

any amounts imputed pursuant to paragraph (f)(2) of this section for tariff year 2015–16, after being trued-up.

(ii) If the amount determined in paragraph (f)(5)(i)(A) of this section is greater than the amount determined in paragraph (f)(5)(i)(B), the sum of the revenues from projected Access Recovery Charges assessed pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section and any amounts imputed pursuant to paragraph (f)(2) of this section for the affected year must be compared to the amount determined in paragraph (f)(5)(ii)(B) of this section.

(A) If the former amount is greater than the latter amount, no imputation is made on Consumer Broadband-Only Loops.

(B) If the former amount is equal to or less than the latter amount, the imputation on Consumer Broadband-Only Loops is limited to the difference between the two amounts.

[76 FR 73856, Nov. 29, 2011, as amended at 77 FR 14302, Mar. 9, 2012; 78 FR 26268, May 6, 2013; 79 FR 28847, May 20, 2014; 80 FR 15909, Mar. 26, 2015; 81 FR 24337, Apr. 25, 2016; 83 FR 14189, Apr. 3, 2018; 84 FR 57651, Oct. 28, 2019; 89 FR 25159, Apr. 10, 2024]

§51.919 Reporting and monitoring.

(a) A Price Cap Carrier that elects to participate in the recovery mechanism outlined in §51.915 shall, beginning in 2012, file with the Commission the data consistent with Section XIII (f)(3) of FCC 11–161 with its annual access tariff filing.

(b) A Rate-of-Return Carrier that elects to participate in the recovery mechanism outlined in §51.917 shall file with the Commission the data consistent with Section XIII (f)(3) of FCC 11–161 with its annual interstate access tariff filing, or on the date such a filing would have been required if it had been required to file in that year.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 76 FR 73856, Nov. 29, 2011, §51.919 was added. This section contains information collection and record-keeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

PART 52—NUMBERING

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APPENDIX TO PART 52—DEPLOYMENT SCHEDULE FOR LONG-TERM DATABASE METHODS FOR LOCAL NUMBER PORTABILITY

AUTHORITY: 47 U.S.C. 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 201–205, 207–209, 218, 225–227, 251–252, 271, 303, 332, unless otherwise noted.

SOURCE: 61 FR 38637, July 25, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Scope and Authority

SOURCE: 61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

§ 52.1 Basis and purpose.

(a) *Basis.* These rules are issued pursuant to the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151 *et. seq.*

(b) *Purpose.* The purpose of these rules is to establish, for the United States, requirements and conditions for the administration and use of telecommunications numbers for provision of telecommunications services.

§ 52.3 General.

The Commission shall have exclusive authority over those portions of the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) that pertain to the United States. The Commission may delegate to the States or other entities any portion of such jurisdiction.

§ 52.5 Definitions.

(a) *Incumbent local exchange carrier.* With respect to an area, an “incumbent local exchange carrier” is a local exchange carrier that:

(1) On February 8, 1996, provided telephone exchange service in such area; and

(2)(i) On February 8, 1996, was deemed to be a member of the exchange carrier Association pursuant to § 69.601(b) of this chapter (47 CFR 69.601(b)); or

(ii) Is a person or entity that, on or after February 8, 1996, became a suc-

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cessor or assign of a member described in paragraph (a)(2)(i) of this section.

(b) *Interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service provider.* The term “interconnected VoIP service provider” is an entity that provides interconnected VoIP service, as that term is defined in 47 U.S.C. Section 153(25).

(c) *North American Numbering Council (NANC).* The “North American Numbering Council” is an advisory committee created under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., App (1988), to advise the Commission and to make recommendations, reached through consensus, that foster efficient and impartial number administration.

(d) *North American Numbering Plan (NANP).* The “North American Numbering Plan” is the basic numbering scheme for the telecommunications networks located in American Samoa, Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Sint Maarten, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Turks & Caicos Islands, Trinidad & Tobago, and the United States (including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).

(e) *Service provider.* The term “service provider” refers to a telecommunications carrier or other entity that receives numbering resources from the NANPA, a Pooling Administrator or a telecommunications carrier for the purpose of providing or establishing telecommunications service. For the purposes of this part, the term “service provider” includes an interconnected VoIP service provider.

(f) *State.* The term “state” includes the District of Columbia and the Territories and possessions.

(g) *State commission.* The term “state commission” means the commission, board, or official (by whatever name designated) which under the laws of any state has regulatory jurisdiction with respect to intrastate operations of carriers.

(h) *Telecommunications.* “Telecommunications” means the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of information of the

user's choosing, without change in the form or content of the information as sent and received.

(i) *Telecommunications carrier or carrier*. A "telecommunications carrier" or "carrier" is any provider of telecommunications services, except that such term does not include aggregators of telecommunications services (as defined in 47 U.S.C. 226(a)(2)). For the purposes of this part, the term "telecommunications carrier" or "carrier" includes an interconnected VoIP service provider.

(j) *Telecommunications service*. The term "telecommunications service" refers to the offering of telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used. For purposes of this part, the term "telecommunications service" includes interconnected VoIP service as that term is defined in 47 U.S.C. 153(25).

[80 FR 66477, Oct. 29, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 1131, Jan. 11, 2016]

Subpart B—Administration

SOURCE: 61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

§ 52.7 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) *Area code or numbering plan area (NPA)*. The term "area code or numbering plan area" refers to the first three digits (NXX) of a ten-digit telephone number in the form NXX-NXX-XXXX, where N represents any one of the numbers 2 through 9 and X represents any one of the numbers 0 through 9.

(b) *Area code relief*. The term "area code relief" refers to the process by which central office codes are made available when there are few or no unassigned central office codes remaining in an existing area code and a new area code is introduced. Area code relief includes planning for area code "jeopardy," which is a situation where central office codes may become exhausted before an area code relief plan can be implemented.

(c) *Central office (CO) code*. The term "central office code" refers to the sec-

ond three digits (NXX) of a ten-digit telephone number in the form NXX-NXX-XXXX, where N represents any one of the numbers 2 through 9 and X represents any one of the numbers 0 through 9.

(d) *Central office (CO) code administrator*. The term "central office code administrator" refers to the entity or entities responsible for managing central office codes in each area code.

(e) *North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA)*. The term "North American Numbering Plan Administrator" refers to the entity or entities responsible for managing the NANP.

(f) *Billing and Collection Agent*. The term "Billing & Collection Agent" ("B&C Agent") refers to the entity responsible for the collection of funds to support numbering administration for telecommunications services from the United States telecommunications industry and NANP member countries.

(g) *Pooling Administrator (PA)*. The term "Pooling Administrator" refers to the entity or entities responsible for administering a thousands-block number pool.

(h) *Contamination*. Contamination occurs when at least one telephone number within a block of telephone numbers is not available for assignment to end users or customers. For purposes of this provision, a telephone number is "not available for assignment" if it is classified as administrative, aging, assigned, intermediate, or reserved as defined in § 52.15(f)(1).

(i) *Donation*. The term "donation" refers to the process by which carriers are required to contribute telephone numbers to a thousands-block number pool.

(j) *Inventory*. The term "inventory" refers to all telephone numbers distributed, assigned or allocated:

(1) To a service provider; or

(2) To a pooling administrator for the purpose of establishing or maintaining a thousands-block number pool.

[61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 55180, Oct. 23, 1997; 65 FR 37707, June 16, 2000]

§ 52.9 General requirements.

(a) To ensure that telecommunications numbers are made available on

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an equitable basis, the administration of telecommunications numbers shall, in addition to the specific requirements set forth in this subpart:

(1) Facilitate entry into the telecommunications marketplace by making telecommunications numbering resources available on an efficient, timely basis to telecommunications carriers;

(2) Not unduly favor or disfavor any particular telecommunications industry segment or group of telecommunications consumers; and

(3) Not unduly favor one telecommunications technology over another.

(b) If the Commission delegates any telecommunications numbering administration functions to any State or other entity pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 251(e)(1), such State or entity shall perform these functions in a manner consistent with this part.

§ 52.11 North American Numbering Council.

The duties of the North American Numbering Council (NANC), may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Advising the Commission on policy matters relating to the administration of the NANP in the United States;

(b) Making recommendations, reached through consensus, that foster efficient and impartial number administration;

(c) Initially resolving disputes, through consensus, that foster efficient and impartial number administration in the United States by adopting and utilizing dispute resolution procedures that provide disputants, regulators, and the public notice of the matters at issue, a reasonable opportunity to make oral and written presentations, a reasoned recommended solution, and a written report summarizing the recommendation and the reasons therefore;

(d) [Reserved]

(e) Recommending to the Commission an appropriate mechanism for recovering the costs of NANP administration in the United States, consistent with § 52.17;

(f) Carrying out the duties described in § 52.25; and

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(g) Carrying out this part as directed by the Commission;

(h) Monitoring the performance of the NANPA and the B&C Agent on at least an annual basis; and

(i) Implementing, at the direction of the Commission, any action necessary to correct identified problems with the performance of the NANPA and the B&C Agent, as deemed necessary.

[61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 55180, Oct. 23, 1997; 71 FR 65750, Nov. 9, 2006]

§ 52.12 North American Numbering Plan Administrator and B&C Agent.

