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VIA HAND DELIVERY

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Hon. Eddie Roberson, Chairman
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37238

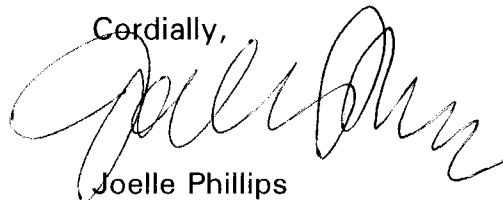
RE: *Petition for Expedited Review of Growth Code Denial by the Number
Pooling Administrator Relating to Covenant Health (Kingston)*
Docket No 08-00102

Dear Chairman Roberson:

Enclosed is a corrected copy of the Petition that was initially filed on June 16, 2008. This copy corrects several references to central offices and rate centers and replaces the original Petition in its entirety. The Exhibits filed with the original Petition on June 16 are correct as filed.

We appreciate the Staff's review in detecting these errors, and their cooperation in working with use to address these issues. Copies of the enclosed are being provided to counsel for the Number Pooling Administrator.

Cordially,



Joelle Phillips

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BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Nashville, Tennessee

In Re: *Petition for Expedited Review of Growth Code Denial by the Number Pooling Administrator Relating to Covenant Health (Kingston)*

Docket No. 08-00102

PETITION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF CENTRAL OFFICE CODE DENIAL

AT&T Tennessee, pursuant to rules adopted by the FCC for challenging determinations of the Number Pooling Administrator ("NeuStar"), petitions the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") for an expedited review of NeuStar's denial of AT&T Tennessee's application for use of central office code numbering resources in the 865 area code.

AT&T Tennessee respectfully shows the Authority as follows:

1. AT&T Tennessee is a telecommunications public utility regulated by the Authority providing intraLATA, local exchange telecommunications services in the Kingston Rate Center.
2. NeuStar is an independent non-governmental entity that is responsible for administering and managing the North American Numbering Plan ("NANP"). See C.F.R. § 52.13(a), (b).
3. On March 31, 2000, the Federal Communications Commission issued a Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making relating to

numbering resource optimization ("FCC 00-104" or the "March Order"). On December 29, 2000, the FCC issued its Second Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-98 and CC Docket No. 99-200, and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 99-200 ("FCC 00-429" or the "December Order"). These FCC orders addressed issues and strategies relating to the efficient use of numbering resources.

4. In FCC 00-104 and FCC 00-429, the FCC announced rules and sought comments in an effort to implement uniform standards governing requests for telephone numbering resources in order to increase efficiency in the use of existing telephone numbers and to slow further exhaustion of existing numbers under the NANP.

5. Among other things, FCC 00-104 adopted a revised standard for assessing a carrier's need for numbering resources by requiring carriers to report rate center based utilization data to NeuStar. The FCC further required that to qualify for access to new numbering resources, applicants must establish that existing inventory within the applicant's rate center will be exhausted within six months of the application. Prior to this ruling, the Central Office Code Assignment Guidelines, used by the industry and NeuStar to make code assignments, required the applicant's existing number inventory within the applicant's serving switch to exhaust within six months of the code application in order for a code to be assigned.

6. This shift to a "rate center" basis for determining the need for new numbering resources was intended to "more accurately reflect how numbering resources are assigned" and to allow "carriers to obtain numbering resources in response to specific customer demands." FCC Order ¶105. AT&T Tennessee has sought reconsideration of the above-described MTE rule before the FCC on two separate occasions. On December 28, 2001, the FCC entered an order retaining the rules requiring carriers to calculate MTE on a rate center basis rather than on a per-switch basis. *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization; Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Telephone Number Portability*, CC Docket Nos. 99-200, 96-98 and 95-116, *Third Report and Order* and *Second Order on Reconsideration* in CC Docket No. 99-200, FCC 01-362, Paragraph 48 (rel. Dec. 28, 2001).

7. On or about June 9, 2008, AT&T Tennessee submitted a Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request - Part 1, and the CO Code Assignment - Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet, to NeuStar to be assigned 4,000 consecutive numbers necessary to meet the demands of its customer, Covenant Health ("Covenant"). The request and worksheet are attached hereto as Exhibits "A" and "B" respectively.

8. The code assignment request was for 4,000 consecutive numbers in the 865 NPA area code, in response to Covenant's request for 4,000 consecutive numbers in 865-NX6-0000 through 865-NX6-3999 range. Covenant cited construction of a new facility as its basis for this request. However, AT&T

Tennessee did not have sufficient number resources available within its inventory in the Kingston rate center, and, accordingly, AT&T Tennessee was unable to provide Covenant with sufficient numbers to meet its needs. For this reason, AT&T Tennessee sought the numbering resources as noted above.

9. AT&T Tennessee completed the applications in accordance with NeuStar's Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines and completed the necessary Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet required by NeuStar.

10. At the time of the code request, the Kingston rate center had an MTE of approximately 13.7 months.

11. Despite the fact that AT&T Tennessee's Kingston rate center may not exhaust for 13.7 months, AT&T Tennessee is unable to provide the requested service through its switch that serves Covenant within the Kingston rate center. This is because the individual switch that serves this customer within the Kingston rate center does not have sufficient number resources to meet the customer's request.

12. On or about June 9, 2008, NeuStar's Central Office Code Administration denied the code assignment request on the grounds that AT&T Tennessee had not met the rate center based months-to-exhaust criteria now set forth in the Central Office Code (NXX) Guidelines, notwithstanding the fact that AT&T Tennessee does not have the numbering resources needed to satisfy its customers' demands in the switch at issue. That decision is attached hereto as Exhibit "C."

