GENERIC POOLING PLAN FOR WASHINGTON

Submitted by the
Washington Exchange Carrier Association
From WECA Docket No. 99-01

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Appendix 5 User Profile Application

1.0 Purpose and Scope

This document establishes a generic plan for use in Washington for the administration and assignment of thousand blocks (NXX-Xs) to Local Number Portability (LNP)-capable service providers (SPs) for use at a switching entity or point of interconnection (POI) they own or control. In addition, this plan outlines the processes used between the Pooling Administrator (PA) and

Code Holders
Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG) Assignees
Block Holders
The CO Code Administrator
Number Portability Administration Centers (NPAC)
North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA)
The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission).

Thousand block pooling, in the context of this plan, allows for sharing of Central Office (CO) Codes (NXX Codes) among multiple SPs serving the same rate area. All ten thousand telephone numbers (TNs) within each NXX Code continue to be associated with the same rate area designation (i.e., V&H coordinates), but can be distributed among multiple SPs at the thousand block (NXX-X) level. Examples of uses for thousand blocks for which this plan applies include plain old telephone service (POTS), Centrex, Direct Inward Dialing (DID), wireless service, facsimile, and coin phones.

Once this plan is implemented for an area, non-participating SPs will be required to conform their operations to this plan six to nine months prior to participation in thousand block number pooling.

This plan is based upon and incorporates most of the guidelines of the Industry Numbering Committee (INC). Where applicable the wording of the INC guidelines is used. This plan does not supercede appropriate North American Numbering Plan (NANP) area governmental or regulatory principles, procedures and requirements.

2.0 Assumptions and Constraints

This plan is based on the following assumptions and constraints:

2.1 Plan implementation will occur only after a Commission order is entered selecting the PA and setting an implementation date.

2.2 The PA will obtain the necessary SP documentation to establish and administer the industry inventory pool.

2.3 The NANP resources are considered a public resource and are not owned by the assignees or the PA. The NANP resources cannot be sold, brokered, bartered or leased by the assignee for a fee or other consideration. If a NANP resource is sold, brokered, bartered or leased for a fee or other consideration, the resource is subject to reclamation by the PA.

2.4 This plan applies only to the assignment of thousand blocks to Block Applicants providing service within specific rate areas:

where SP Location Routing Number (LRN) Local Number Portability (LNP) has been implemented; and

where thousand block pooling has been mandated by the appropriate Commission.

2.5 This plan is based in part on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) order entitled *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making* (FCC #00-104, released March 31, 2000) and the rules adopted by the FCC in that order (the “Rules”). If the Rules are substantially amended by the FCC, then an amendment to this plan is anticipated to conform the plan to the Rules.

2.6 Efficient resource management and code conservation are necessary to stay the industry impacts of expanding the numbering resource (e.g., expansion from 10 to 11 or 12 digits). Impacts of North America Numbering Plan (NANP) expansion include:

a) customer impacts (e.g., dialing, telephone number (TN) changes to advertising and stationary, security systems, etc.);

b) Customer Premise Equipment (CPE) modifications;

c) domestic and international switching hardware and software modifications;

d) operational support systems (OSS) modifications and/or upgrades; and

e) reprogramming of non-telecommunications databases that contain TNs.

2.7 Block Applicants requesting resources from the industry inventory pool:

a) must be certified or approved to operate in the applicable rate center, if required, and must demonstrate that all applicable regulatory approvals required to provide the service for which the thousand block is required have been obtained;

b) shall contribute numbering resources to the industry inventory pool, in accordance with this plan and any regulatory directives;

c) shall establish internal policies and practices that provide for the efficient use and assignment of TNs to end users. These policies and practices shall balance product specifications, market strategies and customer needs with conservation principles to ensure “best practices” in TN utilization.

d) shall attempt to assign TNs out of a given thousand block before making assignments out of another thousand block;

e) shall minimize the use of TNs within thousand blocks for purposes other than subscriber assignments (e.g., test codes);

f) shall be subject to audits to assure compliance with this plan;

will have a choice to initiate pooled block activation through Service Order Activation (SOA) interface to NPAC Service Management System (SMS) or through NPAC personnel; and

h) shall be capable of providing service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resource activation date.

2.8 The schedule of holidays recognized by the PA will affect the administration of this plan. Holidays will not be considered a “calendar day” as a part of any timing of thousand block allocations in association with this plan.

2.9 Audits of the PA and Block Applicants/Holders will be performed by a designated neutral party to:

ensure uniformity in application of this plan by the PA to all thousand block requests received by the PA;

ensure compliance with this plan by Block Applicants and the PA; and

ensure the efficient and effective use of numbering resources by Block Applicants/Holders and efficient and effective management of numbering resources by the PA.

3.0 Thousand Block Assignment Principles

The following assignment principles apply to all aspects of this plan:

3.1 Where thousand block pooling has been implemented, the PA will assign numbering resources in thousand block increments. Resources will be available for assignment from both contaminated and uncontaminated thousand blocks contained in the industry inventory pool. Contamination occurs when at least one telephone number within a thousand block of telephone numbers is not available for assignment to end users. For purposes of this provision, a telephone number is "not available for assignment" if it is classified as:

Administrative,

Aging,

Assigned,

Intermediate; or

Reserved.

3.2 A SP requirement for an entire NXX Code (i.e., 10,000 TNs) to satisfy the numbering needs for a single customer[1] shall be obtained from the PA, not the CO Code Administrator (see Section 8.5).

3.3 Numbering resources in the industry inventory pool shall be available and allocated to SPs in a fair and non-discriminatory manner (i.e., on a first come, first served basis).

3.4 The information required of applicants for thousand block assignments shall be kept to a minimum and shall be uniform for all applicants. All information provided on the Thousand Block Application Forms, Part 1A and Part 1B will be considered confidential, except for selected information made available publicly, only for those fields that must be input to the Routing Data Base System (RDBS) and/or Business Rating Input Database System (BRIDS). The information placed in RDBS and/or BRIDS becomes public upon assignment of the thousand block in the appropriate rating and/or routing data base output [e.g., LERG and/or Terminating Point Master (TPM)].

3.5 The PA will allocate a thousand block to a SP's single switch. The SP will be allowed

[1] Single customer is defined as one customer requiring 10,000 consecutive TNs from one NXX.

to use intra-service provider ports to share that thousand block across their multiple switches in a rate area. The actual distribution of TNs from a shared thousand block will not be captured in the LERG.

3.6 Thousand block assignments will be made from NXX codes assigned and utilized within a single rate area. All SP switch rate area boundaries, which cover the same geographic area, will participate in a single industry inventory pool. If a single SP has a rate area with boundaries that cover a unique geographic area different than any other SP, that SP will participate in a separate industry inventory pool.

3.7 Any SP that is denied the assignment of one or more thousand blocks under this plan has the right to appeal that decision per Section 13.0.

3.8 The PA should accept and fulfill requests for specific thousand blocks of TNs if they are currently available for assignment from the industry inventory pool, subject to the criteria identified in Section 9.3.4, Item c.

3.9 A SP may exchange a thousand block with the PA, only if the requested thousand block and the exchanged thousand block are in the same rate area, are uncontaminated, and the requested thousand block is available for assignment.

3.10 SPs may not trade thousand blocks among themselves.

3.11 Thousand block assignment may be transferred between SPs if all of the following conditions are met:

all one thousand TNs are assigned and/or reserved for a single customer;

the customer has ported all one thousand TNs to another SP that is not the Block Holder; and

both SPs involved must mutually agree to the transfer of the thousand block assignment (see Section 9.4).

4.0 Service Provider Responsibilities

SPs have many responsibilities in a thousand block pooling environment. These responsibilities vary depending on whether the SP is acting as a Code Holder, a LERG Assignee, a Block Applicant, or a Block Holder. These responsibilities are outlined below:

4.1 Code Holder Responsibilities

A Central Office (CO) Code Holder is an assignee of a full NXX code. CO Code Holders can either be thousand block pool participants or not. CO Code Holders who are thousand block pool participants shall:

identify eligible thousand blocks for donation to the industry inventory pool upon initial establishment of the industry inventory pool pursuant to Section 8.1;

b) make required updates to RDBS with the switch information as appropriate (i.e., ongoing switching entity/POI changes) after creation of the Block Code record (BCD), for their assigned thousand blocks within pooled NXX codes (See Section 9.5.2);

c) become a LERG Assignee at the Block Donation Date (see Section 8.1); and

d) confirm, prior to donating the thousand block to the industry inventory pool, that:

all unavailable TNs within contaminated thousand blocks have been intra-service provider ported;

the associated NPA/NXX is currently available for call routing, is opened for LNP in the LERG and the NPAC, and the NPA-NXX query triggers are applied in all switches and reflected in the appropriate network databases (e.g., STP routing tables);

the NXX-assigned switch is currently LNP-capable and will process terminating traffic appropriately; and

4) End Office Interconnection (EOI) trunking has been established between the NXX-assigned switch and other interconnecting networks.

4.2 LERG Assignee Responsibilities

4.2.1 A LERG Assignee is the SP listed as the entity associated at the NXX code

level with a pooled NXX Code in the LERG and is responsible for default routing functions associated with the pooled NXX Code. A LERG Assignee may be designated by the PA as outlined in Section 8.4.4, Step 2 The LERG Assignee shall:

submit the appropriate CO Code request forms to the PA filled out as if the LERG assignee were requesting the CO code from the CO Code Administrator, with the appropriate information populated (e.g., Tandem Homing CLLI™, Route/Rate Same as Information, Switching Entity/POI, etc.);

b) submit the Part 1B-NPAC block Holder Data form to the PA as appropriate (The PA then forwards the Part 1B form to the NPAC);

c) verify and test that the NXX Code is open prior to the NXX Code Effective Date;

d) provide blank and vacant code announcements for unallocated thousand blocks;

e) maintain sufficient and auditable data to demonstrate compliance with this plan (see Section 12.0);

f) be responsible for providing the CO Code Part 4 to the PA that confirms a full NXX was obtained to meet a SP's single customer request, and has been placed in service;

g) notify the PA if the LERG Assignee is no longer able to perform default LERG Assignee functions (e.g., the SP is no longer providing service in the area served by that NXX Code); and

h) ensure the following:

1) assigned NPA/NXX(s) is currently available for call routing, is flagged as LNP capable in the LERG and the NPAC, and the NPA-NXX query triggers are applied in all switches and reflected in the appropriate network databases (e.g., STP routing tables);

2) the NXX-assigned switch is currently LNP-capable and will process terminating traffic appropriately; and

3) End Office Interconnection (EOI) trunking has been established between the NXX-assigned switch and other interconnecting networks.

4.2.2 LERG Assignees cannot abdicate their responsibilities unless they can demonstrate to the PA that a technical or other inability to perform this function exists.

4.3 Block Applicant Responsibilities

Block Applicants, requesting resources from the industry inventory pool, shall:

a) be certified or approved to operate in the rate area, if required, and must demonstrate that all applicable regulatory approvals required to provide the service for which the thousand block is required have been obtained;

b) complete the Thousand Block Application Forms per this plan; and

c) provide evidence that, given their current utilization and recent historical growth, they need additional numbering resources.

