



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

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April 14, 2016

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By May 6, 2016)**

and

**NOTICE OF RECESSED OPEN MEETING
(To be held at 1:30 p.m., Thursday May 19, 2016)**

RE: UT-143787

Commission Staff Proposed Western Washington Area Code Plan

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

The North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA) administers and assigns to telecommunications companies the available blocks of telephone numbers known as Central Office Codes in each Numbering Plan Area (NPA or area code). These companies, in turn, assign telephone numbers from within these codes to their customers. On March 25, 2016, NANPA notified the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) that the available codes in the 360 NPA will be exhausted in the first quarter of 2018, one year earlier than NANPA previously forecast that exhaust.

NANPA has reserved 564 as a new NPA to cover all of western Washington. This area code would “overlay” the existing NPAs so that some customers in a geographic area would have telephone numbers with 360, 206, 253, or 425 area codes, while other customers in the same area would have 564 numbers. Commission regulatory staff (Staff) has proposed a plan to implement the 564 NPA prior to the forecasted exhaust. Under the plan, the industry would phase in use of the 564 area code in each existing NPA as it nears exhaust, beginning with 360. Once in use, all customers within that area would be required to dial 10 digits to place a call, even to a telephone number with the same area code as the caller’s number. The proposed plan is available on the Commission’s website at www.utc.wa.gov/143787.

Any person who wishes to comment on Staff’s proposed plan should file written comments with the Commission by Friday, May 6, 2016. Staff will present the plan to the Commission at a recessed open meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. Interested persons may attend and provide oral comments at that time.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE THAT written comments on Staff's proposed plan to implement a 564 NPA in western Washington should be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 6, 2016.

THE COMMISSION ALSO GIVES NOTICE THAT it will conduct a recessed open meeting to consider Staff's proposed plan on Thursday, May 19, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. at the Commission's headquarters, Richard Hemstad Building, Room 206, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington 98504.

The Commission requests that written comments be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, reduce the need for paper copies, and facilitate quotations from the submissions. You may submit comments via the Commission's Web portal at www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing or by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (UT-143787).
- The commenting party's name.
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

Electronic comments may also be submitted by mail or delivered to the Commission's Records Center in Adobe Acrobat .pdf format or in Word 2010 or later, on a flash drive or CD. Include all of the information requested above. The Commission will post all comments that are provided in electronic format on its website at www.utc.wa.gov.

If you are unable to file comments electronically or to submit them on a flash drive or CD, the Commission will accept a paper document addressed to: Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P.O. Box 47250, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA 98504-7250.

Questions for Commission staff may be addressed to Rebecca Beaton by email at rbeaton@utc.wa.gov or by calling (360) 664-1287. When inquiring about the subject of this Notice, please refer to Docket UT-143787.

STEVEN V. KING
Executive Director and Secretary