

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

April 27, 2016

IN RE:

PETITION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF  
GROWTH CODE DENIAL BY THE NUMBER  
POOLING ADMINISTRATOR RELATING TO  
MUSIC CITY CONVENTION CENTER

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DOCKET NO.  
16-00044

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ORDER APPROVING PETITION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF  
CENTRAL OFFICE CODE DENIAL

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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 BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC, dba AT&T Tennessee (“AT&T Tennessee”) on April 21, 2016.

AT&T Tennessee is a telecommunications public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Authority that provides intraLATA, local exchange telecommunications services in various portions of Tennessee, including the Nashville Rate Center. In its *Petition*, AT&T Tennessee asserts that on or about November 20, 2015, it submitted an application to NeuStar, the Number Pooling Administrator,<sup>1</sup> for the assignment of 200 consecutive numbers in the 629 area code for the Nashville Rate Center. AT&T Tennessee requests these numbers in order to accommodate the request of its customer, the Music City Convention Center.<sup>2</sup>

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

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<sup>1</sup> NeuStar is an independent non-governmental entity that is responsible for administering and managing the North American Numbering Plan (“NANP”). See 47 C.F.R. § 52.13(a), (b)

<sup>2</sup> *Petition*, p. 3 (April 21, 2016).

has a 75% utilization rate and exhaustion of existing numbering inventory does not exceed six months.<sup>3</sup> At the time of AT&T Tennessee's code request, the Nashville Rate Center had a utilization rate of approximately 59% and a months-to-exhaust ratio of approximately 1.9 months.<sup>4</sup> Therefore, because the rate center's current utilization rate and the months-to-exhaust ratio do not both meet the criteria in the NXX Guidelines; NeuStar denied AT&T Tennessee's application.<sup>5</sup>

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has authorized the Authority to review NeuStar's decision to deny a numbering application.<sup>6</sup> 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."<sup>7</sup> Upon consideration of the facts contained in the record, the public interest, and the Authority's charge to foster competition in the telecommunications industry,<sup>8</sup> the Hearing Officer agrees that AT&T Tennessee's request should be approved.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

1. The Number Pooling Administrator's decision to deny BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC, dba AT&T Tennessee's application for additional numbering resources, as set forth in its *Petition for Expedited Review of Central Office Code Denial* and discussed herein, is reversed.

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

<sup>4</sup> *Petition*, p. 4 (April 21, 2016); see also Exhibit B, Months to Exhaust Worksheet.

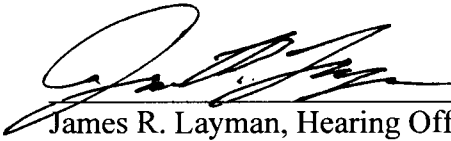
<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *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).

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

<sup>8</sup> See Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-123.

2. The Number Pooling Administrator is directed to provide one partial block of numbers, consisting of 200 consecutive numbers, to BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC, dba AT&T Tennessee to meet the specific requirements of the Music City Convention Center within the 629 area code in the Nashville Rate Center for Switch Identification No. NSVLTNMTDS1.



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James R. Layman, Hearing Officer