Applications for initial numbering resources will include documentation that (1) the applicant is authorized to provide service in the area for which the numbering resources are requested and (2) the applicant is or will be capable of providing service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resource activation date. The applicant must provide as part of its application for initial numbering resources evidence that it is certified or approved to provide service in the area in which they seek numbering resources. Applicants requesting initial numbering resources must also provide the NANPA appropriate evidence that its facilities are in place or will be in place to provide service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resource activation date. Such evidence can be in the form of contracts for unbundled network elements, network information showing that equipment has been purchased and is operational or will be operational, business plans or interconnection agreements. An applicant disputing the NANPA's decision to withhold initial numbering resources upon a finding of non-compliance may appeal the NANPA's decision to the Commission for resolution.

4.4 Block Holder Responsibilities

A Block Holder (or selected designee) shall:

enter any necessary information into RDBS and BRIDS;

b) make required updates to RDBS with the switch information as appropriate (i.e., ongoing switching entity/POI changes) after creation of the BCD for assigned thousand blocks within pooled NXX codes (see Section 9.5.2);

c) arrange for the entry of any information to the LIDB or other carrier-specific databases due to receipt of a new thousand block;

d) remove records from the LIDB, or other carrier-specific databases, for thousand blocks returned/donated to the industry inventory pool upon relinquishment of the thousand block (SPs that do not currently subscribe to LIDB need not add interfaces to or arrange for access to such databases);

e) abide by the thousand block allocation and reclamation procedures outlined in Sections 9.0 and 10.0;

f) provide forecasted thousand block per rate center level for pooling carriers for projecting rate area exhaust and for input to the NPA code relief planning process[2];

g) maintain sufficient and auditable data to demonstrate compliance with this plan (see Section 12.0);

h) verify in the NPAC which TNs are assigned in any contaminated thousand block received from the PA to avoid duplicate TN assignments; and

i) complete and return the Part 4 (Confirmation of NXX-X Block In Service) to the PA.

4.5 User Profile Application Responsibilities

On each SP participating in pooling is responsible for submitting individual applications for authorized user(s) to access the industry database. SPs determine the level of access for each user (e.g., view data only, submit applications, make changes). Users will have a unique password for access to the database. Appendix 5 is the User Profile Application. This completed application shall be submitted to the PA. The PA has up to five (5) business days to assign a password and notify the applicant.

[2] Any carrier whose forecast data have not changed from the previous reporting period may simply re-file the prior submission and indicate that there has been no change since the last reporting, or to report “no change.”

5.0 Pool Administrator Responsibilities

The following describes the high level responsibilities of the PA in:

1) General Administration Duties
2) Forecasting and Planning Processes
3) Assignment Processes
4) Reporting Processes
5) Block Reclamation Processes
6) Audits

Detailed PA responsibilities are described in the appropriate process sections of this plan.

5.1 General Administration Duties

5.1.1 The PA, upon request, shall provide information and answer questions for clarification regarding thousand block pooling administration processes, procedures, interfaces, and services. Additionally, the PA shall provide, upon request of the thousand block pooling participant, information on how to obtain documents related to thousand block pooling administration. This can be accomplished by either referring the SP to web sites where it will be possible to download electronic copies, or by providing electronic copies via e-mail.

5.1.2 The PA shall:

be responsible for activities associated with industry inventory pool establishment;

assure the availability, based upon industry established criteria, of numbering resources within the industry inventory pool for a given rate area;

add to the resources in the industry inventory pool when necessary by requesting additional CO Codes from the CO Code Administrator;

work with the CO Code Administrator in the planning and implementation of NPA code relief (e.g., update the PA's industry database to reflect any changes resulting from NPA relief activity). For specific details, see NPA Code Relief Planning & Notification Guidelines (INC 97-0404-016);

provide copies of the Thousand Block (NXX-X) Pooling Administration Guidelines (INC 99-0127-023) when requested by Block Applicants, including timely notification of changes;

assist the CO Code Administrator in analyzing and helping to resolve problems related to misrouted calls and calls that cannot be completed;

track reported switch cut-overs and thousand block reassignments and perform other operational functions (e.g., thousand block reclamation);

make available on its web site the PA-recognized holidays and distribute a list of such holidays, as necessary;

log and track all thousand block applications using a tracking mechanism which will enable the PA and Block Applicant to identify a specific thousand block request; and

build and maintain an industry data base which includes appropriate security for confidential data. The database will be accessible through an appropriate mechanism and, at a minimum, will include the following:

all pooled thousand blocks in the industry inventory pool (i.e., NPA-NXX-X level information displayed);

status of the thousand blocks, i.e., allocated/assigned, available;

identification of the SP to which the thousand block has been allocated whether or not a thousand block is contaminated; and

4) user profile(s) that contain the SP contact information, OCN and level of access permitted.[3]

5.2 Forecasting and Planning Processes

The PA shall:

compile demand forecasts of all SPs participating in thousand block pooling and generate a total forecast for the industry inventory pool;

perform statistical analysis of the SP's forecasts to assure adequate numbering resources are available for the industry's use through timely replenishment of the industry inventory pool; and

work cooperatively with the CO Code Administrator in determining when the numbering resources appear to be nearing exhaust.

[3] The SP may need multiple individual profiles and passwords. See Appendix 5.

5.3 Assignment Processes

The PA shall:

receive all request(s) for thousand blocks from SPs who have certified the need for assignment and validate the request(s) to ensure each applicant meets the criteria to be a Block Holder;

Verify that the applicant has completed the appropriate forms containing all of the pertinent information such as OCN (Operating Company Number), AOCN (Administrative Operating Company Number), switch ID, Block Effective Date and Tandem Homing ID;

assist industry inventory pool participants, as necessary, with the completion of all thousand block pooling forms;

attempt to satisfy all SP requests for specific thousand block(s) whenever possible, subject to the criteria identified in Section 9.3.4, item c;

select the specific thousand block(s) for assignment, or provide the reason to the SP why the assignment cannot be made;

be responsible for inputting necessary information into RDBS/BRIDS;

respond to the applicant's request(s) within seven (7) calendar days following receipt of the request by issuing the Part 3 - Pool Administrator’s Response/Confirmation form to the applicant;

request new NXX Codes from the CO Code Administrator to replenish the industry inventory pool in order to meet a SP’s request for a specific thousand block due to technical reasons (this includes processing of expedited requests when needed); and

return CO Code Part 4 Form to the CO Code Administration to confirm that NXXs obtained to replenish the industry inventory pool have been placed in service. The PA will complete and forward the Part 4 Form when the Thousand Block Part 4 Form from the Block Holder Part 4 is received by the PA.

5.4 Reporting Processes

The PA shall:

prepare and publish reports as required by the industry, the North American

Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA), and regulatory authorities using forecast reports for projected future number resource usage;

treat SP specific data submitted to it as confidential;

aggregate Block Holder forecast data and submit the aggregated data to the CO Code Administrator(s) and to the NANPA for use in applicable forecast studies; and

only publish data that has been aggregated.

5.5 Block Reclamation Processes

The PA is responsible for ensuring that thousand blocks are reclaimed when necessary (see Section 10.0).

5.6 Audits

In the performance of its duties and in meeting its responsibilities, the PA may encounter situations that may alert it to a possible noncompliance with the industry guidelines which warrants the need for a “for cause” audit. In these situations, the PA will inform and forward relevant information which contains the details of the possible infraction to the designated auditor or appropriate regulatory agency for disposition.

In addition, the PA may be required to provide SP specific data to an auditor in order to facilitate the audit process.

6.0 Forecast Reporting Process

Thousand block forecast and utilization reports will be completed and submitted by SPs to the PA on a semi-annual basis as established by the PA. This schedule shall be consistent with the schedule for CO Code forecast and utilization data reporting. The data provided in these reports will allow the PA to aggregate the data at the rate area level.

Each SP is expected to provide such data for the pooling area to the PA in a reasonable amount of time (e.g., six (6) to nine (9) months) prior to when it is required to participate in thousand block pooling in that area.

6.1 Forecast and Utilization Process

6.1.1 All thousand block pooling participating SPs shall provide a forecast and utilization report (Appendix 1), on an annual basis, by rate area to the PA. The thousand block forecast is based on an 18-month interval. Forecast reports will be sent by SPs to the PA for all number resource requirements in thousand block pooling rate areas, including full NXX Codes as well as thousand blocks. The PA will adjust the Thousand Block Forecast Report (Appendix 1) during each annual collection period to reflect the year and quarters for which data should be submitted. The forecast is incremental above the quantity of thousand blocks already allocated in the SP inventory. The SP inventory consists of all geographic NANP TNs allocated by the CO Code Administrator/PA to the Code/Block Holder. The PA will size the industry inventory pool as necessary based on forecasts received.

The PA shall maintain no more than a six-month inventory of TNs in each rate center. The exception to the six-month inventory maximum is when thousand block donations exceed the six (6) month supply and there are no complete codes for the PA to return to NANPA.

6.1.2 If a SP identifies a significant change in its thousand block forecast, it shall provide an updated forecast to the PA as soon as possible. The updated forecast must identify a SP's need for an entire NXX code(s) (identified in thousand blocks) to satisfy the need of a single customer. This updated forecast will completely replace the previous thousand block forecast for a given NPA.

6.1.3 The PA may, from time to time, require SPs to submit a thousand block forecast outside of the normal schedule. For example, a separate forecast may be required to establish an industry inventory pool. It is expected that this forecast would be for a limited thousand block pooling area (e.g., a rate area). The PA will notify all SPs participating in the thousand block pooling area of the request and provide a reasonable length of time for SP responses (i.e., one month or more).

6.1.4 If a SP submits an application for additional thousand blocks greater than that which had been previously forecasted, the SP could be temporarily restricted to its original forecasted amount to allow the PA sufficient time to replenish the industry inventory pool before the SP's application can be fulfilled. If satisfying these particular requests would result in a critical industry inventory insufficiency (see Section 11.2) in the industry inventory pool for a rate area, the PA may not meet the entire request.

6.1.5 A SP that has not submitted a thousand block forecast and utilization report will not be provided thousand blocks from the industry inventory pool until the SP submits a forecast and utilization report. In the event that the industry inventory pool has more than sufficient resources to meet the forecasts of other SPs, the PA may assign thousand blocks to a SP who has just submitted a forecast and utilization report. In the event that the industry inventory pool does not have more than sufficient resources to meet the forecasts of other SPs, the SP just submitting the forecast and utilization report will not be provided thousand blocks for a period of up to sixty-six (66) calendar days from the time the SP submitted the forecast and utilization report. This 66 calendar day interval will allow the PA

sufficient time to replenish the industry inventory pool when necessary. This process for addressing a SP that has not submitted a forecast and utilization report is different in NPA jeopardy situations (see Section 11.0).

Information furnished by Block Holders shall be submitted on the Thousand Block Forecast Report form (Appendix 1) to the PA. Block Holder data will be used by the PA to develop a composite forecast for the thousand block pooling area. The PA will utilize the composite forecast to determine when additional thousand blocks are required for the industry inventory pool. The composite forecast will be used in determining the critical industry inventory insufficiency within a specific rate area and will also be submitted by the PA to the CO Code Administrator for use by the NANPA in annual COCUS studies for projecting NPA exhaust. All forecast data will be treated by the PA in a confidential manner.

When the industry inventory pool is not adequate to meet participating SPs' forecasted thousand block demands, the PA will request additional NXX codes from the CO Code Administrator as outlined in Section 8.4.

6.2. Service Provider Reporting Requirements

SP reporting requirements for thousand block pooling are as follows:

submit the Thousand Block Forecast and Utilization Report (Appendix 1) to the PA for each NPA in which the SP operates; and

b) submit the appropriate Thousand Block Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet – TN Level (Appendix 3) and/or Thousand Block Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet - Thousand Block Level (Appendix 4) with the Thousand Block Application Forms for thousand block requests.

7.0 Reservations of Thousand Blocks for Service Providers

SPs may have reason to reserve thousand blocks for their future use. This section outlines the processes for thousand block reservations.

7.1 Criteria for Approval

To reserve a thousand block, the applicant must demonstrate that the thousand block is essential to accommodate a technical (e.g., switch, network element) limitation, planning constraint, or pending regulatory approval of a tariff and/or certification/registration. When the applicant has provided a proposed use date within 6 months, if regulatory approval is pending, the applicant must provide, if requested, appropriate documentation that a request for regulatory certification/registration has been submitted to the appropriate regulatory body to provide service. The applicant must also meet other applicable requirements for thousand block assignment as outlined in this plan.

Specific thousand blocks cannot be reserved to satisfy applicant requests for vanity numbers.

7.2 Time Frames and Extensions

If a reserved thousand block is not assigned within six months, the thousand block will be released from reservation by the PA and returned to the industry inventory pool. Reservations may be extended when either of the following circumstances occurs:

a) the proposed thousand block Effective Date will be missed due to extenuating circumstances (e.g., hardware/software provision delays, regulatory delays, etc.). Upon written request to the PA, one reservation extension of three (3) months may be granted, or

b) the reservation extension requirement was due solely to technical constraints (e.g., equipment limitations). Upon written request to the PA, the reservation may be extended until the constraint is no longer present.

8.0 Industry Inventory Pool

The objective of the industry inventory pool is to maintain sufficient thousand blocks for a 6-month inventory. The quantity of these thousand blocks should be determined by the PA based upon:

the number of SPs participating in a given rate area;

the individual forecasts provided by each of the thousand block pooling participants; and

the anticipated rate of assignment of the thousand blocks within the industry inventory pool.

8.1 Thousand Block Pooling Implementation Timeline (Figure 1).

Upon regulatory direction, the PA will obtain a list of SPs that have LNP capable switches in the geographic area where thousand block pooling is to be implemented. The PA will then schedule a First Implementation Meeting and assure that the SPs are aware of their requirement to participate in thousand block pooling and encourage their attendance and participation.

The PA will distribute the Thousand Block Pooling Implementation Timeline, identifying the milestones that SPs will be required to meet in order to implement thousand block pooling by the Mandated Implementation Date.

The following are the major milestones on the timeline:

a) Regulatory Mandate - The date of regulatory notification that thousand block pooling is to be implemented.

First Implementation Meeting - The meeting held by the PA for all participating SPs to review the time intervals between the milestones.

Forecast Report Date - The deadline for SPs to report their forecasted thousand block demand.

Block Protection Date - The deadline for SPs to “protect” specified thousand blocks (those with up to 10% contamination) from further contamination. After this date intra-service provider porting may begin.

Block Donation Identification Date - The deadline for SPs to report their surplus/deficiency of thousand blocks to the PA.

PA Assessment of Industry Inventory Pool Surplus/Deficiency - The deadline

for the PA to aggregate and evaluate SP thousand block donation information and determine, on a rate area basis, whether there is a surplus of thousand blocks or whether an additional NXX code(s) is required to establish the six (6) month inventory. Intra-service provider porting ends by the completion of the assessment.

Block Donation Date - The deadline for SPs to donate their thousand blocks. LERG update then occurs.

Pool Start/Allocation Date - The date the PA may start allocating thousand blocks from the industry inventory pool to SPs. This is also the start date for SPs to send requests for thousand blocks to the PA. All testing must end the day before the Block Assignment Date.

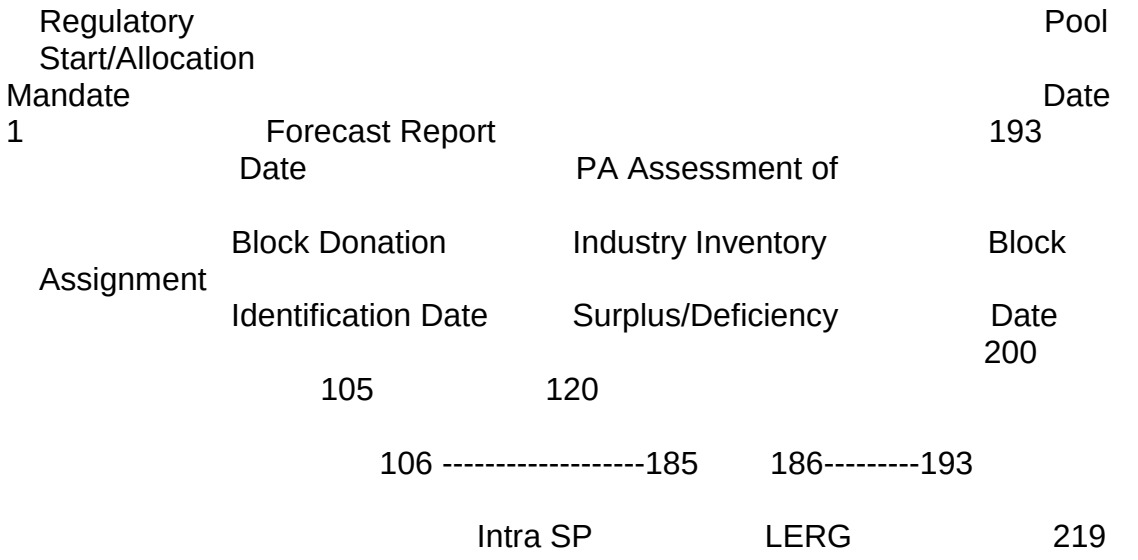
Block Assignment Date – The date the PA provides thousand blocks to requesting SPs.

Assigned Block Effective Date – The date by which routing and rating changes within the PSTN must be complete for the assigned thousand block or the assigned CO Code. Also, the date by which the thousand block becomes an active block. SPs must allow at least two (2) days beyond the Effective Date prior to activating TNs within the assigned thousand block. This is necessary in order to allow for NPAC processing and downloading to occur.

k) Implementation Date/TN Activation - The date by which thousand block pooling is to be implemented through TN assignment.

Figure 1

THOUSAND BLOCK POOLING IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE



Generic Timeline for Pooling Implementation in Oregon and Washington

Day	Event	Notes
1	regulatory mandate issued	Commission order
45	first implementation meeting	date, including identification of PA chaired by pooling administrator -- explain forms, forecast

		go through milestones
105	forecast report	number of 1000 blocks in next 6 quarters
	block protection date	no more contamination
	block donation identification due	list of blocks to be donated
	sign user agreements (“joinders”)	
106	intra-service provider porting begins	
120	PA assessment of industry inventory	Release 3.0 must be available for use (fully tested)
	begin opening new codes if needed	66 days to complete
185	intra-service provider porting ends	
186	block donation date	
186-193	update LERG	
193	pool start / allocation date	
199	end testing	SP continued certification testing of pooling capabilities and systems w/NPAC
200	block assignment date	
219	assigned block effective date	
221	Implementation Date/TN activation	

8.2 Details of Thousand Block Pooling Timeline Milestones

8.2.1 Regulatory Mandate

The date of regulatory notification that thousand block pooling is to be implemented.

8.2.2. First Implementation Meeting

The PA is required to hold one public meeting with all SPs expected to participate in thousand block pooling. Additional meetings may be scheduled if necessary. SPs will be informed of the requirements for thousand block pooling (including both initial and subsequent forecast reports, thousand block protection, thousand block donation, etc.) and will have the opportunity to ask clarification questions regarding this process.

The First Implementation Meeting shall be scheduled by the PA with the understanding that the date should be consistent with the yet to be established national thousand block pooling implementation roll out process. The First Implementation Meeting could be scheduled, for example, on the following basis:

multiple NPAs/multiple industry inventory pools with the same rollout schedule,

multiple NPAs/single industry inventory pool,

single NPA/multiple industry inventory pools with the same rollout schedule,

single NPA/single industry inventory pool.

The PA will arrange for the First Implementation Meeting location and date, and notify potential attendees of the arrangements. This notification will also include the required meeting fee, if necessary, to cover meeting costs. If a SP in the designated area wishes to host the meeting, they should contact the PA and meeting costs may be optional. The PA will be exempt from paying meeting fees to attend First Implementation Meetings, but will be responsible for meeting notification, arrangements, facilitation, and documenting and distribution of meeting summaries.

8.2.3 Forecast Report Date

The deadline for SPs to report their forecasted thousand block demand. In addition to the standard schedule for reporting semi-annual forecast data, an interim submission may be required in order to establish the industry inventory pool.

8.2.4 Block Protection Date

SPs are required to protect thousand blocks with up to and including 10% contamination from further contamination after the Block Protection Date, unless the SP does not have adequate supply in their

inventory to fill customer requests (this does not include a request by a customer for a vanity number). The time interval from when SPs protect thousand blocks (Block Protection Date) to when they identify thousand blocks for donation to the PA (Block Donation Identification Date) requires considerable verification work by SPs so that all available TNs are identified (see Section 8.2.6).

8.2.5 Block Donation Identification Date

SPs will identify to the PA which thousand blocks, if any, have no more than 10% contamination (including zero percent). The SP should also provide a summary, by rate area, whether they will have a surplus or deficiency of thousand blocks in their inventory, so the PA can determine the aggregate supply or deficiency of the industry inventory pool. At this point, the SP will specify which thousand blocks will be donated. The summary should also include the thousand block donor contact information, NPA-NXX-X range, and whether or not the donated thousand block is contaminated.

SPs may retain thousand blocks if they can certify that:

the thousand blocks are required to meet the SP's 6-month projected forecast beyond the Pool Start /Allocation Date,

there are technical reasons which justify retaining the thousand blocks, or

c) this is their initial block or "footprint" block even if the thousand block is less than ten percent contaminated.

Retention of these thousand blocks is subject to an audit(s) by the designated auditor (see Section 12.0) and to appropriate appeal procedures (see Section 13.0).

User agreements must be signed by this date. Intra-service provider porting begins the day after this date.

8.2.6 PA Assessment of Industry Inventory Surplus/Deficiency

For each thousand block pooling area, the PA will evaluate whether there will be enough thousand blocks donated to create an industry inventory pool with enough supply to meet the aggregate forecasted demand for TNs for six (6) months beyond the Pool Start/Allocation Date. If the PA believes there will be insufficient supply to meet this demand, the PA will request additional NXX codes from the CO Code

Administrator in an expedited manner to assure adequate supply exists prior to the Pool Start/Allocation Date (see Section 8.4.4, Step 2 for the process to select a LERG Assignee). If the PA determines there is an excess supply beyond the 6-month inventory level, any full NXX Codes in excess will be returned to the CO Code Administrator. Any excess individual thousand blocks will be kept in the industry inventory pool.

