



Ernie Fletcher
Governor

Mark David Goss
Chairman

Teresa J. Hill, Secretary
Environmental and Public
Protection Cabinet

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet
Public Service Commission

John W. Clay
Commissioner

Christopher L. Lilly
Commissioner
Department of Public Protection

211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615
Telephone: (502) 564-3940
Fax: (502) 564-3460

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:
Andrew Melnykovich
(502) 564-3940 x208
(502) 330-5981 (cell)

PSC ANNOUNCES PUBLIC MEETINGS ON AREA CODE 270 *Commission seeks input on options for new area code*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Oct. 6, 2006) – The Kentucky Public Service Commission will hold meetings across western Kentucky to receive public input on options for addressing the shortage of new numbers in area code 270.

The public meetings will be held Oct. 23 in Hopkinsville, Oct. 24 in Paducah and Henderson, Oct. 25 in Bowling Green and Elizabethtown and Nov. 6 in Owensboro. A detailed schedule with times and locations follows at the end of this news release.

“We hope that people will attend these meetings to share their views with the PSC,” Chairman Mark David Goss said. “This decision could impose a cost on businesses and affect people’s daily lives, so we want to hear from residential and commercial customers alike.”

The North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA), which is responsible for allocating phone numbers to telecommunication providers, notified the PSC in August that area code 270 is likely to run out of available phone numbers in late 2007. A new area code must be created in western Kentucky prior to the number exhaustion date.

The PSC has opened a proceeding to examine the options.

New area codes can be established in one of two ways.

An existing area code can be split geographically. That has been the history in Kentucky. Area code 270, which covers the western half of Kentucky, was created from a portion of area code 502 in April 1999 and area code 859 was carved out of area code 606 a year later.

-more-

A new area code also can be created as an “overlay” on an existing area code. This option, which has been used mostly in major metropolitan areas, requires 10-digit dialing for local calls.

Documents in the area code 270 case can be found on the PSC Web site, which is psc.ky.gov. The case number is 2006-00357.

The PSC is an agency within the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and has approximately 110 employees.

AREA CODE 270 PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Time	City/Venue
M	10/23	6 pm CDT	HOPKINSVILLE Auditorium Hopkinsville Community College 720 North Drive
T	10/24	11 am CDT	PADUCAH Robert Cherry Civic Center 2701 Park Avenue
T	10/24	6 pm CDT	HENDERSON Fine Arts Center Henderson Community College 2660 South Green Street
W	10/25	11 am CDT	BOWLING GREEN Auditorium Carroll Knicely Conference Center Western Kentucky University 2355 Nashville Road
W	10/25	6 pm EDT	ELIZABETHTOWN Pritchard Community Center 404 South Mulberry Street
M	11/6	4 pm CST	OWENSBORO Blandford Hall Owensboro Community & Technical College 4800 New Hartford Road