

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Request of	DOCKET UT-230936
TELEPORT COMMUNICATIONS AMERICA, LLC.	ORDER 01
For Assignment of Telephone Numbering Resources	ORDER ASSIGNING NUMBERING RESOURCES

BACKGROUND

- 1 On November 4, 2023, Teleport Communications America, LLC (Teleport or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a request to overturn the Number Pooling Administrator's decision to withhold numbering resources and direct the Number Pooling Administrator to provide 65,000 sequential numbers in the 564 Numbering Plan Area (NPA), Bremerton rate center. The request is being made to meet the requirements for a large government customer's network. Of the numbers requested, all will be used within six months. This request is in the public interest to support community and security services expansion and development.
- 2 Telephone companies commonly hold and manage a reasonable inventory of telephone numbers in the areas where they provide service. When more numbers are needed by a company, it may request them from the Number Pooling Administrator. The Number Pooling 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.
- 3 The North American Numbering Plan Administrator's (NANPA's) Web site reports that the 564 NPA is forecasted to exhaust in 2059 and there are sufficient number resources.
- 4 The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in its Third Report and Order, FCC 01-362, CC Docket 96-911 and 99-200, has delegated authority to the Commission to direct NANPA to release numbers for extenuating circumstances that do not meet NANPA's existing criteria. Teleport provided the Commission with a detailed inventory of number resources and proof of utilization in the rate center. The Company will adhere to the requirement of reviewing number resources and comply with the requirements of the NANPA and the Pooling Administrator regarding the return of unused numbers.

5 The FCC issued an order establishing a “safety valve” allowing companies 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 Pooling Administrator to release
numbers to a company to satisfy a specific customer request that cannot be met with the
company’s current inventory provided the company documents the customer request and
submits current proof of utilization.

6 Commission Staff (Staff) reviewed the Company’s request and concluded that it is in the
public interest to support community and security requirements. Accordingly, Staff
recommends the Commission grant the Company’s request.

DISCUSSION

7 We agree with Staff’s recommendation and grant the Company’s request. We find that
the request is in the public interest because the number blocks will be used to meet the
requirements for a large government entity, the numbers will be used within six months,
and the Company provided documentation of the customer’s request and current proof of
utilization.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 8 (1) The 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.
- 9 (2) Teleport Communications America, LLC, is a telecommunications company and
a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 10 (3) The Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act) allows the FCC to establish rules
to implement the Act and delegate authority to state Commissions.
- 11 (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 companies that receive a specific customer request for numbering
resources that exceeds their available inventory. The FCC has also given states

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 21, 2001).

some flexibility to direct the Number Pooling Administrator to assign additional numbering resources to companies that have demonstrated a verifiable need for additional numbering resources.

- 12 (5) The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to RCW 110.36.610,
which authorizes the Commission to take actions necessary to implement the Act.
- 13 (6) Normally, additional numbering resources are granted only when existing
resources are forecasted to exhaust within six months.²
- 14 (7) The NANPA's Web site reports that the 564 NPA is forecasted to exhaust in
2059.
- 15 (8) The request is being made to meet the requirements for a large government entity.
Of the numbers requested, all will be used within six months. This request is in
the public interest.
- 16 (9) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on
December 21, 2023.
- 17 (10) The Commission has reviewed the request and concludes that the Company has
demonstrated a legitimate need for numbers to meet a customer requirement.
Accordingly, the Commission will order the Number Pooling Administrator to
release 65,000 sequential numbers in the 564 NPA, Bremerton rate center, to
Teleport Communications America, LLC.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 18 (1) The Number Pooling Administrator to release 65,000 sequential numbers,
specifically in the 564 NPA, Bremerton rate center, for Teleport Communications
America, LLC.
- 19 (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over this matter to take such future actions as
may be appropriate.

² 47 CFR 52.15(g)(3)(iii).

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

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective December 21, 2023.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

KATHY HUNTER
Acting 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 110.01.030 and WAC 4110-07-904(2) and (3).