SPs are required to verify available TNs in thousand blocks which they intend to donate to assure they are not assigned in switches, billing systems, etc. Each SP will complete intra-service provider ports on unavailable TNs in contaminated blocks which it is donating, including TNs assigned to resellers, Type 1 providers, etc., by the Block Donation Date. The porting of unavailable TNs in contaminated blocks in advance of the Pool Start/Allocation Date will allow the recipient Block Holder the ability to determine which TNs are unavailable upon allocation of the thousand block.

In addition, SPs will ensure that all donated thousand blocks are within NXXs that have been flagged as LNP capable in the LERG and the NPAC, and that the associated (donor) switch(es) are LNP-capable and ready to process terminating traffic. The donated thousand blocks shall be ready for allocation and use on the Pool Start/Allocation Date. Intra-service provider porting ends the day before the Block Donation Date.

8.2.7 Block Donation Date

SPs are required to donate protected thousand blocks (see Section 8.2.4) at the Block Donation Date. Intra-SP porting of all unavailable TNs within all thousand blocks that are being donated to the industry inventory pool by SPs is to be completed by the Block Donation Date. SPs shall notify the PA in writing if the activities required in the thousand block donation phase have not occurred by the Block Donation date. SPs should not donate any thousand blocks that will be required to maintain their inventory for six (6) months beyond the Pool Start/Allocation Date. SPs are required to have updated the LERG with information on thousand blocks within pooled NXX Codes that are not donated (i.e., those thousand blocks within pooled NXX Codes that will be retained by the donating SP). The PA shall notify the CO Code Administrator of the NXX Codes for which the thousand block pooling indicator must be set on the Assigned Code Record (ACD) record in RDBS/BRIDS.

Thousand Blocks donated by SPs to the PA to initialize the industry

inventory pool will be summarized by the PA, per NPA. The PA will provide this summarized data[4] to TRA, in a format agreed upon between the PA and TRA after the Block Donation Date and prior to Pool Start/Allocation Date that takes into consideration a time frame requirement for the PA to compile the data.

Prior to donating the thousand block(s)/NXX code(s) to the industry inventory pool, SPs must confirm that:

a) all unavailable TNs within contaminated thousand block(s)/NXX(s) have been intra-service provider ported;

b) the associated NPA/NXX is currently available for call routing and is flagged as LNP capable in the LERG and the NPAC, and the NPA-NXX query triggers are applied in all switches and reflected in the appropriate network databases (e.g., STP routing tables);

c) the NXX-assigned switch is currently LNP-capable and will process terminating traffic appropriately; and

d) End Office Interconnection (EOI) trunking has been established between the NXX-assigned switch and other interconnecting networks.

The interval between the Block Donation Identification Date and the Block Donation Date is 66 days which allows for CO Code activation to populate the industry inventory pool if needed. Any deviation from the 66 days will be determined by industry consensus; in no case will the interval be less than 30 days.

If a pending LNP port exists for an unavailable TN(s) within a contaminated thousand block that is being donated, the two SPs involved in the LNP port must work cooperatively to resolve the pending port. This process could be accomplished by having the recipient SP of the LNP port, cancel the pending LNP port so that the donating SP can perform the intra-SP port for thousand block donation purposes. Afterwards, the recipient SP of the LNP port, would

[4] From this data, the identification of thousand blocks that have been retained by the Code Holders can be determined. TRA will then initialize the data for the retained thousand blocks in RDBS resulting in creation of the BCD records. Within this process, the LERG Assignee is the CO Code Holder donating the thousand blocks. All appropriate data associated with the CO Code Holder will be used to build the BCD records for those thousand blocks retained by the SP. The Effective Date for all thousand block(s) retained by the LERG Assignee will be the same as the Block Donation Date.

then re-establish the pending LNP port. Another alternative would be to have the SPs involved attempt to advance the pending LNP port through contact with the NPAC.

Failure to address all pending ports at the time of thousand block donation will result in a rejection of the NPAC activation when that thousand block is subsequently allocated to an SP following industry inventory pool establishment.

8.2.8 Pool Start/Allocation Date

This is the date the PA may start allocating thousand blocks from the industry inventory pool to SPs. This is also the start date for SPs to send requests for thousand blocks to the PA. The Pool Start/Allocation Date may be as few as 5 business days following the Block Donation Date. Two days is necessary to allow the NPAC download of intra-SP ports to occur and to allow the PA to compile the data necessary initialization of data in RDBS. The additional 3 days is for the initialization of the data in RDBS. All testing must end the day before the Block Assignment Date.

8.2.9 Block Assignment Date

This is the date the PA provides blocks to requesting SPs.

8.2.10 Assigned Block Effective Date

This is the date by which routing and rating changes within the PSTN must be complete for the assigned thousand block or the assigned CO Code. SPs must allow at least two (2) days beyond the Assigned Block Effective Date prior to activating TNs within the assigned thousand block.

8.2.11 Implementation Date/TN Activation

The date identified by the Commission by which thousand block pooling is to be implemented. This is the date that TNs may be assigned.

8.3 Ongoing Industry Inventory Pool Administration

Should a rate area be altered (e.g., consolidated, boundary change) after a thousand block pooling environment has been established, the PA will select the necessary implementation milestones from those outlined in the Establishment of the Thousand Block Pooling Implementation Timeline (see Section 8.1) to effect the required change to the industry inventory pool.

The size of the industry inventory pool will be a 6-month supply for each rate area. The SP's inventory for each rate area may be up to a 6-month supply.

Examples:

If an NPA Overlay conforms exactly to the existing NPAs geographic area, the existing industry inventory pools should not require that any additional thousand block pooling implementation milestones be identified by the PA, nor should it be treated as a separate industry inventory pool from the existing industry inventory pool.

Rate Center Consolidation (RCC) may require that some milestones outlined in Section 8.1 be identified to re-size the industry inventory pool. The necessary milestones for the PA to identify will be dependent on the specific characteristics of each thousand block pooling area and the requirements needed to modify the existing industry inventory pool.

8.4 Replenishment of the Industry Inventory Pool

8.4.1 The PA shall monitor the supply of available thousand blocks in the industry inventory pool for each of the rate areas being administered. This includes, but is not limited to, anticipating the demand upon the industry inventory pool, replenishing the supply based on thousand block forecasts, and meeting SP requests for thousand blocks that cannot be filled from available thousand blocks in the industry inventory pool.

SPs will not be required to donate contaminated thousand blocks for ongoing replenishment of the industry inventory pool.

8.4.2 New NXX codes will be used to replenish the industry inventory pool after the initial industry inventory pool has been established. Thousand blocks reclaimed by the PA will also be used to replenish the industry inventory pool. SPs may also voluntarily return any resources to assist in the replenishment of the industry inventory pool, including any resources in SP's inventory within thousand block pooling rate areas, from both embedded resources as well as thousand blocks allocated to an SP by the PA. SPs should first return all uncontaminated thousand blocks before returning any contaminated thousand blocks for industry inventory pool replenishment. For reclamation procedures, see Section 10.0.

8.4.3 Prior to requesting a new NXX code(s) from the CO Code Administrator to replenish the industry inventory pool, the PA could request SPs to voluntarily return any uncontaminated thousand blocks or uncontaminated NXX Codes within their SP inventories which are not required based on their six (6) month

inventory forecast.

Prior to donating the thousand block(s)/NXX code(s) to the industry inventory pool, SPs must confirm that:

a) all unavailable TNs within contaminated thousand block(s)/NXX(s) have been intra-service provider ported;

b) the associated NPA/NXX is currently available for call routing and is flagged as LNP capable in the LERG and the NPAC, and the NPA-NXX query triggers are applied in all switches and reflected in the appropriate network databases (e.g., STP routing tables);

c) the NXX-assigned switch is currently LNP-capable and will process terminating traffic appropriately; and

d) End Office Interconnection (EOI) trunking has been established between the NXX-assigned switch and other interconnecting networks.

8.4.4 The following steps provide the process flow and activation procedures for the addition of CO codes in order to provide additional thousand blocks to the industry inventory pool to meet immediate or forecast demand:

Step 1 - The PA utilizes SPs' forecasts to determine that additional thousand blocks are required to maintain a 6-month supply for the industry inventory pool for a specific rate area. Additionally, the PA may require new NXX Codes to replenish the industry inventory pool to meet an SP's request that cannot be filled from thousand blocks available in the industry inventory pool.

Step 2 - The PA selects a LERG Assignee for growth codes to be added to the industry inventory pool. The LERG Assignee receives a thousand block(s) from the NXX assigned. If the LERG Assignee requires the assignment of an LRN, the LERG Assignee shall select the LRN from its assigned thousand block(s). If a request is for a customer dedicated NXX code, the requesting SP will be the LERG Assignee. The PA will follow the order below to select a LERG Assignee:

A SP requiring an LRN.

A SP volunteering to be the LERG Assignee.

A SP on a rotating basis, until all participating SPs are the LERG Assignee for at least one NXX Code residing within the industry

inventory pool.

After each participating SP is a LERG Assignee for at least one NXX Code, participating SPs with a forecasted need will be selected on a rotational basis. An SP with a forecasted need cannot refuse to become a LERG Assignee, except for technical limitations, or if any SP is a LERG Assignee for greater than 50% of the pooled NXX Codes within that rate area.

Step 3 - The LERG Assignee, designated in Step 2, is responsible for completing the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request - Part 1 form and submitting it to the PA. The PA will then forward that Part 1 to the CO Code Administrator. The LERG Assignee is also responsible for submitting the Thousand Block Application Forms – Part 1B to the PA for the thousand block(s) retained.

The LERG Assignee shall also include the names of both the PA and the LERG Assignee on the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request - Part 1 form (Code Applicant section) so that the CO Code Administrator can provide a Part 3 response directly to both the PA and the LERG Assignee. Where the LERG Assignee has requested a dedicated NXX Code to meet a specific customer request, the LERG Assignee is responsible for completing the Thousand Block Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet - TN Level (Appendix 3) and submitting it to the PA. The LERG Assignee, or its designate, is also responsible for inputting the RDBS/BRIDS information for the NXX Code assigned.

When the PA is unable to fill a SP thousand block application, the PA will select a LERG Assignee per Step 2, request the LERG Assignee to fill out a Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request - Part 1 form and return it to the PA who will forward it to the CO Code Administrator. This must be initiated within two business days. Included in the request will be the selected LERG Assignee and Effective Date.

Step 4 - The CO Code Administrator reviews the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request - Part 1 form and, within 14 calendar days, notifies the PA of the NXX Code(s) assignment.

Step 5 - The CO Code Administrator inputs LERG Assignee information into the ACD record of RDBS, using Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request - Part 1 form data (NPA, NXX, OCN, and Effective Date.).

Step 6 - Within seven (7) calendar days upon receipt of the NXX Code

assignment from the CO Code Administrator, the PA informs the LERG Assignee of the NXX Code and thousand block(s) assigned using the Thousand Block Application Forms, Part 3 – Pool Administrator's Response/Confirmation. During this step, the PA will also build the BCD record for thousand block(s) being allocated to the LERG Assignee. The information entered on the BCD record will include OCN of the Block Holder, AOCN for switch update, the thousand block range, switch ID and thousand block Effective Date. The Effective Date for all thousand block(s) assigned to the LERG Assignee will be the same as the Effective Date of the CO Code.

Step 7 - Within seven (7) calendar days of notification by the CO Code Administrator, the LERG Assignee, or its designee, inputs Part 2 information from the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request into RDBS and BRIDS.

