

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

In the Matter of the Request of) DOCKET UT-070704
)
QWEST CORPORATION) ORDER 01
)
For Assignment of Telephone Number) ORDER ASSIGNING NUMBERING
Resources) RESOURCES
.....)

BACKGROUND

- 1 Qwest Communications (Qwest or Company) requested on April 13, 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 four thousand-number-blocks (4,000 telephone numbers) in the 425 NPA, Renton Rate Center. The Qwest customer is a health care system.

- 2 The Qwest customer has requested a specified sequence of 4,000 numbers for expansion of their medical campus in Renton. The customer specifically requested numbers that fit with their internal dialing plan. The four thousand-number-blocks required are in the ranges of NX2-0000 through 9999, NX4-0000 through 3999, NX4-4000 through 9000 or NX5-000 through 9999.

- 3 The customer will return 1,400 numbers currently in use within twelve (12) months of installation of the new blocks of numbers. Qwest's inventory of telephone numbers for assignment in the rate center does not satisfy the requirement for the customer's specialized request. Qwest submitted a request to the Pooling Administrator for additional numbering resources in the rate center, however, the request was denied as the serving central office does not meet the utilization level established by the FCC.

- 4 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 can not be met with the carrier's current inventory. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter and authority to take action.

5 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 and found no reason to disapprove it. Qwest 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. Qwest provided the Commission with the customer's request, responded to Commission information requests, and provided detailed inventory for number resources and proof of utilization in the rate center.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (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
- 7 (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.
- 8 (3) Normally, additional numbering resources are granted only when existing resources are forecasted to exhaust within six months.
- 9 (4) The 425 area code is projected to exhaust in the first quarter of 2025.
- 10 (5) The customer's stated intent of maintaining a common numbering plan for the affected medical facility will likely facilitate communications with health care providers. It is therefore consistent with the public interest.

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.

- 11 (6) The requested allocation will not unduly and adversely affect the present availability of numbers in the state.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) Neustar, Inc., acting as the Pooling Administrator, may release four thousand-number-blocks in the specified range NX2-0000 through 9999, NX4-0000 through 3999, NX4-4000 through 9000 or NX5-000 through 9999, in the Renton rate center, area code 425, to Qwest Communications.
- 13 (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