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DOCKET# 56215
DOCUMENT# 222762

Docket No. 56215

IN RE: In the Matter of the Implementation of Relief for the 912 Numbering Plan Area,
Petition of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator on behalf of the
Georgia Telecommunications Industry

ORDER APPROVING ALL-SERVICES OVERLAY

I. Background

In October 2024, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator ("NANPA") published its semi-annual Numbering Resource Utilization/ Forecast ("NRUF") and NPA Exhaust Analysis notifying the Georgia Telecommunications Industry ("Industry") and the Staff of the Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") that without any means of relief, Georgia would exhaust the supply of Central Office codes in the 912 Numbering Plan Area ("NPA") during the first quarter of 2028. However, due to a decline in Central Office code assignments, NANPA issued a Delta NRUF on March 14, 2025, revising the projected exhaust date to the second quarter of 2028. NANPA presented two possible alternatives for relief of the 912 NPA: 1) an all-services distributed overlay involving the addition of a new NPA; and 2) a boundary elimination overlay with the adjacent 229 and 478 NPAs with the addition of a new NPA.

On March 25, 2025, NANPA held an Industry relief planning meeting where the Industry participants discussed the attributes of the two relief alternatives that adhere to the NPA Code Relief Planning and Notification Guidelines, and reached consensus to recommend to the Commission Alternative #1, an all-services distributed overlay of the 912 NPA. On May 1, 2025, NANPA, on behalf of the Industry, filed a petition for approval of the Industry's consensus decision recommending an all-services distributed overlay plan for relief of the 912 NPA.

The all-services distributed overlay remains the most cost-effective and preferred method of relief. This plan will overlay a new area code over the same geographic area covered by the existing 912 NPA. All existing customers will retain their current area code in the overlay area and will not have to change their telephone numbers. The current dialing plan will remain unchanged.

In accordance with regulations of the Industry Numbering Committee NPA Code Relief and Planning and Notification Guidelines (Section 5.6.1), there is no requirement for a permissive dialing period since mandatory 10-digit dialing is already in place in the 912 NPA. Upon exhaustion of the 912 NPA code, assignments will be made in the new overlay area code.

NANPA recommended an implementation timeframe for the all-services overlay based on the projected exhaust date of the NPA in the second quarter of 2028. The customer education and network preparation period shall commence over a nine-month period prior to the exhaust date. The effective date of the new NPA and earliest activation of central office codes in the new NPA shall begin after completion of the customer education and network preparation period and after all 912 NPA central office codes are exhausted.

The Industry recommends that the nine-month implementation timeline begin no later than 15 months prior to the projected exhaustion date. NANPA will elect specific dates at the next implementation meeting ensuring the dates are flexible and accommodate holidays, peak network traffic, freeze periods, and other NPA relief activities nationwide. The timeframe implementation schedule ensures that the Industry will have sufficient time to modify their networks and equipment and educate telecommunications customers about the introduction of a new area code in the 912 NPA.

II. Staff Recommendation

As a result of the consensus and review of the relief planning meeting, Staff recommended that the Commission approve the all-services distributed overlay plan as stated in NANPA's petition. Further, Staff recommends adoption of NANPA's proposed implementation schedule.

III. Commission Decision

The Commission finds the Staff recommendation reasonable and adopts it for the reasons stated therein.

* * * * *

WHEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, that the Commission hereby approves an all-services overlay over the 912 NPA.


ORDERED FURTHER, that the Commission hereby approves the implementation timeframe set forth in the body of this Order for the all-services distributed overlay.

ORDERED FURTHER, that all findings, conclusions and decisions contained within the preceding sections of this Order are adopted as findings of fact, conclusions of law, and decisions of regulatory policy of this Commission.


ORDERED FURTHER, that any motion for reconsideration, rehearing or oral argument shall not stay the effectiveness of this Order unless expressly so ordered by the Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that jurisdiction over this proceeding is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further order or orders as this Commission may deem just and proper.

The above by action of the Commission in Administrative Session on the 20th day of May 2025.


Sallie Tanner
Executive Secretary

5-21-25
Date


Jason Shaw
Chairman

5-21-25
Date