The North American Numbering Plan Administrator (“NANPA”) and the associated “B&C Agent” will conduct their respective operations in accordance with this section. The NANPA and the B&C Agent will conduct their respective operations with oversight from the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”) and with recommendations from the North American Numbering Council (“NANC”).

(a)(1) *Neutrality.* The NANPA and the B&C Agent shall be non-governmental entities that are impartial and not aligned with any particular telecommunication industry segment. Accordingly, while conducting their respective operations under this section, the NANPA and B&C Agent shall ensure that they comply with the following neutrality criteria:

(i) The NANPA and B&C Agent may not be an affiliate of any telecommunications service provider(s) as defined in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, or an affiliate of any interconnected VoIP provider as that term is defined in § 52.21(h). “Affiliate” is a person who controls, is controlled by, or is under the direct or indirect common control with another person. A person shall be deemed to control another if such person possesses, directly or indirectly—

(A) An equity interest by stock, partnership (general or limited) interest, joint venture participation, or member interest in the other person ten (10%) percent or more of the total outstanding equity interests in the other person, or

(B) The power to vote ten (10%) percent or more of the securities (by

stock, partnership (general or limited) interest, joint venture participation, or member interest) having ordinary voting power for the election of directors, general partner, or management of such other person, or

(C) The power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of such other person, whether through the ownership of or right to vote voting rights attributable to the stock, partnership (general or limited) interest, joint venture participation, or member interest) of such other person, by contract (including but not limited to stockholder agreement, partnership (general or limited) agreement, joint venture agreement, or operating agreement), or otherwise;

(ii) The NANPA and B&C Agent, and any affiliate thereof, may not issue a majority of its debt to, nor may it derive a majority of its revenues from, any telecommunications service provider. “Majority” shall mean greater than 50 percent, and “debt” shall mean stocks, bonds, securities, notes, loans or any other instrument of indebtedness; and

(iii) Notwithstanding the neutrality criteria set forth in paragraphs (a)(1) (i) and (ii) of this section, the NANPA and B&C Agent may be determined to be or not to be subject to undue influence by parties with a vested interest in the outcome of numbering administration and activities. NANC may conduct an evaluation to determine whether the NANPA and B&C Agent meet the undue influence criterion.

(2) Any subcontractor that performs—

(i) NANP administration and central office code administration, or

(ii) Billing and Collection functions, for the NANPA or for the B&C Agent must also meet the neutrality criteria described in paragraph (a)(1).

(b) *Term of administration.* The NANPA shall provide numbering administration, including central office code administration, for the United States portion of the North American Numbering Plan (“NANP”) for an initial period of five (5) years. At any time prior to the termination of the initial or subsequent term of administration, such term may be renewed for up to five (5) years with the approval of

the Commission and the agreement of the NANPA. The B&C Agent shall provide billing and collection functions for an initial period of five (5) years. At any time prior to the termination of the initial or subsequent term of administration, such term may be renewed for up to five (5) years with the approval of the Commission and the agreement of the B&C Agent.

(c) *Changes to regulations, rules, guidelines or directives.* In the event that regulatory authorities or industry groups (including, for example, the Industry Numbering Committee—INC, or its successor) issue rules, requirements, guidelines or policy directives which may affect the functions performed by the NANPA and the B&C Agent, the NANPA and the B&C Agent shall, within 10 business days from the date of official notice of such rules, requirements, guidelines or policy directives, assess the impact on its operations and advise the Commission of any changes required. NANPA and the B&C Agent shall provide written explanation why such changes are required. To the extent the Commission deems such changes are necessary, the Commission will recommend to the NANP member countries appropriate cost recovery adjustments, if necessary.

(d) *Performance review process.* NANPA and the B&C Agent shall develop and implement an internal, documented performance monitoring mechanism and shall provide such performance review on request of the Commission on at least an annual basis. The annual assessment process will not preclude telecommunications industry participants from identifying performance problems to the NANPA, the B&C Agent and the NANC as they occur, and from seeking expeditious resolution. If performance problems are identified by a telecommunications industry participant, the NANC, B&C Agent or NANPA shall investigate and report within 10 business days of notice to the participant of corrective action, if any, taken or to be taken. The NANPA, B&C Agent or NANC (as appropriate) shall be permitted reasonable time to take corrective action, including the necessity of obtaining the required consent of the Commission.

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(e) *Termination.* If the Commission determines at any time that the NANPA or the B&C Agent fails to comply with the neutrality criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of this section or substantially or materially defaults in the performance of its obligations, the Commission shall advise immediately the NANPA or the B&C Agent of said failure or default, request immediate corrective action, and permit the NANPA or B&C Agent reasonable time to correct such failure or default. If the NANPA or B&C Agent is unwilling or unable to take corrective action, the Commission may, in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act and the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, take any action that it deems appropriate, including termination of the NANPA's or B&C Agent's term of administration.

(f) *Required and optional enterprise services.* Enterprise Services, which are services beyond those described in § 52.13 that may be provided by the new NANPA for specified fees, may be offered with prior approval of the Commission.

(1) *Required Enterprise Services.* At the request of a code holder, the NANPA shall, in accordance with industry standards and for reasonable fees, enter certain routing and rating information, into the industry-approved database(s) for dissemination of such information. This task shall include reviewing the information and assisting in its preparation.

(2) *Optional Enterprise Services.* The NANPA may, subject to prior approval and for reasonable fees, offer "Optional Enterprise Services" which are any services not described elsewhere in this section.

(3) *Annual report.* NANPA shall identify and record all direct costs associated with providing Enterprise Services separately from the costs associated with the non-enterprise NANPA functions. The NANPA shall submit an annual report to the NANC summarizing the revenues and costs for providing each Enterprise Service. NANPA shall be audited by an independent auditor after the first year of operations and every two years thereafter,

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and submit the report to the Commission for appropriate review and action.

[63 FR 55180, Oct. 23, 1997, as amended at 73 FR 9481, Feb. 21, 2008]

§ 52.13 North American Numbering Plan Administrator.

(a) The North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) shall be an independent and impartial non-government entity.

(b) The NANPA shall administer the numbering resources identified in paragraph (d) of this section. It shall assign and administer NANP resources in an efficient, effective, fair, unbiased, and non-discriminatory manner consistent with industry-developed guidelines and Commission regulations. It shall support the Commission's efforts to accommodate current and future numbering needs. It shall perform additional functions, including but not limited to:

(1) Ensuring the efficient and effective administration and assignment of numbering resources by performing day-to-day number resource assignment and administrative activities;

(2) Planning for the long-term need for NANP resources to ensure the continued viability of the NANP by implementing a plan for number resource administration that uses effective forecasting and management skills in order to make the industry aware of the availability of numbering resources and to meet the current and future needs of the industry;

(3) Complying with guidelines of the North American Industry Numbering Committee (INC) or its successor, related industry documentation, Commission regulations and orders, and the guidelines of other appropriate policy-making authorities;

(4) Providing management supervision for all of the services it provides, including responsibility for achieving performance measures established by the NANC and the INC in industry guidelines;

(5) Participating in the NANC annual performance review as described in §§ 52.11 and 52.12;

(6) Establishing and maintaining relationships with current governmental and regulatory bodies, and their successors, including the United States

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Federal Communications Commission, Industry Canada, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, and other United States, Canadian, and Caribbean numbering authorities and regulatory agencies, and addressing policy directives from these bodies;

(7) Cooperating with and actively participating in numbering standards bodies and industry fora, such as INC and, upon request, the Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering (CSCN);

(8) Representing the NANP to national and international numbering bodies;

(9) Developing and maintaining communications channels with other countries who also participate in the NANP to ensure that numbering needs of all countries served by the NANP are met;

(10) Attending United States Study Group A meetings and maintaining a working knowledge of Study Group 2 International Telecommunications Union activities on behalf of the United States telecommunications industry;

(11) Reviewing requests for all numbering resources to implement new applications and services and making assignments in accordance with industry-developed resource planning and assignment guidelines;

(12) Referring requests for particular numbering resources to the appropriate industry body where guidelines do not exist for those resources;

(13) Participating in industry activities to determine whether, when new telecommunications services requiring numbers are proposed, NANP numbers are appropriate and what level of resource is required (e.g., line numbers, central office codes, NPA codes);

(14) Maintaining necessary administrative staff to handle the legal, financial, technical, staffing, industry, and regulatory issues relevant to the management of all numbering resources, as well as maintaining the necessary equipment, facilities, and proper billing arrangements associated with day-to-day management of all numbering resources;

(15) Managing the NANP in accordance with published guidelines adopted in conjunction with the industry and the appropriate NANP member coun-

tries' governing agencies, and referring issues to the appropriate industry body for resolution when they have not been addressed by the industry;

(16) Responding to requests from the industry and from regulators for information about the NANP and its administration, as the primary repository for numbering information in the industry;

(17) Providing upon request information regarding how to obtain current documents related to NANP administration;

(18) Providing assistance to users of numbering resources and suggesting numbering administration options, when possible, that will optimize number resource utilization;

(19) Coordinating its numbering resource activities with the Canadian Number Administrator and other NANP member countries' administrators to ensure efficient and effective management of NANP numbering resources; and

(20) Determining the final allocation methodology for sharing costs between NANP countries.