13. AT&T Tennessee's inability to provide this large business customer with the requested numbers prevents AT&T Tennessee from providing the quality of service this customer desires and expects. (Correspondence from Covenant is attached as Exhibit "D").

14. Relief for the 865 NPA was implemented with the start of mandatory dialing on November 1, 1999. The Authority also ordered thousands-block pooling for the 865 NPA with a Pool Start Date of August 21, 2002. According to NeuStar, based on the 2008-1 NRUF and NPA Exhaust Analysis dated April 2008, the projected exhaust date of the 865 NPA is the Third Quarter 2026. Therefore, granting AT&T Tennessee's request for numbering resources would not materially impact exhaustion of available numbers in the 865 NPA.

15. Both FCC 00-104 and NeuStar's Central Office Code (NXX) Guidelines provide that state regulatory authorities have the power and authority to review NeuStar's decision to deny a request for numbering resources. See FCC 00-104, Appendix A, Final Rules, § 52.15(g) (3) (iv) ("The carrier may challenge the NeuStar's decision to the appropriate state regulatory commission"); NeuStar Central Office Code (NXX) Guidelines § 13.0 ("Appeals may include but are not limited to one or more of the following options: . . . C. The CO Code Administrator(s) and code holders/applicants may pursue the disagreement with the appropriate governmental/regulatory body").

16. The TRA has recognized its jurisdiction and authority to review NeuStar denials and to order the release of numbering resources to meet specific

customer needs. The TRA has, for example, ordered NeuStar to provide AT&T Tennessee with numbering resources to meet the service requirements of the University of Tennessee, even though AT&T Tennessee had been unable to satisfy the required months-to-exhaust criteria. *Petition for Expedited Review of Growth Code Denial by the Number Pooling Administrator Relating to University of Tennessee - Chattanooga* (approved by the Directors on November 20, 2001 by a vote of 3-0) (see correspondence from TRA Executive Secretary, dated November 29, 2001, attached as Exhibit "E").

17. In reviewing previous petitions of this type, the TRA Staff has requested that AT&T Tennessee provide additional information concerning number utilization for the specific central office involved in the request. This information for the Kingston, including the KGTNTNMADS0 Central Office is attached hereto as Exhibit "G."

18. The Authority, and not the FCC, is the most appropriate body to address this appeal. As noted above, the Authority has been granted jurisdiction to hear appeals from NeuStar's decisions regarding numbering resources. Any jurisdiction of the FCC to do the same is merely concurrent with the jurisdiction of the Authority. AT&T Tennessee believes that the Authority can more quickly address the numbering problem facing Covenant and AT&T Tennessee, and, because time is of the essence to the customer, AT&T Tennessee believes it is appropriate to pursue this matter in the forum that can most quickly address the issue.

19. Under earlier months-to-exhaust procedures used by NeuStar, waivers or exceptions were granted where customer hardships could be demonstrated or where the service provider's inventory did not have a block of sequential numbers large enough to meet the customer's specific request. Under existing procedures, NeuStar looks at the number of months-to-exhaust for the entire rate center without any exceptions. The current process for review is arbitrary and results in decisions contrary to the public interest and decisions that do not necessarily preserve the efficient use of telephone numbers or postpone dates of exhaust. Moreover, the denial of sufficient numbering resources to AT&T Tennessee to meet Covenant's request is inconsistent with the FCC's position that "[u]nder no circumstances should consumers be precluded from receiving telecommunications services of their choice from providers of their choice for want of numbering resources." FCC 00-429 at ¶ 61. By refusing to grant numbering resources sufficient to meet Covenant's needs, the NeuStar is preventing Covenant from obtaining the service of its choice from its carrier of choice, AT&T Tennessee.

20. Notwithstanding customer need for a specific numbering arrangement, AT&T Tennessee's analysis indicates that AT&T Tennessee will be unable to meet the six-months-to-exhaust threshold at the rate center level in time to obtain adequate numbering resources to serve this customer absent relief from the Authority. This situation will result in AT&T Tennessee's inability to respond to its customer's needs for specific numbering resources.

CONCLUSION

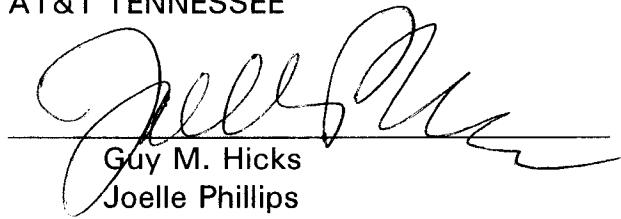
For the reasons articulated above, AT&T Tennessee respectfully urges the Authority to direct the NeuStar to provide the requested numbers to AT&T Tennessee to enable AT&T Tennessee to meet the specific requirements of Covenant in order that Covenant may receive the service of its choice from the provider of its choice to meet its telecommunications needs.

WHEREFORE, AT&T Tennessee requests:

1. The Authority review the decision of the NeuStar to deny AT&T Tennessee's request for additional numbering resources; and
2. The Authority direct the NeuStar to provide numbers to AT&T Tennessee to meet the specific requirements of Covenant in the Kingston rate center within the 865 NPA.

Respectfully submitted,

AT&T TENNESSEE



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on June 30, 2008, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the parties of record, via the method indicated:

- ☐ Hand
☐ U.S. Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight Mail
☒ Electronic Mail

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John R. Lee