8.5 Pool Administrator's Responsibilities When Requesting CO Codes

8.5.1 The PA, when applying to the CO Code Administrator for additional NXX Codes for industry inventory pool growth, will demonstrate that existing thousand blocks for the rate area will exhaust within six (6) months with appropriate supporting data. The PA, when applying to the CO Code Administrator to meet a SP's request for a specific thousand block due to technical reasons, will provide supporting documentation as to the technical constraint as provided by the SP.

8.5.2 The PA, when forwarding the LERG Assignee's application to the CO Code Administrator for additional NXX Codes for the industry inventory pool, will attach aggregated industry inventory pool data supporting the application in order to meet the Months to Exhaust Worksheet requirement for a CO Code assignment. The aggregated data should include:

growth history of thousand blocks, or

equivalent information, for the past six (6) months,

thousand blocks available for assignment, and

projected demand for thousand blocks in the next twelve (12) months.

8.5.3 The PA, when applying to the CO Code Administrator for an NXX Code to a) satisfy the needs of a SP's single customer requiring 10,000 consecutive TNs or b) be assigned for LRN purposes, will forward the Thousand Block Months To Exhaust Certification Worksheet - TN Level (Appendix 3) that is supplied to the PA by the requesting SP and covers:

TNs available for assignment;
incremental growth history of new TNs for the past six (6) months (does not include ported-in TNs); and

projected incremental demand for TNs in the next twelve (12) months.

The PA must forward this Thousand Block Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet – TN Level (Appendix 3) information to the CO Code Administrator.

The PA will forward the CO Code Part 4 form to the CO Code Administrator. The SP to whom the NXX has been assigned is responsible for providing the CO Code Part 4 (Assignment Request and Confirmation of Code In Service) to the PA to certify that the NXX obtained to meet a SP's single customer request for a full NXX Code has been placed in service.

9.0 Allocation of Thousand Blocks

9.1 Criteria for Thousand Block Allocation

The following criteria shall be used by the PA in reviewing a thousand block request from a SP:

requests for thousand block assignments shall not be made more than six (6) months prior to the requested Effective Date;

the applicant must be certified or approved to operate in the rate area, if required, and must demonstrate that all applicable regulatory approvals required to provide the service for which the thousand block is required have been obtained;

c) the applicant must be able to provide documented proof that it is or will be capable of providing service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resource activation date;

d) multiple thousand blocks may be requested on one Thousand Block Applications Forms – Part 1A – General Application Information Form. The Part 1A Application Form is structured per switch, per rate area;

e) the applicant must demonstrate a need for a thousand block(s);

f) a separate Thousand Block Applications Form - Part 1B **-** NPAC Block Holder Data form must be submitted for each thousand block requested;

g) the applicant must first request its own contaminated thousand block(s), if it has one or more, from the industry inventory pool; [5]

h) thousand blocks shall not be allocated to satisfy requests for vanity TNs; and

i) the applicant has provided the required forecast and utilization information to NANPA and the PA in order to be assigned a thousand block (see Section 6.0). 6

[5] The applicant may refuse the assignment of a thousand block when it does not meet its technical limitations and/or administrative contraints.

[6] The applicant must record the following categories of TNs for reporting utilization: Administrative; Aging; Assign; Available; Intermediate; and Reserved.

9.2 Application Process

9.2.1 The applicant for thousand block assignments shall submit its request to the PA using the process established by the PA or via an interface by Electronic File Transfer (EFT) . No requests or form submission will be accepted via fax, paper, voice, or e-mail, except in extraordinary circumstances or if previously agreed to by the PA. Where the applicant requires the assignment of a full NXX code, the applicant should so indicate on the Thousand Block Application Forms, Part 1A. Electronic transfer or e-mail will be accepted as "official signature."

9.2.2 The applicant should indicate on the Thousand Block Application Forms – Part 1A – General Application Information form, if any thousand block (i.e., 0-9) is acceptable or whether for technical limitations or administrative reasons, only certain thousand blocks may be assigned to it. Specific thousand blocks may be requested on the application. The applicant may also indicate a requirement, or a preference, for sequential numbering resources.

9.2.3 The PA receives the thousand block request (Thousand Block Application Forms, Parts 1A and 1B) from the SP and the Thousand Block Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet – TN Level (Appendix 3). Additional information and/or dialogue may be required by the PA with the applicant to facilitate application processing. The PA is required to respond to the applicant within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the request.

9.2.4 An applicant requiring an Effective Date more than twenty-eight (28) days after the date the PA receives the application should specify its desired Effective Date. An application without an Effective Date will be assigned the standard PA-assigned minimum Effective Date of nineteen (19) calendar days after the Allocation Date. The PA shall always assure a minimum of nineteen (19) days between the Allocation Date and the Effective Date, unless requested otherwise through the expedite process (see Section 9.6).

SPs must allow at least two (2) days beyond the Effective Date prior to activating TNs within the assigned thousand block. For example, if the Effective Date is October 28, XXXX, a SP can start assigning TNs on October 30,XXXX. This is necessary in order to allow for NPAC processing and downloading to occur.

This twenty-one (21) calendar day interval (i.e., from thousand block allocation through completion of NPAC processing) is necessary because of some SP's internal company notification processes, etc. It should be noted that interconnection arrangements and facilities need to be in place prior to activation of a thousand block. Such arrangements are outside the scope of this plan.

9.2.5 Multiple thousand blocks may be requested on one Thousand Block Applications Forms - Part 1A - General Application Information form. The Part 1A application form is structured per switch, per rate area.

9.3 Process for Allocation of Thousand Blocks

9.3.1 One process involves the initial allocation of thousand block(s) to a SP without numbering resources in a rate area. A SP entering an established industry inventory pool with no numbering resources within the rate area is required to provide the PA a thousand block forecast prior to the allocation of a thousand block(s) as detailed in Section 6.0. The PA will allocate the appropriate quantity of thousand blocks to the new SP based on its request as detailed in Section 5.2 and Section 5.3. The PA may review any application for reasonableness and request additional information from the applicant as necessary.

9.3.2 Another process involves the initial allocation of thousand blocks from the industry inventory pool to a SP with numbering resources in a rate area. A SP entering an established industry inventory pool who has numbering resources within the rate area shall, prior to requesting numbering resources from the industry inventory pool:

a) provide a thousand block forecast; and

b) donate thousand blocks to the industry inventory pool as outlined in Section 8.0.

9.3.3 The start-up need for an initial thousand block assignment will be based upon one of the following:

a) identification of a new switching entity; or

b) identification of a new physical point of interconnection (POI); or

c) a specific business requirement.

If the applicant is deploying a new switching entity/POI that requires the assignment of an LRN, the Block Applicant will indicate on the Thousand Block Application Forms - Part 1A - General Application Information form, the need for assignment of a new NXX Code. In this case, the requesting SP becomes the LERG Assignee. In instances where the applicant does not designate a particular rate area for LRN assignment purposes, the PA should recommend and gain the SP's concurrence regarding which rate area should be used for assignment of an NXX Code and ensure efficient utilization of numbering resources.

9.3.4 For growth thousand block allocations, the following applicable criteria shall be used by the PA in reviewing a thousand block request from a SP:

The applicant must demonstrate that existing numbering resources for the switching entity/POI will exhaust within six (6) months.[7]

The applicant must supply the Thousand Block Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet and additional supporting information to the PA including, at least: TNs available for assignment; incremental growth history of new TNs for the past six (6) months; and projected incremental demand for new TNs in the next twelve (12) months; and

If applicable, the applicant must demonstrate that an additional thousand block(s) is necessary because currently allocated TNs/thousand blocks cannot be utilized because of a technical limitation or administrative constraint. Some examples of the technical limitation or constraint are limitations on Customer Premise Equipment (CPE), SP internal thousand block administration restrictions (e.g., administration of a thousand block across multiple switches within a rate area), and potential situations such as unique AIN triggers.

9.3.5 Unless the applicant requests a specific thousand block, the PA shall select the thousand block for assignment based upon the following order:

[7] The quantitative information required for a growth thousand block(s) request is on the Thousand Blocks Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet – TN Level (Appendix 3).

1) the SP's donated contaminated thousand blocks;

2) SP donated, uncontaminated thousand blocks (first attempting to use the 0,1,8, and 9 thousand blocks);

3) other available uncontaminated thousand blocks (first attempting to use the 0,1,8, and 9 thousand blocks); and
4) other contaminated blocks.

When the applicant requests a specific thousand block (NXX-X), the PA shall assign the requested thousand block if available in the industry inventory pool. If not, the PA shall follow the procedure outlined above.

9.3.6 The PA is responsible for creating the BCD record in RDBS/BRIDS with the required thousand block information. Required thousand block information includes the following data elements: OCN of the Block Holder; AOCN for switch update; the thousand block line range; switch ID; and block Effective Date. The BCD record will also display the rate area of the assigned NXX code as shown on the NXX ACD record. The rate area information is for informational purposes only for the PA .

9.3.7 The PA issues the Part 3 - Pool Administrator's Response/Confirmation form to the SP and issues the Part 1B, NPAC Block Holder Data form, to the NPAC as confirmation of thousand block allocation, except when the thousand block is being allocated back to the LERG Assignee and is going back to the donating switch. The NPAC will create the NPA-NXX-X Holder Information Table within seven (7) calendar days of notification for all thousand blocks allocated to SPs, except when the thousand block is being allocated back to the LERG Assignee and it is going back to the donating switch.

9.3.8 When a contaminated thousand block is allocated, the PA will notify the thousand block applicant that the allocated thousand block(s) is contaminated. The thousand block applicant is responsible for obtaining a list from the LNP data bases of unavailable TNs within the contaminated thousand block that are not available for the thousand block applicant's use.

9.3.9 Should the NPAC experience any problem with the initial activation of an allocated thousand block (e.g., if all pending ports have not been addressed), the NPAC will notify the PA before attempting to perform

subsequent thousand block creation. In the event all pending ports have not been addressed and is the cause for rejection, the PA will contact the LERG Assignee (i.e., the Block Donor) to take steps to resolve any pending ports that were not addressed during thousand block donation. The LERG Assignee will resolve the issue and provide notification back to the PA within five (5) business days of being contacted by the PA.

9.3.10 In instances where a pooled unavailable TN is assigned to more than one customer served by different SPs (i.e., Block Holder and LERG Assignee) due to an error made by the LERG Assignee in the population of unavailable TNs in the LNP data base at the time of donation, the customer of the original SP (i.e., the customer to whom the TN was originally assigned) shall retain assignment of the TN. The Block Holder shall assign its customer a new TN.

9.3.11 A thousand block assigned to a SP should be placed in service within sixty (60) days of the SP's applicable activation deadline. Confirmation that the block has been placed in service is mandatory. If the PA does not receive the Part 4 – Confirmation of NXX-X Block In Service within the sixty (60) days of the expiration of the applicable activation deadline, the PA should begin the reclamation process (see Section 10). If the SP identifies that it will not meet the deadline described above due to circumstances beyond its control, the SP may request an extension.

9.3.12 The SP may refuse the assignment of a thousand block when the assignment does not meet the SP's technical limitations and/or administrative constraints.

9.4 Thousand Block Transfer Process

Assignment criteria can be used by the PA when reviewing a request from a SP to transfer a thousand block from the current Block Holder to the SP making the transfer request. These criteria will apply when the transfer of a thousand block has been made from one SP to another SP and the full thousand block is assigned and/or reserved to a single end user customer.