(c) In performing the functions outlined in paragraph (b) of this section, the NANPA shall:

(1) Ensure that the interests of all NANP member countries are considered;

(2) Assess fairly requests for assignments of NANP numbering resources and ensure the assignment of numbering resources to appropriate service providers;

(3) Develop, operate and maintain the computer hardware, software (database) and mechanized systems required to perform the NANPA and central office (CO) Code Administration functions;

(4) Manage projects such as Numbering Plan Area (NPA) relief (area code relief) planning, Numbering Resource Utilization and Forecast (NRUF) data collection, and NPA and NANP exhaust projection;

(5) Facilitate NPA relief planning meetings;

(6) Participate in appropriate industry activities;

(7) Manage proprietary data and competitively sensitive information and maintain the confidentiality thereof;

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(8) Act as an information resource for the industry concerning all aspects of numbering (i.e., knowledge and experience in numbering resource issues, International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Recommendation E.164, the North American Numbering Plan (NANP), NANP Administration, INC, NANP area country regulatory issues affecting numbering, number resource assignment guidelines, central office code administration, relief planning, international numbering issues, etc.); and

(9) Ensure that any action taken with respect to number administration is consistent with this part.

(d) The NANPA and, to the extent applicable, the B&C Agent, shall administer numbering resources in an efficient and non-discriminatory manner, in accordance with Commission rules and regulations and the guidelines developed by the INC and other industry groups pertaining to administration and assignment of numbering resources, including, but not limited to:

- (1) Numbering Plan Area (NPA) codes,
- (2) Central Office codes for the 809 area,
- (3) International Inbound NPA 456 NXX codes,
- (4) (NPA) 500 NXX codes,
- (5) (NPA) 900 NXX codes,
- (6) N11 Service codes,
- (7) 855-XXXX line numbers,
- (8) 555-XXXX line numbers,
- (9) Carrier Identification Codes,
- (10) Vertical Service Codes,
- (11) ANI Information Integer (II) Digit Pairs,
- (12) Non Dialable Toll Points, and
- (13) New numbering resources as may be defined.

(e) *Relationships with other NANP member countries' administrators and authorities.* The NANPA shall address policy directives from other NANP member countries' governmental and regulatory authorities and coordinate its activities with other NANP member countries' administrators, if any, to ensure efficient and effective management of NANP resources.

(f) *Transition plan.* The NANPA shall implement a transition plan, subject to Commission approval, leading to its assumption of NANPA functions within

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90 days of the effective date of a Commission order announcing the selection of the NANPA.

(g) *Transfer of intellectual property.* The new NANPA must make available any and all intellectual property and associated hardware resulting from its activities as numbering administrator including, but not limited to, systems and the data contained therein, software, interface specifications and supporting documentation and make such property available to whomever NANP directs free of charge. The new NANPA must specify any intellectual property it proposes to exclude from the provisions of this paragraph based on the existence of such property prior to its selection as NANPA.

[61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 55181, Oct. 23, 1997; 71 FR 65750, Nov. 9, 2006]

§ 52.15 Central office code administration.

(a) Central Office Code Administration shall be performed by the NANPA, or another entity or entities, as designated by the Commission.

(b) Duties of the entity or entities performing central office code administration may include, but are not limited to:

(1) Processing central office code assignment applications and assigning such codes in a manner that is consistent with this part;

(2) Accessing and maintaining central office code assignment databases;

(3) Conducting the Numbering Resource Utilization and Forecast (NRUF) data collection;

(4) Monitoring the use of central office codes within each area code and forecasting the date by which all central office codes within that area code will be assigned; and

(5) Planning for and initiating area code relief, consistent with § 52.19.

(c) [Reserved]

(d) *Central Office (CO) Code Administration functional requirements.* The NANPA shall manage the United States CO code numbering resource, including CO code request processing, NPA code relief and jeopardy planning, and industry notification functions. The NANPA shall perform its CO Code administration functions in accordance

with the published industry numbering resource administration guidelines and Commission orders and regulations of 47 CFR chapter I.

(e) [Reserved]

(f) *Mandatory reporting requirements*—
(1) *Number use categories*. Numbering resources must be classified in one of the following categories:

(i) *Administrative numbers* are numbers used by telecommunications carriers to perform internal administrative or operational functions necessary to maintain reasonable quality of service standards.

(ii) *Aging numbers* are disconnected numbers that are not available for assignment to another end user or customer for a specified period of time. Numbers previously assigned to residential customers may be aged for no less than 45 days and no more than 90 days. Numbers previously assigned to business customers may be aged for no less than 45 days and no more than 365 days.

(iii) *Assigned numbers* are numbers working in the Public Switched Telephone Network under an agreement such as a contract or tariff at the request of specific end users or customers for their use, or numbers not yet working but having a customer service order pending. Numbers that are not yet working and have a service order pending for more than five days shall not be classified as assigned numbers.

(iv) *Available numbers* are numbers that are available for assignment to subscriber access lines, or their equivalents, within a switching entity or point of interconnection and are not classified as assigned, intermediate, administrative, aging, or reserved.

(v) *Intermediate numbers* are numbers that are made available for use by another telecommunications carrier or non-carrier entity for the purpose of providing telecommunications service to an end user or customer. Numbers ported for the purpose of transferring an established customer's service to another service provider shall not be classified as intermediate numbers.

(vi) *Reserved numbers* are numbers that are held by service providers at the request of specific end users or customers for their future use. Numbers held for specific end users or customers

for more than 180 days shall not be classified as reserved numbers.

(2) *Reporting carrier*. The term "reporting carrier" refers to a telecommunications carrier that receives numbering resources from the NANPA, a Pooling Administrator or another telecommunications carrier.

(3) *Data collection procedures*. (i) Reporting carriers shall report utilization and forecast data to the NANPA.

(ii) Reporting shall be by separate legal entity and must include company name, company headquarters address, Operating Company Number (OCN), parent company OCN, and the primary type of business in which the reporting carrier is engaged. The term "parent company" refers to the highest related legal entity located within the state for which the reporting carrier is reporting data.

(iii) All data shall be filed electronically in a format approved by the Common Carrier Bureau.

(4) *Forecast data reporting*. (i) Reporting carriers shall submit to the NANPA a five-year forecast of their yearly numbering resource requirements.

(ii) In areas where thousands-block number pooling has been implemented:

(A) Reporting carriers that are required to participate in thousands-block number pooling shall report forecast data at the thousands-block (NXX-X) level per rate center;

(B) Reporting carriers that are not required to participate in thousands-block number pooling shall report forecast data at the central office code (NXX) level per rate center.

(iii) In areas where thousands-block number pooling has not been implemented, reporting carriers shall report forecast data at the central office code (NXX) level per NPA.

(iv) Reporting carriers shall identify and report separately initial numbering resources and growth numbering resources.

(5) *Utilization data reporting*. (i) Reporting carriers shall submit to the NANPA a utilization report of their

current inventory of numbering resources. The report shall classify numbering resources in the following number use categories: *assigned, intermediate, reserved, aging, and administrative.*

(ii) Rural telephone companies, as defined in the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 153(37), that provide telecommunications service in areas where local number portability has not been implemented shall report utilization data at the central office code (NXX) level per rate center in those areas.

(iii) All other reporting carriers shall report utilization data at the thousands-block (NXX-X) level per rate center.

(6) *Reporting frequency.* (i) Reporting carriers shall file forecast and utilization reports semi-annually on or before February 1 for the preceding reporting period ending on December 31, and on or before August 1 for the preceding reporting period ending on June 30. Mandatory reporting shall commence August 1, 2000.

(ii) State commissions may reduce the reporting frequency for NPAs in their states to annual. Reporting carriers operating in such NPAs shall file forecast and utilization reports annually on or before August 1 for the preceding reporting period ending on June 30, commencing August 1, 2000.

(iii) A state commission seeking to reduce the reporting frequency pursuant to paragraph (f) (6)(ii) of this section shall notify the Wireline Competition Bureau and the NANPA in writing prior to reducing the reporting frequency.

(7) *Access to data and confidentiality*—States shall have access to data reported to the NANPA provided that they have appropriate protections in place to prevent public disclosure of disaggregated, carrier-specific data.

(8) *Reports of Permanently Disconnected Numbers*—Reporting carriers must report information regarding NANP numbers in accordance with § 64.1200(l) of this title.

(g) *Applications for numbering resources*—(1) *General requirements.* An applicant for numbering resources must include in its application the applicant's company name, company head-

quarters address, OCN, parent company's OCN(s), and the primary type of business in which the numbering resources will be used.

(2) *Initial numbering resources.* An applicant for initial numbering resources must include in its application evidence that the applicant is authorized to provide service in the area for which the numbering resources are requested; and that the applicant is or will be capable of providing service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resources activation date. A provider of VoIP Positioning Center (VPC) services that is unable to demonstrate authorization to provide service in a state may instead demonstrate that the state does not certify VPC service providers in order to request pseudo-Automatic Numbering Identification (p-ANI) codes directly from the Numbering Administrators for purposes of providing 911 and E-911 service.

