

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Request of                    )   DOCKET UT-061774  
  )  
QWEST CORPORATION,                                )   ORDER 01  
  )  
For Assignment of Telephone Number        )   ORDER ASSIGNING NUMBERING  
Resources    )   RESOURCES  
.....    )

**BACKGROUND**

1       Qwest Communications, (Qwest or Company) requested on November 26, 2006, that the Commission overturn the numbering administrator's decision to withhold numbering resources and direct the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Pooling Administrator to provide a single one-thousand number block in the 360 area code, Vancouver rate center. Qwest's inventory of telephone numbers for assignment in the rate center does not satisfy the requirement for sequential numbers for their customer. The Qwest customer requires numbers in a specific sequence to accommodate a specialized number plan and limited to a few ranges. Qwest submitted a request to the Pooling Administrator (PA) for additional numbering resources in the rate center, however, the request was denied as Qwest does not meet the utilization level established by the FCC. The Pooling Administrator will only accept an exception request with a waiver from the Commission. Qwest will adhere to the requirement to review numbering resources and comply with the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission's North American Number Plan Administrator (NANPA) and PA regarding the return of numbers not utilized. Qwest provided the Commission with the customer request for number resources and proof of utilization in the rate center.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

2       (1)       On December 28, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued an order establishing a "safety valve" allowing carriers that do not meet the utilization threshold in a given rate center to obtain additional numbering resources apart from the general waiver process. (*In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization*, Third Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket 99-200, FCC No. 01-362, ¶¶ 57-66.) Specifically, the FCC granted to state commissions the authority to direct the Pooling

Administrator (Neustar) to release numbers to a carrier to satisfy a specific customer request that can not be met with the carrier's current inventory. (*Id.* ¶ 64).

- 3 (2) The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to RCW 80.36.610, which gives the Commission authority to take actions necessary to implement the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.
- 4 (3) Normally, additional numbering resources are granted only when existing resources are forecasted to exhaust within six months. [47 CFR 52.15(g)(3)(iii)].
- 5 (4) The Pooling Administrator website reports an inventory of eight blocks available in the Vancouver rate center. The exhaust of area code 360 is projected for the first quarter of 2010.

### ORDER

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 6 (1) Neustar, Inc., acting as the Pooling Administrator, to release a one thousand number block in the Vancouver rate center, area code 360 to Qwest Corporation.
- 7 (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over this matter to take such future actions as may be appropriate.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective December 27, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary