

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE	)	DOCKET NO. UT-991627
INVESTIGATION INTO THE ISSUE	)	
OF NUMBERING RESOURCES	)	ORDER REQUIRING
	)	NUMBER POOLING
.....	)	IN AREA CODE 509

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On July 20, 2000, the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) delegated to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) authority to implement thousand-number block pooling in Washington. *In re Numbering Resource Optimization Implementation of Local Competition Provisions of Telecommunications Act of 1996*, 2000 WL 991629 (F.C.C., July 20, 2000) (No. DA 00-1616, NSD L-99-100, NSD L-99-82, CC 99-200, NSD L-00-16, NSD L-99-96, CC 99-9698, NSD L-99-98, NSD L-00-08). The FCC has concluded that pooling is “an important numbering resource optimization strategy, essential to extending the life of the [North American Numbering Plan].”
- 2 Thousand-number block pooling involves the sharing of telephone prefixes by more than one telecommunications company offering service in a particular area.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 3 On December 1, 2000, the WUTC ordered a local number portability thousand-number block pooling trial in area code 509 in Docket UT-991627. The initial phase of the trial was limited to the Spokane metropolitan statistical area. Number pooling was required only in those rate centers where local number portability is implemented, which is one of the requirements of the FCC’s delegated authority.
- 4 The telecommunications industry has now successfully implemented the first phase of number pooling in area code 509, and some companies have voluntarily implemented pooling in other rate centers in area code 509. Extending the pooling requirement to all rate centers in area code 509, with the existing limitation to those rate centers where local number portability is implemented, will delay the need for an additional area code in eastern Washington.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

5 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.

6 Based on the Commission's findings of fact in this matter, the Commission concludes that  
number pooling should be implemented in the remainder of area code 509.

**ORDER**

7 (1) The Commission directs all telecommunications companies with prefixes in rate  
centers in area code 509 to implement thousand-number block pooling in all rate  
centers where local number portability is implemented.

8 (2) The Commission directs each company subject to this order to cooperate with  
the number pooling administrator in implementing the requirements of this order by  
February 1, 2003 and to fulfill all service provider responsibilities.

9 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over this matter to issue such future  
orders and take such future actions as may be appropriate.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner