

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF THE NORTH	)	
AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN	)	CASE NO.
ADMINISTRATOR FOR RELIEF OF THE 502	)	2024-00333
NUMBERING PLAN AREA	)	

ORDER

On October 14, 2024, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) filed an application on behalf of the Kentucky Telecommunications Industry (Industry) for approval of relief plan for the 502 Numbering Plan Area (NPA) a/k/a Area Code (502 NPA). NANPA has the ultimate authority over the North American Numbering Plan and, in its filing with the Commission, estimates that the supply of Central Office (CO) prefixes available within the 502 NPA will be exhausted by the third quarter of 2027. Absent NPA relief the supply of assignable CO codes in the 502 NPA will be exhausted during the third quarter of 2027.

The Commission hereby opens this proceeding to develop a 502 NPA relief plan. A copy of this Order is being sent to all telecommunications utilities that are authorized to provide intrastate telecommunications services within Kentucky. Any telecommunications utility that desires to be included on the list of parties to this proceeding should notify the Commission within 20 days of the date of this Order. If notification of the utility's intent to remain a party to the case is not received by the Commission, the utility will be removed from the service list for future orders and case related material filed in this matter.

NANPA, after determining the projected exhaust date of the third quarter of 2027, distributed an Initial Planning Document (IPD) to Industry representatives on August 12, 2024. In the IPD, NANPA identified that there were three possible alternatives for relief of the 502 NPA: (1) an all-services distributed overlay involving the addition of a new NPA; (2) a geographic split of the 502 NPA; and (3) a boundary elimination overlay with the adjacent 270/364 overlay.<sup>1</sup> Subsequently, a telecommunications service provider requested that NANPA create two additional relief alternatives, which were added to the IPD and distributed to the Industry representatives.

NANPA met with Industry representatives on September 10, 2024, to discuss the five alternatives in the IPD. These alternatives are: (1) an all-services distributed overlay involving the addition of a new NPA; (2) a geographic split of the 502 NPA; (3) a boundary elimination overlay with the adjacent 270/364 overlay; (4) a boundary elimination overlay of the 502, 606, 859, and 270/364 NPAs; and (5) a boundary elimination overlay of the 502, 606, 859, and 270/364 NPAs and the addition of a new overlay NPA.<sup>2</sup>

The NANPA and the Industry representatives recommend the all-services distributed overlay involving the addition of a new NPA. They make this recommendation because; it impacts fewer customers than the other relief alternatives; it is easier for service providers to implement from a translations, billing, and operational support systems perspective; and any customer confusion and additional work required for the boundary elimination overlay alternatives exceeds any benefit they provide.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Application at 3.

<sup>2</sup> Application at 6–7.

<sup>3</sup> Application at 8.

Consistent with Federal Communication Commission regulations, the overlay relief plan would require ten-digit dialing for all calls within and between the 502 NPA and the new NPA.<sup>4</sup> CO code assignments would be made from the new overlay area code beginning one month after mandatory dialing. Industry participants recommended to the Commission a 13-month schedule for implementing the all-services distributed overlay.<sup>5</sup>

### DISCUSSION

As part of the relief planning process, the Commission will solicit input from telephone customers residing within the affected area and will consider that input in reaching a final decision concerning appropriate NPA relief for the 502 NPA. Additionally, the Commission will hold a series of public meetings regarding the Industry representatives' proposed relief for the 502 NPA. The purpose of the public meetings will be to present information concerning the 502 NPA relief proposal submitted by NANPA, and to allow public input concerning this matter. In an effort to determine the most viable relief option for the 502 NPA, the Commission will take into account the best interest of all parties affected by the imminent exhaustion of numbers in the region, as well as any comments filed with the Commission or suggested at the scheduled public meetings to be held regarding this matter.

The Commission will provide more specific information via press releases regarding the scheduled public meetings as soon as the details of these meetings are finalized. After the public meetings have been held, the Commission will allow further comments from the public and Industry representatives to be filed regarding the proposed

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<sup>4</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 52.19(c)(3)(ii).

<sup>5</sup> Application at 8.

relief option for the 502 NPA. Filed comments may address the relief proposal as well as the economic impact and the effect that the proposed option may have on customers and providers. The Commission will analyze the suggestions and comments from the public, the Industry, and NANPA along with the impact the proposed relief option might have on the affected region.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. This administrative case is hereby opened to develop a 502 NPA relief plan and to institute procedures designed to delay the implementation date of such relief.

2. All affected service providers known to the Commission shall receive a copy of this Order. Any telecommunications utility that desires to be included on the list of parties to this proceeding should notify the Commission within 20 days of the date of this Order.

3. Within 30 days of the date of this Order, Industry representatives may file comments regarding the choice for relief identified in the application submitted by NANPA.

4. The Commission shall issue a schedule of public meetings to be held regarding this matter as soon as the details of the meetings are finalized.

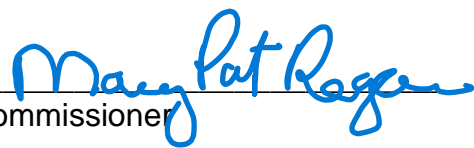
5. Any person desiring to provide comments regarding the proposed relief option identified in this proceeding shall file their comments with the Commission no later than May 1, 2025.

6. If by May 1, 2025, no person has petitioned for an evidentiary hearing, this matter will stand submitted to the Commission.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
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Chairman

  
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Commissioner

  
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Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
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Executive Director



\*Cecilia McCabe  
North American Numbering Plan Administrator  
One Tower Center Blvd.  
Suite 800  
East Brunswick, NEW JERSEY 08816

\*Florence Weber  
North American Numbering Plan Administrator  
One Tower Center Blvd.  
Suite 800  
East Brunswick, NEW JERSEY 08816

\*Linda Hymans  
North American Numbering Plan Administrator  
One Tower Center Blvd.  
Suite 800  
East Brunswick, NEW JERSEY 08816