

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

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET UT-091419
)	
QWEST CORPORATION,)	ORDER 01
)	
For Assignment of Telephone)	ORDER ASSIGNING NUMBERING
Numbering Resources)	RESOURCES
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 Qwest Corporation, (Qwest or Company) requested on September 4, 2009, that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) overturn the North American Numbering Plan Administrator’s (NANPA’s or Numbering Administrator’s) decision to withhold numbering resources and direct the Number Pooling Administrator (Neustar, Inc.) to provide two blocks in the 360 Numbering Plan Area (NPA), Vancouver rate center. The purpose of the request is to meet the requirements of a customer requesting 2,000 sequential numbers for its internal dialing plan. This request is in the public interest to support the growth of a company serving the community of interest.

- 2 Telephone companies or carriers commonly hold and manage a reasonable inventory of telephone numbers in the areas where they provide service. When more are needed carriers request them from the Numbering Administrator. The Numbering Administrator withholds telephone numbers if the company’s inventory is sufficient for the next six months and there is a shortage of numbers in the affected area code. The Number Pooling Administrator’s Web site reports an inventory of nine blocks of 1,000 numbers in the Vancouver rate center, and the 360 NPA is forecasted to exhaust in the second quarter of 2012.

- 3 The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued an order establishing a “safety valve” allowing carriers that do not meet the utilization threshold in a given rate center to obtain additional numbering resources apart from the general waiver process.¹ Specifically, the FCC granted to state commissions the authority to direct the Number

¹ *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization*, Third Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket 99-200, FCC No. 01-362, ¶¶ 57-66 (Rel. December 28, 2001).

Pooling Administrator to release a block of numbers to a carrier to satisfy a specific customer request that cannot be met with the carrier's current inventory.²

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including telecommunications companies. *RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.36.*
- 5 (2) Qwest is a telecommunications company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 6 (3) The Telecommunications Act of 1996 allows the FCC to establish rules to implement the Act and delegate authority to state commissions.
- 7 (4) The FCC has created a "safety valve" mechanism within the framework of number resource management and delegated to the Commission authority to grant requests by carriers that receive a specific customer request for numbering resources that exceeds their available inventory. The FCC has also given states some flexibility to direct the Number Pooling Administrator to assign additional numbering resources to carriers that have demonstrated a verifiable need for additional numbering resources.³
- 8 (5) The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to *RCW 80.36.610*, which authorizes the Commission to take actions necessary to implement the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.
- 9 (6) Normally, additional numbering resources are granted only when existing resources are forecasted to exhaust within six months.⁴

² *Id.* ¶ 64.

³ *Id.* ¶ 61.

⁴ *47 CFR 52.15(g)(3)(iii).*

- 10 (7) The Number Pooling Administrator's Web site reports an inventory of nine blocks of 1,000 numbers in the Vancouver rate center, and NPA 360 is forecasted to exhaust in the second quarter of 2012.
- 11 (8) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 15, 2009.
- 12 (9) The purpose of the request is to meet the requirements of a customer requesting 2,000 sequential numbers for its internal dialing plan. This request is in the public interest to support the growth of a company serving the community of interest.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) Neustar, Inc., acting as the Number Pooling Administrator, to release two blocks of 1,000 numbers, specifically in the 360 NPA, Vancouver rate center to Qwest Corporation.
- 14 (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over this matter to take such future actions as may be appropriate.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective October 15, 2009.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Executive Director and Secretary

NOTICE: This is an order delegated to the Secretary for decision. In addition to serving you a copy of the decision, the Commission will post on its Internet Web site for at least 14 days a listing of all matters delegated to the Secretary for decision. You may seek Commission review of this decision. You must file a request for Commission review of this order no later than fourteen (14) days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's Web site. The Commission will schedule your request for review for consideration at a regularly scheduled open meeting. The Commission will notify you of the time and place of the open meeting at which the Commission will review the order.

The Commission will grant a late-filed request for review only on a showing of good cause, including a satisfactory explanation of why the person did not timely file the request. A form for late-filed requests is available on the Commission's Web site.

This notice and review process is pursuant to the provisions of [RCW 80.01.030](#) and [WAC 480-07-904\(2\) and \(3\)](#).