All time intervals applicable to the assignment of a new thousand block apply in the case of a thousand block transfer. These intervals do not address the time intervals needed to perform the network and other rearrangements associated with the thousand block transfer.

9.4.1 The following criteria will be used by the PA in reviewing a thousand

block transfer request:

a) The applicant (SP receiving the thousand block to be transferred) must submit a complete Thousand Block Application Forms - Part 1A and Part 1B. In addition, the applicant requesting the thousand block transfer must also provide written confirmation that the current Block Holder agrees to the transfer. The PA must ensure that the transfer is mutually acceptable.

b) Upon confirmation from both parties, the PA will modify the BCD record in RDBS/BRIDS for the thousand block to be transferred to reflect the OCN, Effective Date and AOCN for switch update of the SP to which the thousand block will be transferred. To the extent necessary, the PA will coordinate the change with Traffic Routing Administration (TRA).

c) The PA will notify the recipient SP when the BCD record has been successfully modified. It is the responsibility of the SP receiving the thousand block to enter, or arrange for the entry of, any changes to RDBS and BRIDS data (e.g., switch ID) associated with transferring the thousand block.

9.5 Ongoing Administration of Allocated Thousand Blocks and Notification of LERG Changes

9.5.1 The information associated with a thousand block assignment may change over time**.** The PA must be notified of an OCN or Block Effective Date change for thousand blocks which have already been assigned. Changes should be made as submitted by SPs on the Thousand Block Application Forms, Part 1A & Part 1B, to indicate the information to be updated. For data integrity reasons, the PA must be informed of these types of changes to ensure that the record of the entity responsible for the thousand block and the data associated with the thousand block is accurate.

9.5.2 After the PA has created the thousand block record on the BCD screen, but prior to the thousand block Effective Date, the PA, upon notification by the SP, as noted in 9.5.1, is responsible for making changes to any fields on the BCD screen, including Switch ID. If changes are made to the Switch ID field after the thousand block Effective Date, the Block Holder must update the Switch ID in the RDBS.

SPs are not able to update thousand block pooling data in RDBS until the BCD is created for the thousand block and the Effective Date of

the thousand block has passed. SPs are limited as to the information they can update on the BCD. SPs can only update the Switch ID field. Only the PA can update all other fields.

9.5.3 The resulting SP in a merger/acquisition must revise and provide a new, consolidated forecast for numbering resources. The holder of a thousand block assigned by the PA or acquired by other means such as transfer (e.g., by merger or acquisition), must use the thousand block consistent with this plan. Additionally, the new Block Holder must participate in an audit process as necessary.

9.6 Expedited Process for Thousand Block Allocation

A request by a SP for an expedited thousand block allocation will occur on an exception basis. The following procedures enable a SP to request an expedited allocation of a thousand block(s):[8]

A SP may send a request to the PA for an expedited allocation of a thousand block(s);

The requesting SP will indicate on the Thousand Block Application Forms – Part 1A that this is an expedited request for an allocation with its desired Effective Date;

The PA will process the application if the request meets the criteria for the allocation of the thousand block(s) and will make every effort to process the application in fewer than the current maximum seven (7) calendar days;

The PA will expedite such requests when it can do so without failing to meet its seven (7) calendar day allocation interval for other SPs;

The PA will determine the minimum Effective Date for an expedited request based upon the following considerations:

If the thousand block applicant is the LERG Assignee, the Effective Date must be at least two (2) business days after the Allocation Date. This allows for the PA to update RDBS/BRIDS and for LERG daily update.

If the thousand block allocated requires NPAC notification and is the first "port" within the NXX code, the Effective Date will be no earlier than twelve (12) calendar days after allocation (5 calendar days to build the thousand block ownership table, 5 calendar days for a first "port" and 2 calendar days for

[8] The expedite procedures do not eliminate the Block Holder and PA responsibilities described in Section 9.5.

LSMS downloads).

If the thousand block allocated requires NPAC notification but is not the first "port", then the Effective Date will be at least two (2) business days after the Allocation Date. This allows for the PA to update RDBS/BRIDS and for LERG daily update.

f) The SP will activate the thousand block and can begin customer assignments as soon as all NPAC processing and notification has occurred.

NOTE: SPs requesting an expedited assignment of thousand block(s) should be aware that there are potential impacts to other SPs and customers. This may affect customer service to the extent that a SP is unable to identify the SP to whom a thousand block has been assigned when responding to a customer trouble report.

10.0 Reclamation and Return of Thousand Blocks

This section outlines the various responsibilities of the Block Holder and the PA with respect to the reclamation and return of thousand blocks under a thousand block pooling arrangement. In addition, the various circumstances under which reclamation and return of thousand blocks can be initiated are enumerated in this section.

Reclamation refers to the process by which SPs are required to return numbering resources to the NANPA or PA.

10.1 LERG Assignee/Block Holder Responsibility

10.1.1 If the LERG Assignee no longer provides service (nor has an LRN) in the rate area associated with the NXX code, they must notify the PA to select a new LERG Assignee.

10.1.2 Upon receipt of the reclamation request from the PA, the Block Holder must return the thousand block within thirty (30) calendar days.

10.1.3 The Block Holder to which a thousand block(s) has been assigned from the industry inventory pool shall return the thousand block(s) to the PA if:

it is no longer needed by the entity for the purpose for which it was originally assigned;

the service it was assigned for is disconnected; or

the thousand block(s) was not placed in service within the timeframe specified in this plan.

10.1.4 If the thousand block(s) was not placed in service within the timeframe specified in this plan, the assignee may apply to the PA for an extension date. Such an extension request must include the reason for the delay and a new in service time commitment (i.e., applicable activation deadline).

10.2 Pool Administrator Responsibility

10.2.1 The PA has the authority to reclaim resources in the inventory of pool participants from both embedded resources as well as thousand blocks allocated to a SP by the PA.

10.2.2 The PA will contact any thousand block assignee identified as not having returned to the administrator for reassignment any thousand block(s) that were:

a) allocated, but no longer in use by the assignee(s);

b) allocated for a service no longer offered;

c) allocated, but not placed in service within the timeframe specified in this plan; or

d) allocated, but not used in conformance with this plan.

10.2.3 The PA will seek clarification from the assignee(s) regarding the alleged non-use or misuse. If appropriate, the PA will extend the in service date up to ninety (90) days. If no satisfactory explanation is provided, the PA will request a letter from the assignee(s) returning the assigned thousand block(s). If a direct contact can not be made with the assignee(s) to effect the above process, a registered letter will be sent to the assignee(s) address of record. The letter will request that the assignee(s) contact the PA within thirty (30) days regarding the alleged resource non-use or misuse.

10.2.4 The PA must also notify and coordinate with the LERG Assignee in advance of the thousand block return Effective Date to allow sufficient time for the LERG Assignee to update switch translations in order to provide blank number treatment for the returned thousand block(s). The thousand block will be made available by the PA for re-assignment after ninety (90) days.

10.2.5 Whether a thousand block is reclaimed or voluntarily returned, the PA is responsible for entering a disconnect in the RDBS/BRIDS data base (BCD record). This information includes the following data elements: OCN of the Block Holder; AOCN for switch update; the thousand block line range; switch ID; and thousand block reclamation Effective Date.

10.2.6 If the reclaimed or returned thousand blocks have been entered into the NPAC, the PA must also notify the NPAC of those thousand blocks by completing the NPAC Thousand Block Reclamation form, Part 5, Sections A and B. Notification should include the thousand block range and the effective date of the return. Upon completion of reclamation at the NPAC, the NPAC will notify the PA, LERG Assignee and Block Holder that the thousand block has been removed from the

NPAC by completing, Part 5, Section C of the NPAC Thousand Block Reclamation form.

11.0 Jeopardy Situations

11.1 NPA Jeopardy Situations

When it is determined by the CO Code Administrator(s) based on the NPA Code Relief Planning & Notification Guidelines (INC 97-0404-016) that an NPA is in jeopardy[9], the PA will participate in the NPA jeopardy activities. The industry inventory pool participants are also encouraged to participate.

11.1.1 Special conservation procedures will be invoked by the PA in the situation of a jeopardy NPA as follows:

a) During the special conservation period, the PA will treat all thousand block requests in a fair and impartial manner, consistent with the special conservation provisions;

b) Upon receipt of the notice of the jeopardy situation from the CO Code Administrator and/or PA, each Block Holder will review its forecast and demand data and provide the information to the PA within 30 days using the Thousand Block Forecast Report (Appendix 1) unless the Block Holder has already provided such information to the PA within the past 30-day period;

c) For additional growth thousand blocks, each Block Holder will certify that existing thousand blocks for the switching entity/POI, per service provided by that switching entity or POI, will exhaust within six (6) months; and

d) Block Holders will have documented and must provide the Thousand Blocks Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet – TN Level (Appendix 3) containing:

1) TNs available for assignment;

2) growth history of thousand blocks, or equivalent information, for the past six (6) months; and

3) projected demand for thousand blocks in the next six (6) months.

11.1.2 The PA, when applying to the CO Code Administrator for

[9] A jeopardy NPA condition exists when the forecasted and/or actual demand for NXX resources will exceed the known supply during the planning/implementation interval for relief.

additional NXX Codes for industry inventory pool growth will certify that existing thousand blocks for the rate area will exhaust within six (6) months and will have documented and be prepared to supply supporting data.

The PA, when forwarding the LERG Assignee's application to the CO Code Administrator for additional NXX codes for the industry inventory pool, will attach aggregated industry pool data supporting the application in order to meet the Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet – TN Level requirement for a CO Code assignment. The aggregated data shall include:

a) growth history of thousand blocks, or equivalent information, for the past six (6) months,

b) thousand blocks available for assignment; and

c) projected demand for thousand blocks in the next six (6) months.

11.1.3 The PA will forward to the CO Code Administrator the Thousand Blocks Months To Exhaust Certification Worksheet – TN Level that is supplied to the PA by the requesting SP, when applying for an NXX Code to:

a) satisfy the needs of a SP's single customer requirement for 10,000 consecutive TNs; or

b) be assigned for LRN purposes.

Requests for assignment of new NXX Codes for other than growth, or to serve a new switching entity/POI, shall be minimized.

11.1.4 For thousand block(s) reserved for SPs per Section 7:

a) SPs with reserved thousand blocks will be asked to voluntarily release the thousand blocks or confirm their proposed use date;

b) Reservations with a proposed use date beyond the NPA Relief Date will be reviewed and filled, with resources made available as a result of NPA relief;

c) Reservations with a proposed use date prior to the NPA Relief Date will not be honored if doing so would preclude the assignment of thousand block resource for which a valid request has been processed; and

d) Reservations with the latest proposed use date will be the first thousand blocks to be used for assignment, and the reservation will be canceled.

Requests for assignment of thousand blocks for other than growth, or to serve a new switching entity/POI, shall be minimized. However, applications for such purposes can be submitted to the Commission. If the Commission decides that a special purpose thousand block is warranted, the PA will make the assignment. The decision to postpone or withdraw a thousand block request is the Block Applicant's responsibility and must be submitted in writing to the PA.

