

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

May 22, 2012

IN RE:

**TELLICO TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. PETITION
FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF GROWTH CODE DENIAL
BY THE NUMBER POOLING ADMINISTRATOR**

**DOCKET NO.
12-00036**

**ORDER APPROVING PETITION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF
CENTRAL OFFICE CODE DENIAL**

This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on May 21, 2012 for consideration of the *Petition for Expedited Review of Central Office Code Denial* filed by Tellico Telephone Company, Inc. ("Tellico Telephone" or "Company") on May 3, 2012.

On or about April 25, 2012, Tellico Telephone submitted an application to the Number Pooling Administrator ("Neustar") for the purpose of obtaining a Local Routing Number ("LRN")¹. Specifically, Tellico Telephone requested one (1) NPA-NXX, in the rate center, for the purpose of assigning one ten digit number to its new switch as an LRN. NPA-NXX assignment guidelines for LRN purposes require the same utilization and projected exhaust criteria as all other numbering resources requests. Therefore, the 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.² Because the Rate Center's utilization rate is currently approximately 35% and the estimated exhaustion date is approximately 103 months away, Neustar denied the application by Tellico Telephone.

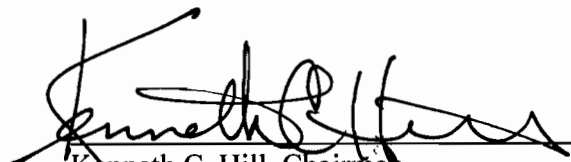
¹ A Local Routing Number is a unique switch specific ten digit number and cannot be taken from an existing NPA-NXX.

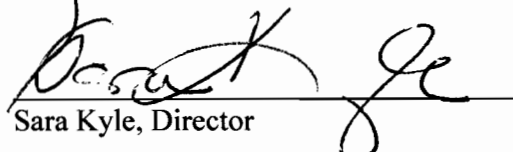
² See Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, *Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines (COCAG) Final Document*, ATIS 03-00051, Section 4.3.1 (June 15, 2007).

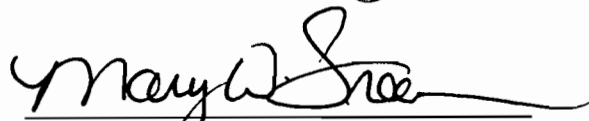
The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has authorized the Authority to review the Pooling Administrator's denial of a numbering application.³ Specifically, the FCC has stated that a state commission may review the Pooling Administrator decision to deny a request for numbering resources.⁴ After consideration of the facts contained in the record, the public interest, and this agency's responsibility to foster competition in the telecommunications industry,⁵ the Directors voted unanimously to approve the request of Tellico Telephone and reverse the Pooling Administrator's denial of Tellico Telephone's request for additional numbering resources in the Rate Center.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Neustar's decision to deny Tellico Telephone's request for additional numbering resources is reversed as stated herein.
2. Neustar is ordered to assign one (1) NPA-NXX code to Tellico Telephone for the Tellico Plains rate center served by Switch Identification TLPLTNXAGT1, in order to establish an LRN in its newly installed switch.


Kenneth C. Hill, Chairman


Sara Kyle, Director


Mary W. Freeman, Director

³ *In the Matter of 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. 95-116, *Third Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration*, CC Docket No. 99-200, 17 FCC 01-362, ¶ 48 (2001).

⁴ *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization*, CC Docket No. 99-200, FCC 00-104, Appendix A, Final Rules § 52.15(g)(3)(iv).

⁵ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-123.