(3) *Commission authorization process.* A provider of interconnected VoIP service may show a Commission authorization obtained pursuant to this paragraph (g)(3) as evidence that it is authorized to provide service under paragraph (g)(2) of this section.

(i) *Definition.* The term *foreign carrier* found in this section is given the same meaning as in § 63.09(d) of this chapter.

(ii) *Contents of the application for interconnected VoIP provider numbering authorization.* An application for authorization must reference this section and must contain the following:

(A) The applicant's name, address, and telephone number and contact information for personnel qualified to address issues relating to regulatory requirements, compliance with Commission's rules in this chapter, 911, and law enforcement;

(B) An acknowledgment that the authorization granted under this paragraph (g)(3) is subject to compliance with applicable Commission numbering rules in this part; numbering authority delegated to the states, and the state laws, regulations, and registration requirements applicable to businesses operating in each state where the applicant seeks numbering resources; and industry guidelines and practices regarding numbering as applicable to telecommunications carriers;

(C) A certification that the applicant will not use the numbers obtained pursuant to an authorization under this paragraph (g)(3) to knowingly transmit, encourage, assist, or facilitate illegal robocalls, illegal spoofing, or fraud, in violation of robocall, spoofing, and deceptive telemarketing obligations under §§ 64.1200, 64.1604, and 64.6300 through 64.6308 of this chapter and 16 CFR 310.3(b);

(D) A certification that the applicant has fully complied with all applicable STIR/SHAKEN caller ID authentication and robocall mitigation program requirements and filed a certification in the Robocall Mitigation Database as required by §§ 64.6301 through 64.6305 of this chapter;

(E) A certification with accompanying evidence that the applicant complies with its 911 obligations under part 9 of this chapter, and that it complies with the provisions of the Communications Assistance with Law Enforcement Act, 47 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.* Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) or other Commission staff may request additional documentation from the applicant to demonstrate compliance with these public safety obligations, where necessary;

(F) A certification that the applicant complies with the Access Stimulation rules under § 51.914 of this chapter;

(G) An acknowledgment that the applicant must file requests for numbers with the relevant state commission(s) at least 30 days before requesting numbers from the Numbering Administrators;

(H) Proof that the applicant is or will be capable of providing service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resources activation date in accordance with paragraph (g)(2) of this section;

(I) Proof that the applicant has filed FCC Forms 477 and 499, or a statement explaining why each such form is not yet applicable;

(J) A certification that the applicant complies with its applicable Universal Service Fund contribution obligations under part 54, subpart H, of this chapter, its Telecommunications Relay Service contribution obligations under § 64.604(c)(5)(iii) of this chapter, its NANP and local number portability (LNP) administration contribution ob-

ligations under §§ 52.17 and 52.32 of this chapter, and its obligations to pay regulatory fees under § 1.1154 of this chapter;

(K) A certification that the applicant possesses the financial, managerial, and technical expertise to provide reliable service. This certification must include the name of applicant's key management and technical personnel, such as the Chief Operating Officer and the Chief Technology Officer, or equivalent, and state that neither the applicant nor any of the identified personnel are being or have been investigated by the Commission, law enforcement, or any regulatory agency for failure to comply with any law, rule, or order, including the Commission's rules in this chapter applicable to unlawful robocalls or unlawful spoofing;

(L) The same information, disclosures, and certifications required by § 63.18(h) and (i) of this chapter;

(M) A certification pursuant to §§ 1.2001 and 1.2002 of this chapter that no party to the application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits pursuant to section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, *see* 21 U.S.C. 862;

(N) A declaration under penalty of perjury pursuant to § 1.16 of this chapter that all statements in the application and any appendices are true and accurate. This declaration shall be executed by an officer or other authorized representative of the applicant.

(iii) *Filing procedure.* An applicant for Commission authorization under this section must file its application electronically through the "Submit a Non-Docketed Filing" module of the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). Each application shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed in part 1, subpart G, of this chapter.

(iv) *Public notice and review period for streamlined pleading cycle.* Upon determination by the Bureau that the applicant has filed a complete application that is appropriate for streamlined treatment, the Bureau will assign a docket number to the application and issue a public notice stating that the application has been accepted for filing as a streamlined application. The applicant must make all subsequent filings relating to its application in this

docket. Parties may file comments addressing an application for authorization no later than 15 days after the Bureau releases a public notice stating that the application has been accepted for filing, unless the public notice specifies a different filing date. An application under this section is deemed granted by the Commission on the 31st day after the Commission releases a public notice stating that the application has been accepted for filing, unless the Bureau notifies the applicant that the grant will not be automatically effective.

(v) *Non-streamlined processing of applications.* If an application discloses that the applicant has reportable ownership by a foreign person or entity, the Bureau shall remove the application from streamlined processing. The Bureau may also remove an application from streamlined processing at its discretion for other reasons. The Bureau shall notify the applicant by public notice that it is removing the application from streamlined processing, and shall state the reason for the removal. An application may also receive non-streamlined processing if:

(A) An applicant fails to respond promptly to Commission inquiries;

(B) An application is associated with a non-routine request for waiver of the Commission's rules in this chapter;

(C) An application would, on its face, violate a Commission rule in this chapter or the Communications Act;

(D) Timely filed comments on the application raise public interest concerns that require further Commission review; or

(E) The Bureau determines that the application requires further analysis to determine whether granting the application serves the public interest.

(vi) *Additional information.* Applicants must provide additional information requested by the Bureau during and after its initial review of a direct access application. Failure to respond to such a request or other official correspondence may result in the rejection of the application without prejudice. Any additional information that the Bureau may require must be submitted in the same manner as the original application filing, unless the Bureau specifies another method.

(vii) *Rejection of applications.* The Bureau may reject an application by announcing the rejection, the reasons for the rejection, and whether the rejection is with or without prejudice via public notice if it determines or has a reasonable basis to believe that:

(A) The applicant cannot satisfy the qualification requirements for a Commission authorization under this paragraph (g)(3);

(B) The applicant has made a false statement or certification to the Commission;

(C) The applicant has engaged in behavior contrary to the public interest; or

(D) Granting the application would not serve the public interest.

(viii) *Authorization suspension.* The Wireline Competition Bureau or Enforcement Bureau may suspend a direct access authorization holder's access to new numbering resources under 5 U.S.C. 558(c):

(A) After either Bureau determines that the authorization holder acted willfully; or public health, interest, or safety requires an immediate suspension; or

(B) After giving the authorization holder notice and an opportunity to demonstrate compliance with the Commission's rules in this chapter.

(ix) *Authorization revocation.* The Wireline Competition Bureau or Enforcement Bureau shall determine appropriate procedures and initiate revocation and/or termination proceedings and revoke and/or terminate an authorization, as required by due process and applicable law and in light of the relevant facts and circumstances, including providing the authorization holder with notice and opportunity to respond. Either Bureau may commence such revocation and/or termination proceedings if:

(A) The authorization holder has failed to comply with the Commission's numbering rules in this part.

(B) The authorization holder no longer meets the requirements for a Commission authorization under this paragraph (g)(3);

(C) The authorization holder, or officer or authorized representative of the authorization holder, has made a false

statement or certification to the Commission; or

(D) Revoking and/or terminating the authorization is in the public interest.

(x) *Conditions applicable to all interconnected VoIP provider numbering authorizations.* An interconnected VoIP provider authorized to request numbering resources directly from the Numbering Administrators under this section shall:

(A) Maintain the accuracy of all contact information, certifications, and ownership or affiliation information in its application. If any contact information, certification, or affiliation information submitted in an application pursuant to this section, is no longer accurate, the provider must file a correction with the Commission and each applicable state within thirty (30) days of the change of contact information, certification, or affiliation information. Regarding ownership information, if the holders of equity and/or voting interests in the provider change such that a provider that previously did not have reportable ownership or control information under paragraph (g)(3)(ii)(L) of this section now has reportable ownership or control information, or there is a change to the reportable ownership or control information the provider previously reported under paragraph (g)(3)(ii)(L), the provider must file a correction with the Commission and each applicable state within thirty (30) days of the change to its ownership or control information. The Commission may use the updated contact information, certifications, or ownership or affiliation information to determine whether a change in authorization status is warranted;

(B) Comply with the applicable Commission numbering rules in this part; numbering authority delegated to the states; and industry guidelines and practices regarding numbering as applicable to telecommunications carriers;

(C) File requests for numbers with the relevant state commission(s) at least thirty (30) days before requesting numbers from the Numbering Administrators; and

(D) Provide accurate regulatory and numbering contact information to each

state commission when requesting numbers in that state.

(4) *Growth numbering resources.* (i) Applications for growth numbering resources shall include:

(A) A Months-to-Exhaust Worksheet that provides utilization by rate center for the preceding six months and projected monthly utilization for the next twelve (12) months; and

(B) The applicant's current numbering resource utilization level for the rate center in which it is seeking growth numbering resources.

(ii) The numbering resource utilization level shall be calculated by dividing all *assigned numbers* by the total numbering resources in the applicant's inventory and multiplying the result by 100. Numbering resources activated in the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG) within the preceding 90 days of reporting utilization levels may be excluded from the utilization calculation.

(iii) All service providers shall maintain no more than a six-month inventory of telephone numbers in each rate center or service area in which it provides telecommunications service.

