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Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Investigation of Area Code Relief for the 920 Area Code

5-TN-106

SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL DECISION

The North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA), in its role as a neutral third-party administrator, and on behalf of Wisconsin's telecommunications industry (Industry), filed a petition for relief in the 920 area code on June 19, 2007. At that time, the 920 area code was expected to exhaust by the second quarter of 2010. In response to NANPA's petition, the Commission opened an investigation to explore the proposed area code relief alternatives. Staff worked to educate the public about the potential relief alternatives and solicited both public and Industry comments in this proceeding. The Commission held several public hearings throughout the 920 area. Additionally, the Commission initiated several number resource optimization measures, including mandatory thousands-block number pooling, in an effort to conserve Wisconsin's limited numbering resources.

By its *Final Decision* mailed December 9, 2008, the Commission ordered an overlay (as opposed to a geographic split) for the 920 area code. Following the Commission's decision, NANPA conducted the initial implementation meeting to establish a schedule for the 920/274 overlay to accommodate the anticipated exhaust date in place at that time (the second quarter of 2012). Since then, the 920 area code has continued to experience modest gains in its forecasted life. By the fall of 2010, the anticipated exhaust date of the 920 area code had moved out to the second quarter of 2014. At its open meeting of November 11, 2010, the Commission considered the revised exhaust date and decided to postpone the implementation of the 274 area code. This

decision did not change the Commission's original decisions to use an overlay to provide the necessary relief in the 920 area code or to use the 19-month implementation period adopted in the December 2008 *Final Decision*. That action simply modified the starting date of relief efforts. On December 7, 2010, Industry reached consensus on the following modified implementation schedule:

The 920/274 Overlay Schedule	Time	Previous Date	Modified Date
Start of Permissive 10-digit Dialing	12:01 a.m. CDT	May 14, 2011	May 4, 2013
Start of Mandatory 10-digit Dialing	12:01 a.m. CST	February 11, 2012	January 25, 2014
Earliest NXX code Activation Date		March 10, 2012	February 22, 2014
Earliest date that industry may request NXX codes from the 274 area code		September 10, 2011	August 22, 2013

As of October 2012, the forecasted exhaust date of the 920 area code is the fourth quarter of 2017. The continued modest improvement in the forecasted life of the 920 area code is most likely the result of the various number optimization measures implemented in Wisconsin, as well as the lingering economic downturn. Together, these factors have led to reduced historical and projected demand, thereby further extending the anticipated life of the 920 area code. With exhaust of the 920 area code now expected in late 2017, beginning the implementation process for the 274 overlay in 2013 is not necessary.

Although the 920/274 overlay will allow customers to maintain their existing area code (920) and their 7-digit local telephone number, there will be inconveniences and potential expenses associated with the introduction of the new area code. All customers will be required to modify the way in which they make local telephone calls (mandatory 10-digit dialing) and some customers (particularly commercial customers) will need to modify various types of

equipment and a variety of printed materials to reflect this dialing change. A further postponement of the 920/274 implementation schedule ensures that residents living in the 920 area code are not subject to these changes and inconveniences before it is necessary.

At its open meeting of November 21, 2012, the Commission considered the current exhaust date of the 920 area code and decided to further postpone the implementation of the 274 area code overlay. Additionally, the Commission decided to use “triggers” to determine when it is most appropriate for NANPA and Industry to reconvene to develop a revised implementation schedule. Triggers are generally associated with the quantity of central office codes remaining in the area code or the forecasted exhaust date, or both. When triggers are established, all pending relief activities are suspended until the trigger point(s) is achieved. This approach provides an efficient means to continuously monitor the status of the 920 area code and allows Industry to rapidly respond to any unexpected changes in the forecasted life of the area code. Additionally, the use of triggers simplifies the overall administration of the implementation schedule by avoiding further Commission and/or Industry actions that would be necessary if the projected exhaust date of the area code were to change again. These decisions do not change the Commission’s original decisions to use an overlay to provide the necessary relief in the 920 area code or to use the 19-month implementation period adopted in the December 2008 *Final Decision*. This action simply modifies the starting date of the overlay implementation schedule in the 920 area code.

Order

1. The implementation schedule for the 920/274 area code overlay as established in December 2010 is suspended.

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2. NANPA shall establish triggers to reconvene an Industry meeting to develop a revised implementation schedule once the quantity of available central office codes in the 920 area code falls to 50, or the forecasted life of the 920 area code is within 24 months of exhaust.

3. By February 28, 2013, NANPA shall submit a copy of its interim planning letter reflecting this scheduling change and the establishment of triggers.

4. In all other respects, the Commission's *Final Decision* of December 9, 2008, in this docket remains in effect.

5. Jurisdiction is retained.

6. This Supplemental Final Decision is effective the day after the date of mailing.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, this 23rd day of November, 2012.

By the Commission:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra Paske", written in a cursive style.

Sandra J. Paske
Secretary to the Commission

SJP:CMR:KLB DL:00607251 5-TN-106 Order and Decision.docx

See attached Notice of Rights

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
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**NOTICE OF RIGHTS FOR REHEARING OR JUDICIAL REVIEW, THE
TIMES ALLOWED FOR EACH, AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE
PARTY TO BE NAMED AS RESPONDENT**

The following notice is served on you as part of the Commission's written decision. This general notice is for the purpose of ensuring compliance with Wis. Stat. § 227.48(2), and does not constitute a conclusion or admission that any particular party or person is necessarily aggrieved or that any particular decision or order is final or judicially reviewable.

PETITION FOR REHEARING

If this decision is an order following a contested case proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3), a person aggrieved by the decision has a right to petition the Commission for rehearing within 20 days of mailing of this decision, as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.49. The mailing date is shown on the first page. If there is no date on the first page, the date of mailing is shown immediately above the signature line. The petition for rehearing must be filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and served on the parties. An appeal of this decision may also be taken directly to circuit court through the filing of a petition for judicial review. It is not necessary to first petition for rehearing.

PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

A person aggrieved by this decision has a right to petition for judicial review as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.53. In a contested case, the petition must be filed in circuit court and served upon the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin within 30 days of mailing of this decision if there has been no petition for rehearing. If a timely petition for rehearing has been filed, the petition for judicial review must be filed within 30 days of mailing of the order finally disposing of the petition for rehearing, or within 30 days after the final disposition of the petition for rehearing by operation of law pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.49(5), whichever is sooner. If an *untimely* petition for rehearing is filed, the 30-day period to petition for judicial review commences the date the Commission mailed its original decision.¹ The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin must be named as respondent in the petition for judicial review.

If this decision is an order denying rehearing, a person aggrieved who wishes to appeal must seek judicial review rather than rehearing. A second petition for rehearing is not permitted.

Revised: December 17, 2008

¹ See *State v. Currier*, 2006 WI App 12, 288 Wis. 2d 693, 709 N.W.2d 520.