11.1.5 Unique circumstances within a given jeopardy NPA may require extraordinary NPA-specific thousand block pooling conservation procedures. In this event, the following shall apply:

a) The PA shall work in conjunction with the CO Code Administrator and affected SPs to develop:

1) NPA-specific CO Code conservation procedures; and

2) NPA-specific thousand block pooling conservation procedures.

b) The PA will monitor changes in the jeopardy situation using the forecast forms. Based upon the results of the analysis, the PA will:

1) implement each thousand block pooling conservation procedure as required; and

2) notify the affected SPs and the CO Code Administrator of the implementation.

11.2 Critical Industry Inventory Insufficiency

A critical industry inventory insufficiency exists for a rate area when the available resources in the industry inventory pool for a particular rate area fall below the actual and/or forecasted demand for the next sixty-six (66) calendar days. The PA:

will continue to assign thousand blocks on a first come, first served basis;

will allow existing thousand block reservations to continue;

will not allow new thousand block reservations to be made;

will request that SPs voluntarily return thousand block(s); and

will not reduce SP inventories to replenish the industry inventory pool.

12.0 Audits

12.1 Audit Principles and Objectives

SPs, the NANPA, and the PA are subject to audits to promote the efficient and effective use of NANP numbering resources.[10] Each audit will result in audit findings. Audit findings are a feedback mechanism to ensure continued process improvement.

Audits of service providers are undertaken to:

verify compliance with INC industry guidelines;

verify that adequate and accurate records of NANP public resources are maintained; and

verify that forecast/utilization reports are correct .

Audits of the NANPA and the PA are undertaken to:

ensure compliance with INC industry guidelines;

ensure non-discriminatory and uniform application of INC industry guidelines to all SPs; and

verify protection of confidential and proprietary information and accuracy of record-keeping.

12.2 Auditee Responsibilities

The auditee is responsible for cooperating with the auditor during the audit. At a minimum, the auditee shall:

a) designate a point of contact for overall coordination and follow-up;.

[10] In the context of audits, the term service provider includes code/block applicants, code/block holders, and resellers/Type 1 wireless providers

b) provide the data and records requested by the auditor within the specified timeframes as mutually determined with the auditor;

c) prepare a corrective action plan to address any identified non-compliance issues, if necessary; and

d) recognize that a CO Code or Thousands-block application/assignment could be suspended until a particular dispute is resolved.

In the event of a disagreement, the auditee and/or the auditor may avail themselves of the NANC Dispute Resolution Process.[11]

12.3 Auditor Responsibilities

During an audit of a SP, the auditor may ask the NANPA and/or the PA to provide additional data (e.g., utilization reports and Part 4 Forms) regarding the auditee.

The responsibilities of the auditor will be described in the Auditor Requirements Document and will be provided by the NANC.

Guideline areas that an auditor may examine for compliance will be provided in a subsequent release of these guidelines.

[11] This is documented at www.fcc.gov/ccb/Nanc/.

12.4 Findings & Follow-up

The auditor will issue a confidential report to the auditee and designated neutral parties. This report may contain proprietary auditee information pertaining to any non-compliant findings relevant to these guideline requirements and/or numbering regulatory mandates.

Each report will include at least: a summary of the auditor's results including the specific requirement(s) upon which the audit is based, and the areas requiring corrective action, if applicable.

The auditee is responsible for follow-up and corrective actions on all non-compliant audit findings. The sequencing and details of auditor reports and auditee corrective actions will be discussed before the audit is concluded. Upon completion of the audit, the auditee will prepare a corrective action plan to address each audit finding included in the auditor's report. This plan must include at a minimum the auditee contact responsible for each corrective action, the action planned, and the anticipated completion date. If the auditee does not agree with the audit finding or believes that corrective action is not required, then the action plan must include an explanation and specific reasons.

In the event of a disagreement, the auditee and/or the auditor may avail themselves of the NANC Dispute Resolution Process.[12]

[12] This is documented at www.fcc.gov/ccb/Nanc/.

13.0 Appeals Process

Disagreements may arise between the PA and Block Holders/Applicants in the context of the administration of this plan. In all cases, the PA and Block Holders/Applicants will make reasonable, good faith efforts to resolve such disagreements amongst themselves, consistent with this plan, prior to pursuing any appeal. Appeals may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following options:

The Block Holder/Applicant will have the opportunity to resubmit the matter to the PA for reconsideration with or without additional input;

b) Interpretation/clarification questions may be referred to INC and unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the parties, these questions will be submitted in a generic manner protecting the identity of the appellant; or

c) The PA and Block Holders/Applicant may pursue the disagreement with the Commission.

14.0 Glossary

Activation Deadline	To be determined by the FCC.
Active Block	A thousands-block assigned by the PA and implemented in the PSTN for specific routing requirements as of the block effective date.
Administrative Constraint/Reason	A limitation of the Point of Interconnection or Switching Entity where an existing block and/or TNs cannot be used for designated network routing and/or rating of PSTN calls. An example of a constraint would be the limitation in the administration of a thousands-block across multiple switches in a rate area.
Administrative Numbers	Administrative numbers are numbers used by telecommunications carriers to perform internal administrative or operational functions necessary to maintain reasonable quality of service standards. Examples of administrative numbers are: test numbers, employee/official numbers, Location Routing Numbers, Temporary Local Directory Numbers (TLDN), soft dial tone numbers and wireless E911 emergency service routing digit/key (ESRD/ESRK) numbers. (FCC 00-104 §52.15 (f)(1)(i)).
Administrative Operating Company Number (AOCN)	A four character numeric or alphanumeric that identifies the administrator of one (or more) data record contained in the Routing DataBase System (RDBS). AOCNs are determined by Operating Company Number (OCN) assignment. The AOCN further identifies the entity authorized by the Code Holder to input and maintain data into RDBS and BRIDS.
Affected Parties	Affected parties are a) those entities that have applied for and/or received thousands-block (NXX-X) assignments or reservations within the NXX code b) administrative entities involved in number administration, number portability or number pooling.

Aging Numbers	Aging numbers are disconnected numbers that are not available for assignment to another end user or customer for a specified period of time. Numbers previously assigned to residential customers may be aged for no more than 90 days. Numbers previously assigned to business customers may be aged for no more than 360 days. (FCC 00-104 §52.15 (f)(1) (ii)). An aging interval includes any announcement treatment period, as well as the vacant telephone number intercept period. A number is disconnected when it is no longer used to route calls to equipment owned or leased by the disconnecting subscriber of record.
Allocated/Assigned Block	A thousands-block is allocated/assigned to an SP when the block information has been entered into RDBS/BRIDS by the PA.
Allocation Date	The Allocation Date is the date established by the PA when the PA officially makes the block assignment to an SP.
Applicant	SPs who submit a block request to the PA for the purpose of being assigned a thousands-block for their use.
Assigned Block Effective Date	See Effective Date.
Assigned Numbers	Assigned numbers are numbers working in the PSTN under an agreement such as a contract or tariff at the request of specific end users or customers for their use, or numbers not yet working but having a customer service order pending. Numbers that are not yet working and have a service order pending for more than five days shall not be classified as assigned numbers. (FCC 00-104 §52.15 (f)(1) (iii))
Audit	The accumulation and evaluation of evidence about documented information of an auditee to determine and report on the degree of compliance with INC industry guidelines.

Auditee	The SP/NANPA/PA that is the subject of an audit.
Auditor	A neutral, independent third party that adheres to generally accepted auditing standards and is not affiliated with any telecommunications entity.
Authorized Representative of an Applicant	A person from an applicant's organization or its agent that has the legal authority to take action on behalf of the applicant.
Available Numbers	Available numbers are numbers that are available for assignment to subscriber access lines, or their equivalents, within a switching entity or point of interconnection and are not classified as assigned, intermediate, administrative, aging, or reserved. Available numbers is a residual category that can be calculated by subtracting a sum of numbers in the assigned, reserved, intermediate, aged, and administrative primary categories from the total of numbers in the inventory of a code or block holder (FCC 00-104 §52.15 (f)(1) (iv)).
Block Applicant	See “Applicant.”
Blocks Available for Assignment Block Donation Date	Thousands-blocks (NXX-X) within the industry inventory pool rate area which are within an NPA/NXX that is flagged as LNP capable in the LERG and the NPAC, and which are available for assignment within the SP’s rate area. The deadline for SPs to donate their thousands-block(s).
Block Exhaust	a) When used by the Block Holder in applying for additional thousands-blocks, a point in time at which the quantity of TN's within existing thousands-block(s) which have been assigned to the Block Holder equals zero for a switching entity/POI. b) When used by the PA in applying for additional NXX codes, block exhaust is defined as a point in time at which the quantity of thousands-blocks within the rate area which are “available for assignment” equals zero.

Block Holder	The entity to which a thousands-block (NXX-X) has been assigned for use.
BRIDS	The Business Rating Input Data Base System (BRIDS) contains data in the rating of calls. Data supports all CO Codes assigned through these guidelines, as well as all CO Codes in place prior to the existence of these guidelines, and covers all Numbering Plan Areas (NPAs) administered under the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). BRIDS is a replacement database for BRADS.
Central Office (CO) Code	The sub-NPA code in a TN, i.e., digits D-E-F of a 10-digit NANP Area address. Central office codes are in the form "NXX", where N is a number from 2 to 9 and X is a number from 0 to 9. Central office codes may also be referred to as "NXX codes" (47 C.F.R. § 52.7(c)).
Certify	The authorization of a carrier by a regulator to provide a telecommunications service in the relevant geographic area. FCC 00-104 § 52.15 (g) requires that applications for initial numbering resources include evidence that the applicant is authorized to provide service in the area for which numbering resources are being requested.
CLLI™	A CLLI *Location Identification Code* is an eleven-character alphanumeric descriptor used to identify switches, points of interconnection, and other categories of telephony network elements and their locations. Companies that are licensees of COMMON LANGUAGE® Products can refer questions to their company's COMMON LANGUAGE Coordinator. If you do not know if you are a licensee, do not know your Coordinator, or are a licensee with questions regarding CLLIs, call the COMMON LANGUAGE Hotline, 877-699-5577. Alternatively, or if you are *not* a licensee, obtain further information at www.commonlanguage.com. (COMMON LANGUAGE is a registered trademark and CLLI is a trademark of Telcordia Technologies, Inc.)

CO Code Administrator	Entity(ies) responsible for the administration of the NXX codes within an NPA.
Code Holder	An assignee of a full NXX code which was allocated by the CO Code Administrator. Where the Code Holder is participating in thousands-block number pooling, the Code Holder becomes a LERG Assignee at the Block Donation Date.
Conservation	Consideration given to the efficient and effective use of a finite numbering resource in order to minimize the cost and need to expand its availability in the introduction of new services, capabilities and features.
Contamination	Contamination occurs when at least one telephone number within a thousands-block of telephone numbers is not available for assignment to end users or customers. For purposes of this provision, a telephone number is "not available for assignment" if it is classified as administrative, aging, assigned, intermediate, or reserved as defined in FCC rules (FCC 00-104, §52.7 (h)).
Corrective Action	The action taken by the auditee that 1) corrects identified deficiencies; 2) produces recommended improvements; or 3) demonstrates that audit findings are either invalid or do not warrant auditee action.
Corrective Action Plan	A document that contains the corrective actions to be undertaken by the auditee. This plan contains the details and commitments that will be implemented to correct non-compliance against established criteria within INC guidelines.
Critical Industry Inventory Insufficiency	Critical industry inventory insufficiency exists for a rate area when the available resources in the industry inventory pool for a particular rate area fall below the actual and/or forecasted demand for the next 66 calendar days.
Dealer Numbering Pools	Numbers allocated by a service provider to a retail dealer for use in the sale and establishment of service on behalf of that service provider. See the definition of "Intermediate Numbers" below. (FCC 00-104 ¶20)
Donation	The term "donation" refers to the process by which carriers are required to contribute telephone numbers to a thousands-block number pool (FCC 00-104, §52.7(i)).
Effective Date	The date by which routing and rating changes within the PSTN must be complete for the assigned thousands-block or the assigned CO Code. Also, the date by which the thousands-block becomes an active block.
Employee/Official Number	A number assigned by a service provider for its own internal business purposes. See "Administrative Numbers" definition.

