

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC PETITION OF CINCINNATI BELL	)	
TELEPHONE LLC D/B/A ALTA FIBER NETWORK	)	CASE NO.
SOLUTIONS FOR REVIEW OF A DECISION OF	)	2025-00202
THE POOLING ADMINISTRATOR	)	

ORDER

On June 19, 2025, Cincinnati Bell Telephone, LLC d/b/a Altafiber Network Solutions (Cincinnati Bell) filed a petition requesting that the Commission review and overturn a determination by the Pooling Administrator.<sup>1</sup> Cincinnati Bell filed the petition pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 52.15(g)(5), wherein the Commission is granted the authority to “overturn the North American Numbering Plan Administrator’s (NANPA) [and the Pooling Administrator’s] decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its determination that the carrier has demonstrated a verifiable need for numbering resources and has exhausted all other available remedies”.

In its petition, Cincinnati Bell explained that it had requested numbering resources associated with telecommunications services after a request by St. Elizabeth Healthcare (St. Elizabeth), in the Covington rate center located within the 859 Numbering Plan Area (NPA) in Kentucky. St. Elizabeth requested 6,000 consecutive and sequential Direct Inward Dial (DID) numbers in the 859 area code to be used by its employees throughout

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<sup>1</sup> The North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) and the Pooling Administrator are independent non-governmental entities selected by the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) and are individually responsible for administering and managing the North American Numbering Plan and national thousands-block number pools, respectively.

the organization within Kentucky.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, St. Elizabeth requested six thousands-blocks in the Covington rate center using 859-XX6 to align with the existing 5-digit extensions within St. Elizabeth's current 859-NXX combinations.<sup>3</sup> Cincinnati Bell argued that securing 6,000 numbers from 859-XX6 will enable St. Elizabeth to maintain a uniform numbering plan within its growing healthcare system.<sup>4</sup>

On June 12, 2025, Cincinnati Bell filed a request with the Pooling Administrator seeking 6,000 numbers in the 859 area code and Covington rate center to meet the customer request that Cincinnati Bell was unable to satisfy with its existing numbering resources because Cincinnati Bell does not have 6,000 numbers available in the Covington rate center with the 859-XX6 combination.<sup>5</sup> The Pooling Administrator denied Cincinnati Bell's request on the grounds that Cincinnati Bell did not meet the utilization and months-to-exhaust criteria established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).<sup>6</sup>

The Pooling Administrator is not a policy-making entity. In making assignment decisions, the Pooling Administrator follows regulatory directives and industry-developed guidelines. The Pooling Administrator's responsibilities are defined in FCC rules and in comprehensive technical requirements drafted by the telecommunications industry and approved by the FCC.<sup>7</sup> Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 52.15(g)(5), the Commission may

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<sup>2</sup> Petition (filed June 19, 2025) at 3.

<sup>3</sup> Petition at 3.

<sup>4</sup> Petition at 3.

<sup>5</sup> Petition at 2.

<sup>6</sup> Petition at 2.

<sup>7</sup> See *generally* 47 C.F.R. §52.

overturn the Pooling Administrator's determination if the requesting carrier has demonstrated a verifiable need for numbering resources and all other available remedies have been exhausted.

Having considered the evidence of record and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that the Pooling Administrator's determination to deny Cincinnati Bell the additional numbering resources described herein should be overturned and the Pooling Administrator directed to assign Cincinnati Bell six new thousands-block for the Covington rate center in Kentucky. The Commission notes that the numbering resources considered in this Order are to be assigned for the sole use of serving Cincinnati Bell's customer, St. Elizabeth, in the Covington rate center. If the numbering resources requested by Cincinnati Bell are not needed to meet the service requirements of its customer, St. Elizabeth, the associated numbering resources approved in this Order should be returned to the Pooling Administrator and may not be utilized for other service arrangements without first meeting the industry numbering resource guidelines.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:


1. Cincinnati Bell's petition regarding the Pooling Administrator's denial of its application for assignment of additional numbering resources is granted.
2. The decision of the Pooling Administrator denying Cincinnati Bell's request for the assignment of six new thousands-block for the Covington rate center in Kentucky is hereby overturned.
3. The Pooling Administrator shall assign Cincinnati Bell six thousands-block of 6,000 consecutive numbers for the Covington rate center.


4. The numbering resources considered in this Order are to be assigned for the sole use of Cincinnati Bell's customer, St. Elizabeth. If the numbering resources requested by Cincinnati Bell are no longer required to meet the service, the associated numbering resources approved in this Order shall be returned to the Pooling Administrator.

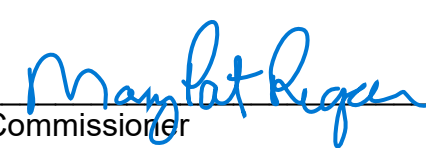
5. This case is closed and removed from the Commission's docket.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
Chairman

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director



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