

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET UT-130498
)	
MCDANIEL TELEPHONE CO. DBA)	ORDER 01
TDS TELECOM,)	
)	
For Assignment of Telephone)	ORDER ASSIGNING NUMBERING
Numbering Resources)	RESOURCES
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 McDaniel Telephone Co. dba TDS Telecom, (McDaniel or Company) made a request on April 8, 2013, that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) overturn the Number Pooling Administrator’s decision to withhold numbering resources and direct the Number Pooling Administrator to open a new code and assign the code to McDaniel in the 360 Numbering Plan Area (NPA), Salkum rate center. In order to protect number resources, McDaniel requests the entire 10 block code be assigned to the Company in order to use the local routing number (LRN). The LRN is intended to test a new network switch that will replace McDaniel’s current central office switch. Once the new switch is in place and tested, the Company will convert its active working numbers and existing LRN to the new switch. The Company will then return the entire uncontaminated code to the Number Pooling Administrator.

- 2 Telephone companies commonly hold and manage a reasonable inventory of telephone numbers in the areas where they provide service. When more numbers are needed by a company, it may request them from the Number Pooling Administrator. The Number Pooling Administrator withholds telephone numbers if the company’s inventory is sufficient for the next six months and there is a shortage of numbers in the affected area code.

- 3 The Number Pooling Administrator’s Web site reports an inventory of 14 blocks of 1,000 numbers in the Salkum rate center, and the North American Numbering Plan Administrator’s (NANPA’s) Web site reports that the 360 NPA is forecasted to exhaust in the 1st quarter of 2017. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in its Third Report and Order, FCC 01-362, CC Docket 96-98 and 99-200, has delegated authority to the Commission to direct NANPA to release blocks of numbers for extenuating circumstances that do not meet NANPA’s existing criteria. McDaniel provided the Commission with a detailed inventory of number resources and proof of utilization in the rate center. McDaniel will adhere to the requirement of reviewing

number resources and comply with the requirements of the NANPA and the Pooling Administrator regarding the return of unused numbers.

4 The FCC issued an order establishing a “safety valve” allowing companies 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 Number Pooling Administrator to release a block of numbers to a company to satisfy a specific customer request that cannot be met with the company’s current inventory provided the company documents the customer request and submits current proof of utilization.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including telecommunications companies. RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.36.
- 6 (2) McDaniel is a telecommunications company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 7 (3) The Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act) allows the FCC to establish rules to implement the Act and delegate authority to state Commissions.
- 8 (4) The FCC has created a “safety valve” mechanism within the framework of number resource management and delegated to the Commission authority to grant requests by companies that receive a specific customer request for numbering resources that exceeds their available inventory. The FCC has also given states some flexibility to direct the Number Pooling Administrator to assign additional numbering resources to companies that have demonstrated a verifiable need for additional numbering resources.
- 9 (5) The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to RCW 80.36.610,

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, ¶¶ 57-66 (Rel. December 28, 2001).

which authorizes the Commission to take actions necessary to implement the Act.

- 10 (6) Normally, additional numbering resources are granted only when existing
resources are forecasted to exhaust within six months.²
- 11 (7) The Number Pooling Administrator's Web site reports an inventory of 14 blocks
of 1,000 numbers in the Salkum rate center, and the NANPA's Web site reports
that the 360 NPA is forecasted to exhaust in the 1st quarter of 2017.
- 12 (8) In order to protect the existing number resources, McDaniel is requesting an
entire code in order to use the LRN to test a new switch that will replace its
current central office switch. Once the new switch is in place and tested, the
Company will convert its active working numbers and existing LRN to the new
switch. The Company will then return the entire uncontaminated code to the
Number Pooling Administrator.
- 13 (9) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on
April 25, 2013.
- 14 (10) The Commission has reviewed McDaniel's request and concludes that the
Company has demonstrated a legitimate need for this new code to be assigned on
a temporary basis and will return the uncontaminated numbers to the Number
Pooling Administrator upon completion of switch testing and implementation.
Accordingly, the Commission will order the Number Pooling Administrator to
open a new code and release all 10 blocks in that code in the Salkum rate center to
McDaniel.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 15 (1) The Number Pooling Administrator to open a new code and release all 10 blocks
of this code, specifically in the 360 NPA in the Salkum rate center to McDaniel
Telephone Co. dba TDS Telecom.
- 16 (2) The Commission directs McDaniel Telephone Co. dba TDS Telecom to return the
uncontaminated code back to the Number Pooling Administrator as soon as

² 47 CFR 52.15(g)(3)(iii).

switch testing and implementation is complete in the 360 NPA Salkum rate center.

- 17 (3) 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 April 25, 2013.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Acting Executive Director and Secretary

NOTICE: This is an order delegated to the Secretary for decision. In addition to serving you a copy of the decision, the Commission will post on its Internet Web site for at least 14 days a listing of all matters delegated to the Secretary for decision. You may seek Commission review of this decision. You must file a request for Commission review of this order no later than fourteen (14) days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's Web site. The Commission will schedule your request for review for consideration at a regularly scheduled open meeting. The Commission will notify you of the time and place of the open meeting at which the Commission will review the order.

The Commission will grant a late-filed request for review only on a showing of good cause, including a satisfactory explanation of why the person did not timely file the request. A form for late-filed requests is available on the Commission's Web site.

This notice and review process is pursuant to the provisions of RCW 80.01.030 and WAC 480-07-904(2) and (3).