

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

June 25, 2021

IN RE:)	
)	
PETITION OF MCIMETRO ACCESS)	DOCKET NO.
TRANSMISSION SERVICES CORP. D/B/A VERIZON)	21-00076
ACCESS TRANSMISSION SERVICE FOR REVIEW)	
OF GROWTH CODE DENIAL)	

ORDER APPROVING PETITION FOR
EXPEDITED REVIEW OF SOMOS' DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR
NUMBERING RESOURCES

This matter is before the Hearing Officer of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (the "Commission" or "TPUC"), upon the *Petition of MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corp. d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services for Expedited Review of SomosGov, Inc.' Denial of Application for Numbering Resources* ("Petition") filed by MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corp. d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services ("Verizon" or the "Company") on June 24, 2021.

Verizon is a telecommunications public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission that provides local exchange service and exchange access service in the State of Tennessee. In its *Petition*, Verizon asserts that on or about June 15, 2021, it submitted an application to SomosGov, Inc. ("Somos"), the Number Pooling Administrator,¹ by and through

¹ Somos is an independent non-governmental entity that is responsible for administering and managing the North American Numbering Plan ("NANP") upon the expiration of the contract on December 31, 2018 with NeuStar to provide these services. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 52.13(a), (b). Effective January 1, 2019, the FCC selected Somos to serve as the North American Numbering Plan Administrator ("NANP") and the Pooling Administrator ("PA") under separate one-year bridge contracts while the FCC works to consolidate these functions into a single entity under a long term contract through a competitive bidding process. *FCC Press Release*, [https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/ DOC-354567A1.pdf](https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-354567A1.pdf) (October 16, 2018).

its affiliate company, Intermedia Communications – TN, Inc., for the assignment of one (1) 1,000 block of numbers in the 615/629 area code for the Nashville Rate Center. Verizon requested these numbers in order to fulfill an order for a customer, Deloitte Services LP, who requested 1,000 consecutive numbers where the range does not start with the number 9 in the Nashville Rate Center.² Verizon indicates in its *Petition* that it does not have 1,000 consecutive numbers in its inventory in order to satisfy the customer’s request.³

Somos’ 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.⁴ At the time of Verizon’s code request, the Nashville Rate Center had a utilization rate of approximately 91.93% and a months-to-exhaust ratio of approximately 34.5 months.⁵ Therefore, because the rate center’s current utilization rate and months-to-exhaust ration do not both meet the criteria in the NXX Guidelines, Somos denied Verizon’s application.⁶

The Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) has authorized the Commission to review Somos’ decision to deny a numbering application.⁷ 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.”⁸ Upon consideration of the facts contained

² *Petition*, pp. 1-2 & Exh. 1 (June 24, 2021).

³ *Id.* at 2.

⁴ See Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, *Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines (COCAG) Final Document*, ATIS 03-00051, § 4.3.1 (June 15, 2007).

⁵ *Petition*, p. 2 & Exh. 3 (June 24, 2021).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *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).

⁸ *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization*, CC Docket No. 99-200, FCC 00-104, Appendix A, Final Rules § 52.15(g)(3)(iv).

in the record, the public interest, and the Commission's charge to foster competition in the telecommunications industry,⁹ the Hearing Officer agrees that Verizon's request should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Number Pooling Administrator's decision to deny MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corp. d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services' application for additional numbering resources, as set forth in its *Petition of MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corp. d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services for Expedited Review of SomosGov, Inc.s' Denial of Application for Numbering Resources* and discussed herein, is reversed.

2. The Number Pooling Administrator is directed to provide one (1) 1,000 blocks of consecutive numbers not beginning with the number 9, to Intermedia Communications, - TN, Inc., a subsidiary of MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corp. d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services, to meet the specific requirements of its customer within the 615/629 area code in the Nashville Rate Center for Switch Identification No. NSVMTN03DS0.



Aaron J. Conklin, Hearing Officer

⁹ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-123.