INC	Industry Numbering Committee, a standing forum of the Carrier Liaison Committee (CLC) that provides an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with the planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of numbering resources and related dialing considerations for public telecommunications within the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) area.
Initial Block	The first NXX-X block assigned at a unique switching entity or point of interconnection (FCC 00-104, ¶ 191, §52.50 (C) (2)).
In Service	A code for which local routing information has been input to the LERG *and* the carrier has begun to activate and assign to end users numbers within the NXX code (FCC 00-104, ¶240).
Intermediate Numbers	Intermediate numbers are numbers that are made available for use by another telecommunications carrier or non-carrier entity for the purpose of providing telecommunications service to an end user or customer. Numbers ported for the purpose of transferring an established customer's service to another service provider shall not be classified as intermediate numbers (FCC 00-104, §52.15 (f) (1) (v)).
Intra-service Provider Port	An intra-service provider port allows an SP to retain unavailable TNs in contaminated thousands-blocks that are being donated to an industry inventory pool. Specifically, numbers assigned to customers from donated thousands-blocks that are contaminated will be ported back to the donating carrier to enable it to continue to provide service to those customers. An intra-service provider port can also be used to move a TN(s) from one switch serving a rate area to another switch serving the same rate area where LRN-LNP technology is in use.
Inventory	The term "inventory" refers to all telephone numbers distributed, assigned or allocated: To a service provider, or (2) To a Pooling Administrator for the purpose of establishing or maintaining a thousands-block number pool (FCC 00-104, §52.7 (j)).
(Industry) Inventory Pool	Used in thousands-block number pooling to describe a reservoir of unallocated thousands-blocks administered by the PA for purposes of assignment to SPs participating in thousands-block number pooling.
Jeopardy	A jeopardy condition exists when the forecasted and/or actual demand for NXX code resources will exceed the known supply during the planning/implementation interval for relief.

LATA (Local Access and Transport Area)	Also referred to as service areas by some BOCs, a LATA serves two basic purposes: to provide a method for delineating the area within which the BOCs may offer services and, to provide a basis for determining how the assets of the former Bell System were to be divided between the BOCs and AT&T at divestiture.
LERG (Local Exchange Routing Guide)	Contains information about the local routing data obtained from the Routing Data Base System (RDBS). This information reflects the current network configuration and scheduled network changes for all entities originating or terminating PSTN calls within the NANP.
LERG Assignee	The SP responsible for default routing functions associated with a pooled NXX code.
LNP Port	The process of moving a TN from one SP to another SP using LRN-LNP technology. See also "Intra-Service Provider Port" definition.
Location Routing Number (LRN)	The ten-digit (NPA-NXX-XXXX) number assigned to a switch/POI used for routing in a permanent local number portability environment. See "Administrative Numbers" definition.
Months to Exhaust	When used by SPs to document the need for an additional block: = TNs Available for Assignment _____ Average Monthly Growth Rate When used by the PA to document the need for an additional CO Code: = Blocks Available for Assignment _____ Average Monthly Growth Rate
NANP (North American Numbering Plan)	A numbering architecture in which every station in the NANP Area is identified by a unique ten-digit address consisting of a three-digit NPA code, a three digit central office code of the form NXX, and a four-digit line number of the form XXXX.
NANPA (North American Numbering Plan Administration)	With divestiture, key responsibilities for coordination and administration of the North American Numbering/Dialing Plans were assigned to NANPA. These central administration functions are exercised in an impartial manner toward all industry segments while balancing the utilization of a limited resource.

NANP Area	Consists of the United States, Canada and the Caribbean countries. (Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Turks & Caicos Islands, Trinidad & Tobago, and the United States (including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).
North American Numbering Plan, Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecasting Report (NRUF Report)	The NANPA gathers forecast and utilization information to monitor and project exhaust in individual NPAs/area codes as well as in the NANP overall. This semi-annual report includes number utilization information as well as a five year forecast of demand by year. Pooling carriers report at the thousands-block level per rate center. Non-pooling carriers report at the Central Office Code level per rate center. For more detailed information, see the NRUF Report Guidelines.
NPA	Numbering Plan Area, also called area code. An NPA is the 3-digit code that occupies the A, B, and C positions in the 10-digit NANP format that applies throughout the NANP Area. NPAs are of the form NXX, where N represents the digits 2-9 and X represents any digit 0-9. In the NANP, NPAs are classified as either geographic or non-geographic. a) Geographic NPAs are NPAs which correspond to discrete geographic areas within the NANP Area. b) Non-geographic NPAs are NPAs that do not correspond to discrete geographic areas, but which are instead assigned for services with attributes, functionalities, or requirements that transcend specific geographic boundaries. The common examples are NPAs in the N00 format, e.g., 800.
NPAC SMS	The NPAC Service Management System is a database which contains all necessary routing information on ported TNs and facilitates the updating of the routing databases of all subtending SPs in the portability area.
NPA Code Relief	NPA code relief refers to an activity that must be performed when an NPA nears exhaust of its 792 NXX capacity. Options for relief are described in Section 6.0 of the NPA Code Relief Planning & Notification Guidelines.
NPA Relief Date	The date by which the NPA is introduced and routing of normal commercial traffic begins.

OCN (Operating Company Number)	Operating Company Number (OCN) assignments must uniquely identify the applicant. Relative to CO Code assignments, NECA-assigned Company Codes may be used as OCNs. Companies with no prior CO Code or Company Code assignments contact NECA (800 524-1020) to be assigned a Company Code(s). Since multiple OCNs and/or Company Codes may be associated with a given company, companies with prior assignments should direct questions regarding appropriate OCN usage to the Traffic Routing Administration (TRA) on 732-699-6700.
Point of Interconnection (POI)	The physical location where an SP's connecting circuits interconnect for the purpose of interchanging traffic on the PSTN.
Pooling Administrator (PA)	The term Pooling Administrator refers to the entity or entities responsible for administering a thousands-block number pool (FCC 00-104, §52.7 (g)).
Premature Exhaust	When referring to NANP : Premature exhaust means the exhaust of NANP resources (i.e., requires expansion beyond the 10-digit format) much sooner than the best industry projections. The NANP is expected to meet the numbering needs of the telecommunications industry well into the 21st century (i.e., a minimum of 25 years). When referring to NPA: Premature exhaust is when a specific date for NPA relief has been established and the NPA is projected to exhaust prior to that date.
Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)	Public Switched Telephone Network. The PSTN is composed of all transmission and switching facilities and signal processors supplied and operated by all telecommunications common carriers for use by the public. Every station on the PSTN is capable of being accessed from every other station on the PSTN via the use of NANP E.164 numbers.
Rate Area	Denotes the smallest geographic area used to distinguish rate boundaries.
RDBS (Routing Data Base System)	Contains a complete description of all Local Exchange Companies' networks in the NANP Area and pertinent information relating to the networks of other code holders. This provides information for: (1) message routing, (2) common channel signaling call setup routing, and (3) operator service access routing.
Reassignment	The process of reestablishing the assignment of a thousands-block, which was previously assigned to another SP or to a new SP.

Reporting Carrier	~~Refers to a telecommunications carrier that receives~~ numbering resources from the NANPA, a Pooling Administrator or another telecommunications carrier.
Reseller	An SP which purchases facilities and/or services from another SP for resale. Also see “Intermediate Numbers” above.
Reserved Block	A thousands-block that has been set aside by the PA at the request of an SP for future assignment.
Reserved Numbers	Reserved numbers are numbers that are held by service providers at the request of specific end users or customers for their future use. Numbers held for specific end users or customers for more than 45 days shall not be classified as reserved numbers (FCC 00-104, §52.15 (f) (1) (vi).
Service Provider (SP)	The term “service provider” refers to a telecommunications carrier or other entity that receives numbering resources from the NANPA, a Pooling Administrator or a telecommunications carrier for the purpose of providing or establishing telecommunications service (FCC 00-104, §52.5 (i)).
Service Provider Inventory	The inventory of all geographic NANP TNs allocated by the CO Code Administrator/PA to a Code/Block Holder.
Soft Dial Tone Numbers	Numbers that permit restricted dialing, such as calling emergency services and sometimes receive incoming calls (FCC 00-104 ¶33). See “Administrative Numbers” definition.
Switching Entity	An electromechanical or electronic system for connecting lines to lines, lines to trunks, or trunks to trunks for the purpose of originating/terminating PSTN calls. A single switching system may handle several central office codes.

Technical Requirement, Reason, Limitation or Constraint	A limitation of the Point of Interconnection or Switching Entity where an existing thousands-block and/or TNs cannot be used for designated network routing and/or rating of PSTN calls. Examples that constitute "technical constraint" include limitations on a switch, network element or planning constraint, CPE limitations or unique AIN Triggers.
Test Number	A TN(s) assigned for inter- and intra-network testing purposes. See "Administrative Numbers" definition.
Temporary Local Directory Number (TLDN)	A number dynamically assigned on a per call basis by the serving wireless service provider to a roaming subscriber for the purpose of incoming call setup. See "Administrative Numbers" definition.
Thousands-Block	A range of one thousand TNs within an NPA-NXX beginning with X000 and ending with X999, where X is a value from 0 to 9.
Thousands-Block Number Pooling	Thousands-block number pooling is a process by which the 10,000 numbers in a central office code (NXX) are separated into ten sequential blocks of 1,000 numbers each (thousands-blocks), and allocated separately within a rate center (FCC 00-104, §52.20 (a)).
Type 1 Interconnection Service Provider	A wireless SP that utilizes Type 1 (trunk side with line treatment) interconnection with another SP's end office switch.

Wireless E911 ESRD/ESRK Number	A 10-digit number used for the purpose of routing an E911 call to the appropriate Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) when that call is originating from wireless equipment. The Emergency Services Routing Digit (ESRD) identifies the cell site and sector of the call origination in a wireless call scenario. The Emergency Services Routing Key (ESRK) uniquely identifies the call in a given cell site/sector and correlates data that is provided to a PSAP by different paths, such as the voice path and the Automatic Location Identification (ALI) data path. Both the ESRD and ESRK define a route to the proper PSAP. The ESRK alone, or the ESRD and/or Mobile Identification Number (MIN), is signaled to the PSAP where it can be used to retrieve from the ALI database, the mobile caller's call-back number, position and the emergency service agencies (e.g., police, fire, medical, etc.) associated with the caller's location. If a NANP TN is used as an ESRD or ESRK, this number cannot be assigned to a customer. See "Administrative Numbers" definition.