(iv) The NANPA shall withhold numbering resources from any U.S. carrier that fails to comply with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements established in this part. The NANPA shall not issue numbering resources to a carrier without an OCN. The NANPA must notify the carrier in writing of its decision to withhold numbering resources within ten (10) days of receiving a request for numbering resources. The carrier may challenge the NANPA's decision to the appropriate state regulatory commission. The state commission may affirm or overturn the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its determination of compliance with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements herein.

(5) *Non-compliance.* The NANPA shall withhold numbering resources from any U.S. carrier that fails to comply with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements established in this part. The NANPA shall not issue numbering resources to a carrier without an Operating Company

Number (OCN). The NANPA must notify the carrier in writing of its decision to withhold numbering resources within ten (10) days of receiving a request for numbering resources. The carrier may challenge the NANPA's decision to the appropriate state regulatory commission. The state commission may affirm, or may overturn, the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its determination that the carrier has complied with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements herein. The state commission also may overturn the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its determination that the carrier has demonstrated a verifiable need for numbering resources and has exhausted all other available remedies.

(6) *State access to applications.* State regulatory commissions shall have access to service provider's applications for numbering resources. The state commissions should request copies of such applications from the service providers operating within their states, and service providers must comply with state commission requests for copies of numbering resource applications. Carriers that fail to comply with a state commission request for numbering resource application materials shall be denied numbering resources.

(h) *National utilization threshold.* All applicants for growth numbering resources shall achieve a 60% utilization threshold, calculated in accordance with paragraph (g)(3)(ii) of this section, for the rate center in which they are requesting growth numbering resources. This 60% utilization threshold shall increase by 5% on June 30, 2002, and annually thereafter until the utilization threshold reaches 75%.

(i) *Reclamation of numbering resources.* (1) Reclamation refers to the process by which service providers are required to return numbering resources to the NANPA or the Pooling Administrator.

(2) State commissions may investigate and determine whether service providers have activated their numbering resources and may request proof from all service providers that numbering resources have been activated

and assignment of telephone numbers has commenced.

(3) Service providers may be required to reduce contamination levels to facilitate reclamation and/or pooling.

(4) State commissions shall provide service providers an opportunity to explain the circumstances causing the delay in activating and commencing assignment of their numbering resources prior to initiating reclamation.

(5) The NANPA and the Pooling Administrator shall abide by the state commission's determination to reclaim numbering resources if the state commission is satisfied that the service provider has not activated and commenced assignment to end users of their numbering resources within six months of receipt.

(6) The NANPA and Pooling Administrator shall initiate reclamation within sixty days of expiration of the service provider's applicable activation deadline.

(7) If a state commission declines to exercise the authority delegated to it in this paragraph, the entity or entities designated by the Commission to serve as the NANPA shall exercise this authority with respect to NXX codes and the Pooling Administrator shall exercise this authority with respect to thousands-blocks. The NANPA and the Pooling Administrator shall consult with the Wireline Competition Bureau prior to exercising the authority delegated to it in this provision.

(j) *Sequential number assignment.* (1) All service providers shall assign all available telephone numbers within an opened thousands-block before assigning telephone numbers from an uncontaminated thousands-block, unless the available numbers in the opened thousands-block are not sufficient to meet a specific customer request. This requirement shall apply to a service provider's existing numbering resources as well as any new numbering resources it obtains in the future.

(2) A service provider that opens an uncontaminated thousands-block prior to assigning all available telephone numbers within an opened thousands-block should be prepared to demonstrate to the state commission:

(i) A genuine request from a customer detailing the specific need for telephone numbers; and

(ii) The service provider's inability to meet the specific customer request for telephone numbers from the available numbers within the service provider's opened thousands-blocks.

(3) Upon a finding by a state commission that a service provider inappropriately assigned telephone numbers from an uncontaminated thousands-block, the NANPA or the Pooling Administrator shall suspend assignment or allocation of any additional numbering resources to that service provider in the applicable NPA until the service provider demonstrates that it does not have sufficient numbering resources to meet a specific customer request.

(k) *Numbering audits.* (1) All telecommunications service providers shall be subject to "for cause" and random audits to verify carrier compliance with Commission regulations and applicable industry guidelines relating to numbering administration.

(2) The Enforcement Bureau will oversee the conduct and scope of all numbering audits conducted under the Commission's jurisdiction, and determine the audit procedures necessary to perform the audit. Numbering audits performed by independent auditors pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' standards for compliance attestation engagements, as supplemented by the guidance and direction of the Chief of the Enforcement Bureau.

(3) Requests for "for cause" audits shall be forwarded to the Chief of the Enforcement Bureau, with a copy to the Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau. Requests must state the reason for which a "for cause" audit is being requested and include documentation of the alleged anomaly, inconsistency, or violation of the Commission rules or orders or applicable industry guidelines. The Chief of the Enforcement Bureau will provide carriers up to 30

days to provide a written response to a request for a "for cause" audit.

[61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 55182, Oct. 23, 1997; 65 FR 37707, June 16, 2000; 66 FR 9531, Feb. 8, 2001; 67 FR 6434, Feb. 12, 2002; 67 FR 13226, Mar. 21, 2002; 68 FR 25843, May 14, 2003; 71 FR 65750, Nov. 9, 2006; 80 FR 66479, Oct. 29, 2015; 84 FR 11232, Mar. 26, 2019; 88 FR 80636, Nov. 20, 2023]

§ 52.16 Billing and Collection Agent.

The B&C Agent shall:

(a) Calculate, assess, bill and collect payments for all numbering administration functions and distribute funds to the NANPA, or other agent designated by the Common Carrier Bureau that performs functions related to numbering administration, on a monthly basis;

(b) Distribute to carriers the "Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet," described in § 52.17(b).

(c) Keep confidential all data obtained from carriers and not disclose such data in company-specific form unless authorized by the Commission. Subject to any restrictions imposed by the Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau, the B & C Agent may share data obtained from carriers with the administrators of the universal service support mechanism (See 47 CFR 54.701 of this chapter), the TRS Fund (See 47 CFR 64.604(c)(4)(iii)(H) of this chapter), and the local number portability cost recovery (See 47 CFR 52.32). The B & C Agent shall keep confidential all data obtained from other administrators. The B & C Agent shall use such data, from carriers or administrators, only for calculating, collecting and verifying payments. The Commission shall have access to all data reported to the Administrator. Contributors may make requests for Commission nondisclosure of company-specific revenue information under § 0.459 of this chapter by so indicating on the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet at the time that the subject data are submitted. The Commission shall make all decisions regarding nondisclosure of company-specific information.

(d) Develop procedures to monitor industry compliance with reporting requirements and propose specific procedures to address reporting failures and late payments;

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(e) File annual reports with the appropriate regulatory authorities of the NANP member countries as requested; and

(f) Obtain an audit from an independent auditor after the first year of operations and annually thereafter, which shall evaluate the validity of calculated payments. The B&C Agent shall submit the audit report to the Commission for appropriate review and action.

[62 FR 55183, Oct. 23, 1997, as amended at 64 FR 41330, July 30, 1999; 66 FR 9532, Feb. 8, 2001; 67 FR 13226, Mar. 21, 2002; 73 FR 9481, Feb. 21, 2008; 80 FR 66479, Oct. 29, 2015]

§ 52.17 Costs of number administration.

All telecommunications carriers in the United States shall contribute on a competitively neutral basis to meet the costs of establishing numbering administration.

(a) Contributions to support numbering administration shall be the product of the contributors' end-user telecommunications revenues for the prior calendar year and a contribution factor determined annually by the Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau; such contributions to be no less than twenty-five dollars (\$25). The contribution factor shall be based on the ratio of expected number administration expenses to end-user telecommunications revenues. Carriers that have no end-user telecommunications revenues shall contribute twenty-five dollars (\$25). In the event that contributions exceed or are inadequate to cover administrative costs, the contribution factor for the following year shall be adjusted by an appropriate amount.

(b) All telecommunications carriers in the United States shall complete and submit a "Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet" (as published by the Commission in the FEDERAL REGISTER), which sets forth the information needed to calculate contributions referred to in paragraph (a) of this section. The worksheet shall be certified to by an officer of the contributor, and subject to verification by the Commission or the B & C Agent at the discretion of the Commission. The Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau may waive, reduce, modify, or eliminate

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contributor reporting requirements that prove unnecessary and require additional reporting requirements that the Bureau deems necessary to the sound and efficient administration of the number administration cost recovery.

[64 FR 41331, July 30, 1999, as amended at 73 FR 9481, Feb. 21, 2008; 80 FR 66479, Oct. 29, 2015]

§ 52.19 Area code relief.

(a) State commissions may resolve matters involving the introduction of new area codes within their states. Such matters may include, but are not limited to: Directing whether area code relief will take the form of a geographic split, an overlay area code, or a boundary realignment; establishing new area code boundaries; establishing necessary dates for the implementation of area code relief plans; and directing public education efforts regarding area code changes.

