

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

In the Matter of the Request of) DOCKET UT-060961
)
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 June 9, 2006, that the Commission overturn the numbering administrator's decision to withhold numbering resources and direct the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Pooling Administrator to provide a single one-thousand number block in the 360 area code, Mount Vernon rate center. Verizon's inventory of telephone numbers for assignment in the rate center does not satisfy the requirement for additional numbers for Puget Sound Energy in Burlington, Washington. The customer requires five hundred direct inward dialing numbers in a specific sequence to accommodate a new Puget Sound Energy building being constructed at 1660 Park Lane in Burlington. Due to the Puget Sound Energy's specialized internal numbering plan, they are limited to a few ranges in numbers. Verizon submitted a request to the Pooling Administrator (PA) for additional numbering resources in the rate center, however, the request was denied as Verizon does not meet the utilization level established by the FCC. The Pooling Administrator will only accept an exception request with a waiver from the Commission. Verizon will adhere to the requirement to review numbering resources and comply with the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission's North American Number Plan Administrator (NANPA) and PA regarding the return of numbers not utilized. Verizon provided the Commission with the customer request for number resources and proof of utilization in the rate center.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

2 (1) On December 28, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission (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. (*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.) 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. (*Id.* ¶ 64).

- 3 (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.
- 4 (3) Normally, additional numbering resources are granted only when existing resources are forecasted to exhaust within six months. [47 CFR 52.15(g)(3)(iii)].
- 5 (4) The Pooling Administrator website reports an inventory of one hundred and six number blocks available in the Mount Vernon rate center. The North American Number Plan Administrator website reports an inventory of seventy seven codes available in the 360 area code. The exhaust of area code 360 is projected for the first quarter of 2011.
- 6 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 28, 2006.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 7 (1) Neustar, Inc., acting as the Pooling Administrator, to release a one thousand number block in the Mount Vernon rate center, area code 360 to Verizon Corporation.
- 8 (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 June 28, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary