

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

November 12, 2014

IN RE:

**PETITION OF TENNESSEE TELEPHONE
COMPANY FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF
GROWTH CODE DENIAL BY THE NUMBER
POOLING ADMINISTRATOR**

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**DOCKET NO.
14-00122**

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

This matter is before the Hearing Officer of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the “Authority” or “TRA”), upon the *Petition for Expedited Review of Central Office Code Denial* (“*Petition*”) filed by Tennessee Telephone Company (“Tennessee Telephone”) on November 4, 2014.

Tennessee Telephone is a telecommunications public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Authority that provides intraLATA, local exchange telecommunications services in the Cornersville Rate Center. In its *Petition*, Tennessee Telephone asserts that on October 16, 2014, it submitted an application to NeuStar, the Number Pooling Administrator, to obtain a full code (10,000 numbers) in the 931 Code for the Cornersville Rate Center.¹ Tennessee Telephone requires one 1000 block of numbers to create a Location Routing Number (“LRN”) for its new MegaSwitch located in Cornersville, Tennessee, and will pool the remaining 9000 numbers after the new switch is established. The MegaSwitch will function as a feature server to provide new and advanced services, and to handle internal long distance traffic that the existing switch is

¹ 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).

unable to accommodate.²

NeuStar's Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines ("NXX Guidelines") permit the assignment of additional codes only after an applicant demonstrates that its rate center has a 75% utilization rate and exhaustion of existing numbering inventory does not exceed six months.³ At the time of Tennessee Telephone's code request, the Cornersville Rate Center had a utilization rate of approximately 7.6% and a months-to-exhaust ratio of approximately 924 months.⁴ Therefore, because the rate center's current utilization rate and the months-to-exhaust ratio do not meet the criteria in the NXX Guidelines; NeuStar denied Tennessee Telephone's application.⁵

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has authorized the Authority to review NeuStar's decision to deny a numbering application.⁶ The FCC has further stated that a state commission may overturn a decision of the Numbering 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."⁷ Upon consideration of the facts contained in the record, the public interest, and the Authority's charge to foster competition in the telecommunications industry,⁸ the Hearing Officer agrees that Tennessee Telephone's request should be approved.

² *Petition*, p. 3 ¶¶ 7-8 (November 4, 2014).

³ See Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, *Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines (COCAG) Final Document*, ATIS 03-00051, § 4.3.1 (June 15, 2007).

⁴ *Petition*, p. 5 ¶¶ 12-13 (November 4, 2014); see also *Petition*, Exhibit A, Months to Exhaust Worksheet p. 1 of 2, and Exhibit B.

⁵ *Petition*, p. 5 ¶ 14 (November 4, 2014).

⁶ *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).

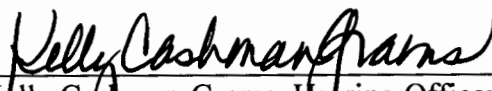
⁷ *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization*, CC Docket No. 99-200, FCC 00-104, Appendix A, Final Rules § 52.15(g)(3)(iv).

⁸ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-123.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Number Pooling Administrator's decision to deny Tennessee Telephone Company's application for additional numbering resources, as set forth in the *Petition for Expedited Review of Central Office Code Denial* and discussed herein, is reversed.

2. The Number Pooling Administrator is directed to assign a full code (10,000 numbers) within the 931 Code in the Cornersville Rate Center to Tennessee Telephone Company for MegaSwitch Identification No. COVLTNXAGT0.


Kelly Cashman-Grams, Hearing Officer