(b) State commissions may perform any or all functions related to initiation and development of area code relief plans, so long as they act consistently with the guidelines enumerated in this part, and subject to paragraph (b)(2) of this section. For the purposes of this paragraph, initiation and development of area code relief planning encompasses all functions related to the implementation of new area codes that were performed by central office code administrators prior to February 8, 1996. Such functions may include: declaring that the area code relief planning process should begin; convening and conducting meetings to which the telecommunications industry and the public are invited on area code relief for a particular area code; and developing the details of a proposed area code relief plan or plans.

(1) The entity or entities designated by the Commission to serve as central office code administrator(s) shall initiate and develop area code relief plans for each area code in each state that has not notified such entity or entities, pursuant to paragraph (b)(2) of this section, that the state will handle such functions.

(2) Pursuant to paragraph (b)(1) of this section, a state commission must notify the entity or entities designated

by the Commission to serve as central office code administrator(s) for its state that such state commission intends to perform matters related to initiation and development of area code relief planning efforts in its state. Notification shall be written and shall include a description of the specific functions the state commission intends to perform. Where the NANP Administrator serves as the central office code administrator, such notification must be made within 120 days of the selection of the NANP Administrator.

(c) New area codes may be introduced through the use of:

(1) A geographic area code split, which occurs when the geographic area served by an area code in which there are few or no central office codes left for assignment is split into two or more geographic parts;

(2) An area code boundary realignment, which occurs when the boundary lines between two adjacent area codes are shifted to allow the transfer of some central office codes from an area code for which central office codes remain unassigned to an area code for which few or no central office codes are left for assignment; or

(3) An all services area code overlay, which occurs when a new area code is introduced to serve the same geographic area as one or more existing area code(s), subject to the following conditions:

(i) No all services area code overlay may be implemented unless all numbering resources in the new overlay area code are assigned to those entities requesting assignment on a first-come, first-serve basis, regardless of the identity of, technology used by, or type of service provided by that entity, except to the extent that a technology- or service-specific overlay is authorized by the Commission. No group of telecommunications carriers shall be excluded from assignment of numbering resources in the existing area code, or be assigned such resources only from the all services overlay area code, based solely on that group's provision of a specific type of telecommunications service or use of a particular technology; and

(ii) No area code overlay may be implemented unless there exists, at the

time of implementation, mandatory ten-digit dialing for every telephone call within and between all area codes in the geographic area covered by the overlay area code.

(4) A technology-specific or service-specific overlay, which occurs when a new area code is introduced to serve the same geographic area as one or more existing area code(s) and numbering resources in the new area code overlay are assigned to a specific technology(ies) or service(s). State commissions may not implement a technology-specific or service-specific overlay without express authority from the Commission.

[61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 63617, Nov. 16, 1998; 64 FR 62984, Nov. 18, 1999; 67 FR 6434, Feb. 12, 2002]

Subpart C—Number Portability

SOURCE: 61 FR 38637, July 25, 1996, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996.

§ 52.20 Thousands-block number pooling.

(a) *Definition.* Thousands-block number pooling is a process by which the 10,000 numbers in a central office code (NXX) are separated into ten sequential blocks of 1,000 numbers each (thousands-blocks), and allocated separately within a rate center.

(b) *General requirements.* Pursuant to the Commission's adoption of thousands-block number pooling as a mandatory nationwide numbering resource optimization strategy, all carriers, except those exempted by the Commission, must participate in thousands-block number pooling where it is implemented and in accordance with the national thousands-block number pooling framework and implementation schedule established by the Commission.

(c) *Donation of thousands-blocks.* (1) All service providers required to participate in thousands-block number pooling shall donate thousands-blocks with ten percent or less contamination to the thousands-block number pool for the rate center within which the numbering resources are assigned.

(2) All service providers required to participate in thousands-block number

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pooling shall be allowed to retain at least one thousands-block per rate center, even if the thousands-block is ten percent or less contaminated, as an initial block or footprint block.

(d) *Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator*. (1) The Pooling Administrator shall be a non-governmental entity that is impartial and not aligned with any particular telecommunication industry segment, and shall comply with the same neutrality requirements that the NANPA is subject to under this part.

(2) The Pooling Administrator shall maintain no more than a six-month inventory of telephone numbers in each thousands-block number pool.

[65 FR 37709, June 16, 2000, as amended at 66 FR 9532, Feb. 8, 2001; 68 FR 43009, July 21, 2003]

§ 52.21 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) The term *100 largest MSAs* includes the 100 largest MSAs as identified in the 1990 U.S. Census reports, as set forth in the Appendix to this part, as well as those areas identified as one of the largest 100 MSAs on subsequent updates to the U.S. Census reports.

(b) The term *broadband PCS* has the same meaning as that term is defined in § 24.5 of this chapter.

(c) The term *cellular service* has the same meaning as that term is defined in § 22.99 of this chapter.

(d) The term *covered CMRS* means broadband PCS, cellular, and 800/900 MHz SMR licensees that hold geographic area licenses or are incumbent SMR wide area licensees, and offer real-time, two-way switched voice service, are interconnected with the public switched network, and utilize an in-network switching facility that enables such CMRS systems to reuse frequencies and accomplish seamless hand-offs of subscriber calls.

(e) The term *database method* means a number portability method that utilizes one or more external databases for providing called party routing information.

(f) The term *downstream database* means a database owned and operated by an individual carrier for the purpose of providing number portability in con-

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junction with other functions and services.

(g) The term *incumbent wide area SMR licensee* has the same meaning as that term is defined in § 20.3 of this chapter.

(h) The term *IP Relay provider* means an entity that provides IP Relay as defined by 47 CFR 64.601.

(i) The term *local exchange carrier* means any person that is engaged in the provision of telephone exchange service or exchange access. For purposes of this subpart, such term does not include a person insofar as such person is engaged in the provision of a commercial mobile service under 47 U.S.C. 332(c).

(j) The term *local number portability administrator (LNPA)* means an independent, non-governmental entity, not aligned with any particular telecommunications industry segment, whose duties are determined by the NANC.

(k) The term *location portability* means the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when moving from one physical location to another.

(l) The term *long-term database method* means a database method that complies with the performance criteria set forth in § 52.3(a).

(m) The term *number portability* means the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain, at the same location, existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.

(n) The term *regional database* means an SMS database or an SMS/SCP pair that contains information necessary for carriers to provide number portability in a region as determined by the NANC.

(o) The term *Registered Internet-based TRS User* has the meaning set forth in 47 CFR 64.601.

(p) The term *service control point (SCP)* means a database in the public switched network which contains information and call processing instructions

needed to process and complete a telephone call. The network switches access an SCP to obtain such information. Typically, the information contained in an SCP is obtained from the SMS.

(q) The term *service management system (SMS)* means a database or computer system not part of the public switched network that, among other things:

(1) Interconnects to an SCP and sends to that SCP the information and call processing instructions needed for a network switch to process and complete a telephone call; and

(2) Provides telecommunications carriers with the capability of entering and storing data regarding the processing and completing of a telephone call.

(r) The term *service portability* means the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one telecommunications service to another, without switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.

(s) The term *service provider portability* means the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain, at the same location, existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.

(t) The term *transitional number portability measure* means a method that allows one local exchange carrier to transfer telephone numbers from its network to the network of another telecommunications carrier, but does not comply with the performance criteria set forth in 52.3(a). Transitional number portability measures are technically feasible methods of providing number portability including Remote Call Forwarding (RCF), Direct Inward Dialing (DID), Route Indexing—Portability Hub (RI-PH), Directory Number Route Indexing (DNRI) and other comparable methods.

(u) The term *VRS provider* means an entity that provides VRS as defined by 47 CFR 64.601.

(v) The term *2009 LNP Porting Intervals Order* refers to In the Matters of

Local Number Portability Porting Interval and Validation Requirements; Telephone Number Portability, WC Docket No. 07-244, CC Docket No. 95-116, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 09-41 (2009).

[61 FR 38637, July 25, 1996. Redesignated at 61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 47355, Sept. 6, 1996; 63 FR 68203, Dec. 10, 1998; 67 FR 6435, Feb. 12, 2002; 68 FR 43009, July 21, 2003; 73 FR 9481, Feb. 21, 2008; 73 FR 41293, July 18, 2008; 74 FR 31638, July 2, 2009; 80 FR 66479, Oct. 29, 2015]

§ 52.23 Deployment of long-term database methods for number portability by LECs.

(a) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, all local exchange carriers (LECs) must provide number portability in compliance with the following performance criteria:

(1) Supports network services, features, and capabilities existing at the time number portability is implemented, including but not limited to emergency services, CLASS features, operator and directory assistance services, and intercept capabilities;

(2) Efficiently uses numbering resources;

(3) Does not require end users to change their telecommunications numbers;

(4) Does not result in unreasonable degradation in service quality or network reliability when implemented;

(5) Does not result in any degradation in service quality or network reliability when customers switch carriers;

(6) Does not result in a carrier having a proprietary interest;

(7) Is able to migrate to location and service portability; and

(8) Has no significant adverse impact outside the areas where number portability is deployed.

