

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

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET UT-070416
)	
VERIZON NORTHWEST INC.,)	ORDER 01
)	
For Assignment of Telephone Number)	ORDER ASSIGNING NUMBERING
Resources)	RESOURCES
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 Verizon Northwest Inc. (Verizon or Company) requested on March 1, 2007, that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) overturn the numbering administrator's decision to withhold numbering resources and direct the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Pooling Administrator to provide a ten-thousand number code in the 360 NPA of the Marysville rate center. The Verizon customer is the Tulalip Tribe.

- 2 The customer requests one ten-thousand number code to support the addition of a new luxury hotel and the ongoing build-out of retail stores, data centers, casinos, and tribal residences. The customer's intent is to begin a new "tribal wide" numbering plan immediately with the new prefix to sustain rapid growth and scheduled projects.

- 3 The customer will return the 4,300 numbers currently in use by means of a migration which should take no longer than twelve (12) months. The customer is currently only able to obtain contiguous ranges of 20 numbers or less from Verizon with the existing prefixes which are not sufficient to support the customer's existing numbering plan and large infrastructure projects. The only restriction the customer has placed on the request for the ten-thousand number code is that it not contain the 666 prefix.

- 4 This waiver request is made because Verizon's request for one ten-thousand number code was denied by the Pooling Administrator, which found that the serving central office does not meet the "months to exhaust" criteria. The Pooling Administrator requires the "months to exhaust" for the rate center be less than or equal to six (6) months and the serving central office is currently at 37 months. Also, the percent utilization for Verizon's numbering resources in the rate center is currently at 72%, which is less than the 75% utilization required by the FCC.

- 5 The FCC granted state commissions the authority to direct the Pooling Administrator to release numbers to a carrier to satisfy a specific customer request that cannot be met with the carrier's current inventory. The Commission therefore has jurisdiction over this matter and authority to take the action requested.
- 6 The Pooling Administrator, NeuStar Inc., will only accept an exception request with a waiver from the Commission. The Commission investigated the Company's request in order to address number conservation measures in the area code. Verizon will adhere to the requirement to review numbering resources and the Company will comply with the requirements of the FCC's North American Number Plan Administrator and Pooling Administrator regarding the return of unused numbers. Verizon provided the Commission with the customer's request, the customer's numbering plan forecast, the number of customer employees, tribal members, and current number of businesses, and provided detailed inventory for number resources and proof of utilization in the rate center.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

THE COMMISSION FINDS:

- 7 (1) On December 28, 2001, the 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.¹ 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.²
- 8 (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.

¹ *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization, Third Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration*, CC Docket 99-200, FCC No.#01-362 (2000), ¶¶57-66).

² *Id.* at 64.

- 9 (3) The 360 area code is projected to exhaust in the fourth quarter of 2010.
- 10 (4) Additional numbering resources are normally granted only when existing resources are forecasted to exhaust within six months.
- 11 (5) The allocation of the requested resources is necessary to sustain economic development in the affected area. The customer's stated intent of creating a common numbering plan for the tribal community will likely facilitate communications with local businesses and promote security and community identity. It is therefore consistent with the public interest.
- 12 (6) The requested allocation will not unduly and adversely affect the present availability of numbers in the state.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) Neustar, Inc., acting as the Pooling Administrator, may release a ten-thousand number code in the Marysville rate center, area code 360, to Verizon Northwest Inc.
- 14 (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 May 9, 2007.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary