notification from the FCC – not the service provider – that an extension has been granted.
- NANPA will accept a Part 4 for the code in question at any time up to when NANPA sends a notification to Telcordia to disconnect the code in the LERG. After NANPA notifies Telcordia to disconnect the code in the LERG, only the FCC can direct NANPA to stop the reclamation of a code. **NeuStar**

STATES GAIN ACCESS TO NRUF DATA

In order to gain access to NRUF data submitted by carriers, public service commissions in 21 states have submitted letters to NANPA indicating that they have appropriate confidentiality protections in place to safeguard the data. Upon receiving this assurance, NANPA provided these commissions a copy of the NRUF data for the NPA's in their states. The NRUF data provided to date is associated with the September 15, 2000, submission date.

In addition to the data, NANPA has provided four standard reports to assist the states in their analysis of the data. The reports are listed below:

- **OCN Report – Utilization**—List of OCNs reporting utilization data, sorted by NPA. Data provided includes service provider name, company address, service provider type, parent company name and parent company OCNs, contact name, telephone number, and date of submission.

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- **OCN Report – Forecast** – List of OCNs reporting forecast data, sorted by NPA. Data provided includes service provider name, company address, service provider type, parent company name and parent company OCNs, contact name, telephone number, and date of submission.
- **NPA Utilization Report** – List of OCNs, sorted by NPA, and their respective reported utilization data summarized into the five number usage categories and associated utilization level by NXX (rural carriers) and/or NXX-X (non-rural carriers). This report will also provide a service provider NPA-wide utilization rate, as well as a total NPA utilization rate.
- **NPA Forecast Report** – List of OCNs by NPA and their respective reported forecast data, to include individual non-pooling service provider forecast of NXXs per NPA and pooling carriers' NXX-X forecast by rate center by NPA.

NANPA accepted NRUF submissions until February 1, and plans to make this information available to the states in the March 2001 timeframe. **NeuStar**

Florida

Florida Public Service Commission elected current Commissioner Leon Jacobs as their new Chairman. Jacobs succeeds Terry Deason, who will remain as a Commissioner. Lila Jaber, who was serving out the remainder of former Commissioner Julia Johnson's term, was reappointed through January 2005. Michael Palecki was sworn in as the fifth Commissioner, filling the opening left by Commissioner Jacobs upon his move to Chairman.

On January 22, NeuStar implemented number pooling in the 954 NPA, the first NPA in Florida to implement pooling.

North Carolina

On December 28, the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) issued an Order requesting comments on the possibility of extending the January 10 mandatory 10-digit dialing and overlay area code implementation date for the 704 NPA. The extension was being sought by the North Carolina Alarm Systems Licensing Board as a result of the inability of some of its members to change customers' alarm dialing systems from 7- to 10-digit dialing in the allotted time.

NANPA filed comments in the proceeding describing the possibility of code conflicts in a number of area codes, including

For cause audits may be initiated by the FCC, the NANPA, the Pooling Administrator or a state commission that has reason to believe that a service provider may have violated the FCC's rules or orders or applicable industry guidelines. The FCC's Audits Branch of the Accounting Safeguards Division of the Common Carrier Bureau or other designated agents will oversee the audit program and ensure the audits are conducted properly and promptly.

The FCC seeks comments on developing market-based approaches for optimizing numbering resources. Finally, the FCC invites comments on the need to establish a "safety valve" apart from the general waiver process to allow carriers that do not meet the utilization threshold in a given rate center to obtain additional numbering resources. Comments were due February 12, and reply comments March 5. **NeuStar**

NEUSTAR'S WASHINGTON OFFICE RELOCATES

On January 20, the Washington, DC office of NeuStar moved to a new facility, one floor down from its previous location. Only the suite number has changed:

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The phone and fax numbers of all NeuStar staff remain the same. Please make note of the suite number change.

the 803 NPA in South Carolina, that might occur should the NCUC extend the mandatory dialing date at this point. The code conflicts are due to 7-digit dialing that is allowed between rate centers in different area codes in both North and South Carolina. The NCUC extended the mandatory dialing date to January 24 to receive more comments. NANPA then filed an Emergency Petition for Reconsideration of the extension because of the possibility of even more conflicts.

In a decision reached on January 17, the NCUC extended the date of mandatory dialing until March 15. Through much effort, the NANPA has been able to minimize the possibility of code conflicts in all affected NPAs. In making its decision, the NCUC stated, "the ultimate choice that the Commission faces is not one that necessarily achieves the 'most good' but the one that promises the 'least harm.'"

Kansas

On January 4, the Kansas Corporation Commission opened a docket to address number conservation measures (Docket No. 01-GIMT-552-GIT). The Commission is initially requesting comments on the possibility of rate center consolidation, but also requests comments on other conservation measures discussed in the FCC's NRO Orders. Initial comments are due February 28; reply comments are due March 23. **NeuStar**