(b)(1) All LECs must provide a long-term database method for number portability in the 100 largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), as defined in § 52.21(k), in switches for which another carrier has made a specific request for the provision of number portability, subject to paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(2) Any procedure to identify and request switches for deployment of number portability must comply with the following criteria:

(i) Any wireline carrier that is certified (or has applied for certification) to provide local exchange service in a state, or any licensed CMRS provider, must be permitted to make a request for deployment of number portability in that state;

(ii) Carriers must submit requests for deployment at least nine months before the deployment deadline for the MSA;

(iii) A LEC must make available upon request to any interested parties a list of its switches for which number portability has been requested and a list of its switches for which number portability has not been requested; and

(iv) After the deadline for deployment of number portability in an MSA in the 100 largest MSAs, according to the deployment schedule set forth in the appendix to this part, a LEC must deploy number portability in that MSA in additional switches upon request within the following time frames:

(A) For remote switches supported by a host switch equipped for portability ("Equipped Remote Switches"), within 30 days;

(B) For switches that require software but not hardware changes to provide portability ("Hardware Capable Switches"), within 60 days;

(C) For switches that require hardware changes to provide portability ("Capable Switches Requiring Hardware"), within 180 days; and

(D) For switches not capable of portability that must be replaced ("Non-Capable Switches"), within 180 days.

(c) Beginning January 1, 1999, all LECs must make a long-term database method for number portability available within six months after a specific request by another telecommunications carrier in areas in which that telecommunications carrier is operating or plans to operate.

(d) The Chief, Common Carrier Bureau, may waive or stay any of the dates in the implementation schedule, as the Chief determines is necessary to ensure the efficient development of number portability, for a period not to

exceed 9 months (*i.e.*, no later than September 30, 1999).

(e) In the event a LEC is unable to meet the Commission's deadlines for implementing a long-term database method for number portability, it may file with the Commission at least 60 days in advance of the deadline a petition to extend the time by which implementation in its network will be completed. A LEC seeking such relief must demonstrate through substantial, credible evidence the basis for its contention that it is unable to comply with the deployment schedule set forth in the appendix to this part 52. Such requests must set forth:

(1) The facts that demonstrate why the carrier is unable to meet the Commission's deployment schedule;

(2) A detailed explanation of the activities that the carrier has undertaken to meet the implementation schedule prior to requesting an extension of time;

(3) An identification of the particular switches for which the extension is requested;

(4) The time within which the carrier will complete deployment in the affected switches; and

(5) A proposed schedule with milestones for meeting the deployment date.

(f) The Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, shall monitor the progress of local exchange carriers implementing number portability, and may direct such carriers to take any actions necessary to ensure compliance with the deployment schedule set forth in the appendix to this part 52.

(g) Carriers that are members of the Illinois Local Number Portability Workshop must conduct a field test of any technically feasible long-term database method for number portability in the Chicago, Illinois, area. The carriers participating in the test must jointly file with the Common Carrier Bureau a report of their findings within 30 days following completion of the test. The Chief, Common Carrier Bureau, shall monitor developments during the field test, and may adjust the field test completion deadline as necessary.

(h)(1) Porting from a wireline carrier to a wireless carrier is required where

the requesting wireless carrier's "coverage area," as defined in paragraph (h)(2) of this section, overlaps the geographic location in which the customer's wireline number is provisioned, provided that the porting-in carrier maintains the number's original rate center designation following the port.

(2) The wireless "coverage area" is defined as the area in which wireless service can be received from the wireless carrier.

[61 FR 38637, July 25, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 18294, Apr. 15, 1997; 67 FR 13226, Mar. 21, 2002; 68 FR 43009, July 21, 2003; 73 FR 9481, Feb. 21, 2008]

§ 52.25 Database architecture and administration.

(a) The North American Numbering Council (NANC) shall direct establishment of a nationwide system of regional SMS databases for the provision of long-term database methods for number portability.

(b) All telecommunications carriers shall have equal and open access to the regional databases.

(c) The NANC shall select a local number portability administrator(s) (LNPA(s)) to administer the regional databases within seven months of the initial meeting of the NANC.

(d) The NANC shall determine whether one or multiple administrator(s) should be selected, whether the LNPA(s) can be the same entity selected to be the North American Numbering Plan Administrator, how the LNPA(s) should be selected, the specific duties of the LNPA(s), the geographic coverage of the regional databases, the technical interoperability and operational standards, the user interface between telecommunications carriers and the LNPA(s), the network interface between the SMS and the downstream databases, and the technical specifications for the regional databases.

(e) Once the NANC has selected the LNPA(s) and determined the locations of the regional databases, it must report its decisions to the Commission.

(f) The information contained in the regional databases shall be limited to the information necessary to route telephone calls to the appropriate telecommunications carriers. The NANC

shall determine what specific information is necessary.

(g) Any state may opt out of its designated regional database and implement a state-specific database. A state must notify the Wireline Competition Bureau and NANC that it plans to implement a state-specific database within 60 days from the release date of the Public Notice issued by the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, identifying the administrator selected by the NANC and the proposed locations of the regional databases. Carriers may challenge a state's decision to opt out of the regional database system by filing a petition with the Commission.

(h) Individual state databases must meet the national requirements and operational standards recommended by the NANC and adopted by the Commission. In addition, such state databases must be technically compatible with the regional system of databases and must not interfere with the scheduled implementation of the regional databases.

(i) Individual carriers may download information necessary to provide number portability from the regional databases into their own downstream databases. Individual carriers may mix information needed to provide other services or functions with the information downloaded from the regional databases at their own downstream databases. Carriers may not withhold any information necessary to provide number portability from the regional databases on the grounds that such data has been combined with other information in its downstream database.

[61 FR 38637, July 25, 1996. Redesignated at 61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 67 FR 13226, Mar. 21, 2002]

§ 52.26 NANC Recommendations on Local Number Portability Administration.

(a) Local number portability administration shall comply with the recommendations of the North American Numbering Council (NANC) as set forth in the report to the Commission prepared by the NANC's Local Number Portability Administration Selection Working Group, dated April 25, 1997 (*Working Group Report*) and its appendices. *Except that:* Sections 7.8 and 7.10

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of *Appendix D* and the following portions of *Appendix E*: Section 7, Issue Statement I of Appendix A, and Appendix B in the *Working Group Report* are *not* incorporated herein.

(b) In addition to the requirements set forth in the *Working Group Report*, the following requirements are established:

(1) Each designated N-1 carrier (as described in the *Working Group Report*) is responsible for ensuring number portability queries are performed on a N-1 basis where “N” is the entity terminating the call to the end user, or a network provider contracted by the entity to provide tandem access, unless another carrier has already performed the query;

(2) If a telecommunications carrier transmits a telephone call to a local exchange carrier’s switch that contains any ported numbers, and the telecommunications carrier has failed to perform a database query to determine if the telephone number has been ported to another local exchange carrier, the local exchange carrier may block the unqueried call only if performing the database query is likely to impair network reliability;

(3) The regional limited liability companies (LLCs), already established by telecommunications carriers in each of the original Bell Operating Company regions, shall manage and oversee the local number portability administrators, subject to review by the NANC, but only on an interim basis, until the conclusion of a rule-making to examine the issue of local number portability administrator oversight and management and the question of whether the LLCs should continue to act in this capacity; and

(4) The NANC shall provide ongoing oversight of number portability administration, including oversight of the regional LLCs, subject to Commission review. Parties shall attempt to resolve issues regarding number portability deployment among themselves and, if necessary, under the auspices of the NANC. If any party objects to the NANC’s proposed resolution, the NANC shall issue a written report summarizing the positions of the parties and the basis for the recommendation adopted by the NANC. The NANC Chair

shall submit its proposed resolution of the disputed issue to the Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau as a recommendation for Commission review. The Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau will place the NANC’s proposed resolution on public notice. Recommendations adopted by the NANC and forwarded to the Bureau may be implemented by the parties pending review of the recommendation. Within 90 days of the conclusion of the comment cycle, the Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau may issue an order adopting, modifying, or rejecting the recommendation. If the Chief does not act within 90 days of the conclusion of the comment cycle, the recommendation will be deemed to have been adopted by the Bureau.

(c) The NANC Working Group Report is incorporated by reference into this section with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. This incorporation by reference (IBR) material is available for public inspection at the FCC and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Contact the FCC through the Federal Communications Commission’s Reference Information Center, phone: (202) 418–0270. For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html or email fr.inspection@nara.gov. The material is available at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-341177A1.pdf>.

[62 FR 48786, Sept. 17, 1997, as amended at 65 FR 58466, Sept. 29, 2000; 67 FR 13226, Mar. 21, 2002; 69 FR 18803, Apr. 9, 2004; 74 FR 31638, July 2, 2009; 75 FR 35315, June 22, 2010; 83 FR 42052, Aug. 20, 2018; 85 FR 64407, Oct. 13, 2020; 88 FR 21442, Apr. 10, 2023]

§ 52.31 Deployment of long-term database methods for number portability by CMRS providers.

(a) By November 24, 2003, all covered CMRS providers must provide a long-term database method for number portability, including the ability to support roaming, in the 100 largest MSAs, as defined in § 52.21(k), in compliance with the performance criteria set forth in section 52.23(a) of this part, in switches for which another carrier has made a specific request for the provision of

number portability, subject to paragraph (a)(1) of this section. A licensee may have more than one CMRS system, but only the systems that satisfy the definition of covered CMRS are required to provide number portability.

