



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Burneatta Bridge, Chairperson
Ave M. Bie, Commissioner
Robert M. Garvin, Commissioner

610 North Whitney Way
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

For Immediate Release – December 29, 2003

Contact: Stephanie Marquis
(608) 266-9600

Feedback Wanted in Number Portability Case (see bottom of press release for specific telephone companies impacted)

MADISON – The Public Service Commission (PSC) is asking for public comment on the application of your local telephone company to waive its obligation to provide local number portability from a landline to a wireless carrier as issued in the November 2003 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) order.

The FCC order required wireline carriers in major service areas, such as Milwaukee, to provide number portability by November 24, 2003. All other telephone service providers in Wisconsin need to provide local number portability from a landline to a wireless carrier by May 24, 2004. Your local telephone company has applied to the PSC to waive its number portability obligation.

Local number portability allows a customer to take their current telephone number and move it to their wireless phone, while keeping the same telephone number. Please note that if a customer moves from a landline to a wireless carrier, their number may not be portable back to a landline again. Local number portability also allows landline and wireless customers to change telephone service providers while keeping the same telephone number. While a service provider cannot charge for porting a telephone number, other fees may apply, including service contract obligations.

Your local telephone company is seeking a waiver in providing local number portability (1) to avoid raising rates for its telecommunications customers, (2) to avoid an unduly economic burden on the telephone company, or (3) to avoid imposing a requirement that is technically impossible.

Public comments should address issues such as:

- Would it create a hardship for you if you could not port your telephone number?
- Would you be willing to pay more for your telephone service if your provider offers local number portability?

- Will it create an inconvenience for you not to have local number portability?
- What kind of impact will local number portability have on your business?
- Any other additional comments

Public comments will be included in the record that is developed for the Commission to review as it considers all the different aspects of the proposed waiver.

The petition that was filed with the PSC requesting that your local telephone company waive its local number portability obligation can be found at:

http://psc.wi.gov/telecom/cases/rec_apps/document/05-TN-102%20application.pdf

Fax comments due	Noon Thursday, January 8, 2004
Comments Due by Mail	Noon Friday January 9, 2004
All Comments Should Include	Case Number 05-TN-102
All Comments Should be Sent To	Gary Evenson, Acting Administrator Telecommunications Division Public Service Commission P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854 FAX (608) 266-3957

Questions regarding this case may be directed to Chela O'Connor, PSC docket coordinator, at 608-267-9766 or by email at chela.oconnor@psc.state.wi.us.

Telephone Companies Requesting Waiver

Amery Telecom, Inc.	Manawa Telephone Company
Amherst Telephone Company	Marquette Adams Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
Bayland Telephone Company	Mosinee Telephone Company
Bloomer Telephone Company	Nelson Telephone Cooperative
CenturyTel of the Midwest-Wisconsin LLC	Hager Telecom, Inc.
CenturyTel of the Northwest Wisconsin LLC	State Long Distance Telephone Company
Chequamegon Communications Cooperative	Telephone USA of Wisconsin
Cochrane Cooperative Telephone Company	Tri-County Telephone Cooperative
Coon Valley Farmers Telephone Company	Wood County Telephone Company
Indianhead Telephone Company	West Wisconsin Telcom Cooperative
La Valle Telephone Cooperative	

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