

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

July 29, 2010

IN RE:)	
)	
REQUEST OF UNITED TELEPHONE SOUTHEAST)	DOCKET NO.
LLC D/B/A CENTURYLINK FOR EXPEDITED)	10-00091
REVIEW OF GROWTH CODE DENIAL)	

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST OF UNITED TELEPHONE SOUTHEAST LLC
D/B/A CENTURYLINK FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF GROWTH CODE DENIAL
AND REVERSING CENTRAL OFFICE CODE DENIAL**

This matter came before Chairman Sara Kyle, Director Eddie Roberson and Director Mary W. Freeman of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("TRA" or the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on June 21, 2010, for consideration of the *Petition for Expedited Review of Central Office Code Denial* filed on May 11, 2010 by United Telephone Southeast LLC d/b/a CenturyLink ("UTSE").

On April 22, 2010, UTSE submitted an application to the Pooling Administrator for the purpose of obtaining additional numbering resources for the Kingsport Rate Center ("Rate Center") to meet the needs of its customer, Wellmont Health Systems ("Wellmont"). Wellmont requested UTSE to assign additional telephone numbers for its use in provisioning direct-inward-dial telecommunications services that will be compatible with Wellmont's current dialing plan. Wellmont's demands are created by the expansion of its Holston Valley Medical Center and subsequent expansion of its telecommunications services.

NXX assignment guidelines permit the assignment of additional codes only after a carrier demonstrates that a rate center has a 75% utilization rate and that its estimated exhaust date does not


exceed six months.¹ Because the Rate Center utilization rate is approximately 65% and the estimated exhaust date is over twenty years, the Pooling Administrator denied the application by UTSE. On May 11, 2010, UTSE filed a request asking the TRA to review the denial of the Pooling Administrator.

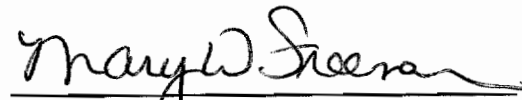
The Federal Communications Commission authorized the Authority to review the Pooling Administrator's denial of a numbering application.² Specifically, the Federal Communications Commission stated that state commissions may overturn a decision of the Pooling Administrator when "a carrier demonstrates that it has received a customer request for numbering resources in a given rate center that it cannot meet with its current inventory."³ After consideration of the facts contained in the record, the public interest, and this agency's responsibility to foster competition in the telecommunications industry,⁴ the panel voted unanimously to approve the request of UTSE and reverse the Pooling Administrator's denial of UTSE's request for additional numbering resources.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Pooling Administrator's decision to deny United Telephone Southeast LLC d/b/a CenturyLink's request for additional numbering resources is reversed as stated herein.
2. The Pooling Administrator is ordered to assign one NPA-NXX to United Telephone Southeast LLC d/b/a CenturyLink for the Kingsport rate center served by Switch Identification No. KGPTTNXADSO.


Sara Kyle, Chairman


Eddie Roberson, Director


Mary W. Freeman, Director

¹ See Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, *Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines (COCAG) Final Document*, ATIS 03-00051, section 4.3.1 (September 26, 2008).

² *In re: Numbering Resource Optimization*, CC Docket No. 99-200, *Third Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-98 and CC Docket No. 99-200*, 17 FCC Red. 252, 279-83 ¶¶ 61-66 (2001).

³ *Id.* ¶ 64.

⁴ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-123.