

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

July 19, 2016

IN RE:

PETITION OF AT&T TENNESSEE FOR EXPEDITED
REVIEW OF GROWTH CODE DENIAL BY THE
NUMBER POOLING ADMINISTRATOR RELATING
TO TEAMHEALTH

DOCKET NO.
16-00081

ORDER APPROVING PETITION FOR 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 BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC, dba AT&T Tennessee (“AT&T Tennessee”) on July 18, 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 Knoxville Rate Center. In its *Petition*, AT&T Tennessee asserts that on or about May 20, 2016, it submitted an application to NeuStar, the Number Pooling Administrator,¹ for the assignment of 500 consecutive numbers in the 865 area code for the Knoxville Rate Center. AT&T Tennessee requests these numbers in order to accommodate the request of its customer, TEAMHealth.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

¹ 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)

² *Petition*, pp. 3-4 (July 18, 2016).

has at least a 75% utilization rate and exhaustion of existing numbering inventory does not exceed six months.³ At the time of AT&T Tennessee's code request, the Knoxville Rate Center had a utilization rate of approximately 54% and a months-to-exhaust ratio of approximately 75 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 AT&T Tennessee's application.

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has authorized the Authority to review NeuStar's decision to deny a numbering application.⁵ 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."⁶ Upon consideration of the facts contained in the record, the public interest, and the Authority's charge to foster competition in the telecommunications industry,⁷ 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.

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).

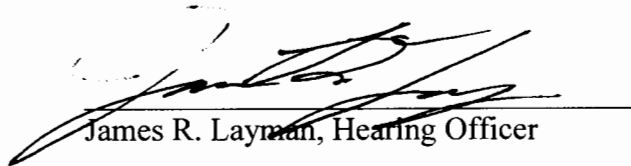
⁴ *Petition*, Exhibit B, p. 3 (July 18, 2016).

⁵ *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization*, CC Docket No. 99-200, *Third Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration*, 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).

⁶ *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization*, CC Docket No. 99-200, FCC 00-104, Appendix A, Final Rules § 52.15(g)(3)(iv).

⁷ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-123.

2. The Number Pooling Administrator is directed to provide one (1) one thousand block of numbers, consisting of 500 consecutive numbers, to BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC, dba AT&T Tennessee to meet the specific requirements of its customer, TEAMHealth, within the 865 area code in the Knoxville Rate Center for Switch Identification No. KNVLTNWHDS0.



James R. Layman, Hearing Officer