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Kentucky Public Service Commission
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Subject: Case 2012-00129 – 270 Area Code

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To Whom It May Concern:

My general philosophy regarding area code splits and overlays depends on the dialing habits of the residents of the area code in question.

In the case of area code 270, my assumption is that due to the relatively rural nature of most of this geographic area, most of its residents live and do business in only one area code, and are probably not accustomed to the “multiple area code lifestyle” of dialing 10 or 11 digits on a regular basis that is typical of major cities like New York or Los Angeles. As such, I would recommend a geographic split instead of an overlay, so that residents can continue to maintain the current single area code lifestyle until such time more significant growth and development occurs.

Of the two split options mentioned in the relief petition, I recommend option #2 because it is the only one meets the projected lives balance requirements of the relief planning guidelines. With this option, I recommend that the eastern portion (Area A) retain area code 270 while the western portion (Area B) change to the new area code, since Area A has a higher overall population, serves more communities of interest, and has more CO codes assigned to it than Area B does. In addition, if possible, I would also consider moving the Dunmor rate center over to Area B in order for the split line to conform closer to county lines.

To get a better idea of where the general public stands on this issue, I recommend that the PSC hold public hearings on this matter in various major communities located within the 270 area code. I also recommend monitoring the project exhaust date closely and, if it moves out significantly, delaying and/or dismissing the relief plan if necessary.

Sincerely,



Tom Li