(1) Any procedure to identify and request switches for development of number portability must comply with the following criteria:

(i) Any wireline carrier that is certified (or has applied for certification) to provide local exchange service in a state, or any licensed CMRS provider, must be permitted to make a request for deployment of number portability in that state;

(ii) Carriers requesting deployment in the 100 largest MSAs by November 24, 2003 must submit requests by February 24, 2003.

(iii) A covered CMRS provider must make available upon request to any interested parties a list of its switches for which number portability has been requested and a list of its switches for which number portability has not been requested;

(iv) After November 24, 2003, a covered CMRS provider must deploy number portability in additional switches serving the 100 largest MSAs upon request within the following time frames:

(A) For remote switches supported by a host switch equipped for portability ("Equipped Remote Switches"), within 30 days;

(B) For switches that require software but not hardware changes to provide portability ("Hardware Capable Switches"), within 60 days;

(C) For switches that require hardware changes to provide portability ("Capable Switches Requiring Hardware"), within 180 days; and

(D) For switches not capable of portability that must be replaced ("Non-Capable Switches"), within 180 days.

(v) Carriers must be able to request deployment in any wireless switch that serves any area within the MSA, even if the wireless switch is outside that MSA, or outside any of the MSAs identified in the Appendix to this part.

(2) By November 24, 2002, all covered CMRS providers must be able to support roaming nationwide.

(b) By December 31, 1998, all covered CMRS providers must have the capa-

bility to obtain routing information, either by querying the appropriate database themselves or by making arrangements with other carriers that are capable of performing database queries, so that they can deliver calls from their networks to any party that has retained its number after switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.

(c) [Reserved]

(d) In the event a carrier subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section is unable to meet the Commission's deadlines for implementing a long-term number portability method, it may file with the Commission at least 60 days in advance of the deadline a petition to extend the time by which implementation in its network will be completed. A carrier seeking such relief must demonstrate through substantial, credible evidence the basis for its contention that it is unable to comply with paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section. Such requests must set forth:

(1) The facts that demonstrate why the carrier is unable to meet our deployment schedule;

(2) A detailed explanation of the activities that the carrier has undertaken to meet the implementation schedule prior to requesting an extension of time;

(3) An identification of the particular switches for which the extension is requested;

(4) The time within which the carrier will complete deployment in the affected switches; and

(5) A proposed schedule with milestones for meeting the deployment date.

(e) The Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, may establish reporting requirements in order to monitor the progress of covered CMRS providers implementing number portability, and may direct such carriers to take any actions necessary to ensure compliance with this deployment schedule.

[61 FR 38637, July 25, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 18295, Apr. 15, 1997; 63 FR 68204, Dec. 10, 1998; 64 FR 22563, Apr. 27, 1999; 68 FR 43009, July 21, 2003; 71 FR 65750, Nov. 9, 2006]

§ 52.32 Allocation of the shared costs of long-term number portability.

(a) The local number portability administrator, as defined in § 52.21(h), of each regional database, as defined in § 52.21(1), shall recover the shared costs of long-term number portability attributable to that regional database from all telecommunications carriers providing telecommunications service in areas that regional database serves. Pursuant to its duties under § 52.26, the local number portability administrator shall collect sufficient revenues to fund the operation of the regional database by:

(1) Assessing a \$100 yearly contribution on each telecommunications carrier identified in paragraph (a) introductory text that has no intrastate, interstate, or international end-user telecommunications revenue derived from providing telecommunications service in the areas that regional database serves, and

(2) Assessing on each of the other telecommunications carriers providing telecommunications service in areas that regional database serves, a charge that recovers the remaining shared costs of long-term number portability attributable to that regional database in proportion to the ratio of:

(i) The sum of the intrastate, interstate, and international end-user telecommunications revenues that such telecommunications carrier derives from providing telecommunications service in the areas that regional database serves, ii) to the sum of the intrastate, interstate, and international end-user telecommunications revenues that all telecommunications carriers derive from providing telecommunications service in the areas that regional database serves.

(b) All telecommunications carriers providing service in the United States shall complete and submit a “Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet” (as published by the Commission in the FEDERAL REGISTER), which sets forth the information needed to calculate contributions referred to in paragraph (a) of this section. The worksheet shall be certified to by an officer of the contributor, and subject to verification by the Commission or the administrator at the discretion of

the Commission. The Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau may waive, reduce, modify, or eliminate contributor reporting requirements that prove unnecessary and require additional reporting requirements that the Bureau deems necessary to the sound and efficient administration of long-term number portability.

(c) Local number portability administrators shall keep all data obtained from contributors confidential and shall not disclose such data in company-specific form unless directed to do so by the Commission. Subject to any restrictions imposed by the Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau, the local number portability administrators may share data obtained from carriers with the administrators of the universal service support mechanism (See 47 CFR 54.701 of this chapter), the TRS Fund (See 47 CFR 64.604(c)(4)(iii)(H) of this chapter), and the North American Numbering Plan cost recovery (See 47 CFR 52.16). The local number portability administrators shall keep confidential all data obtained from other administrators. The administrators shall use such data, from carriers or administrators, only for purposes of administering local number portability. The Commission shall have access to all data reported to the Administrator. Contributors may make requests for Commission nondisclosure of company-specific revenue information under § 0.459 of this chapter by so indicating on the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet at the time that the subject data are submitted. The Commission shall make all decisions regarding nondisclosure of company-specific information.

(d) Once a telecommunications carrier has been allocated, pursuant to paragraph (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this section, its portion of the shared costs of long-term number portability attributable to a regional database, the carrier shall treat that portion as a carrier-specific cost directly related to providing number portability.

[63 FR 35160, June 29, 1998, as amended at 64 FR 41331, July 30, 1999; 67 FR 13226, Mar. 21, 2002; 73 FR 9481, Feb. 21, 2008; 80 FR 66479, Oct. 29, 2015]

§ 52.33 Recovery of carrier-specific costs directly related to providing long-term number portability.

(a) Incumbent local exchange carriers may recover their carrier-specific costs directly related to providing long-term number portability by establishing in tariffs filed with the Federal Communications Commission a monthly number-portability charge, as specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, a number portability query-service charge, as specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, and a monthly number-portability query/administration charge, as specified in paragraph (a)(3) of this section.

(1) The monthly number-portability charge may take effect no earlier than February 1, 1999, on a date the incumbent local exchange carrier selects, and may end no later than 5 five years after the incumbent local exchange carrier's monthly number-portability charge takes effect.

(i) An incumbent local exchange carrier may assess each end user it serves in the 100 largest metropolitan statistical areas, and each end user it serves from a number-portability-capable switch outside the 100 largest metropolitan statistical areas, one monthly number-portability charge per line except that:

(A) One PBX trunk shall receive nine monthly number-portability charges.

(B) One PRI ISDN line shall receive five monthly number-portability charges.

(C) Lifeline Assistance Program customers shall not receive the monthly number-portability charge.

(ii) An incumbent local exchange carrier may assess on carriers that purchase the incumbent local exchange carrier's switching ports as unbundled network elements under section 251 of the Communications Act, and/or Feature Group A access lines, and resellers of the incumbent local exchange carrier's local service, the same charges as described in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section, as if the incumbent local exchange carrier were serving those carriers' end users.

(iii) An incumbent local exchange carrier may not assess a monthly number-portability charge for local loops

carriers purchase as unbundled network elements under section 251.

(iv) The incumbent local exchange carrier shall levelize the monthly number-portability charge over five years by setting a rate for the charge at which the present value of the revenue recovered by the charge does not exceed the present value of the cost being recovered, using a discount rate equal to the rate of return on investment which the Commission has prescribed for interstate access services pursuant to Part 65 of the Commission's Rules.

(2) The number portability query-service charge may recover only carrier-specific costs directly related to providing long-term number portability that the incumbent local exchange carrier incurs to provide long-term number portability query service to carriers on a prearranged and default basis.

(3) An incumbent local exchange carrier serving an area outside the 100 largest metropolitan statistical areas that is not number-portability capable but that participates in an extended area service calling plan with any one of the 100 largest metropolitan statistical areas or with an adjacent number portability-capable local exchange carrier may assess each end user it serves one monthly number-portability query/administration charge per line to recover the costs of queries, as specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, and carrier-specific costs directly related to the carrier's allocated share of the regional local number portability administrator's costs, except that per-line monthly number-portability query/administration charges shall be assigned as specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section with respect to monthly number-portability charges.

(i) Such incumbent local exchange carriers may assess a separate monthly number-portability charge as specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section but such charge may recover only the costs incurred to implement number portability functionality and shall not include costs recovered through the monthly number-portability query/administration charge.

(ii) The monthly number-portability query/administration charge may end

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no later than five years after the incumbent local exchange carrier's monthly number-portability query/administration charge takes effect. The monthly number-portability query/administration charge may be collected over a different five-year period than the monthly number-portability charge. These five-year periods may run either consecutively or concurrently, in whole or in part.

(b) All telecommunications carriers other than incumbent local exchange carriers may recover their number portability costs in any manner consistent with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

[63 FR 35161, June 29, 1998, as amended at 67 FR 40620, June 13, 2002; 73 FR 9481, Feb. 21, 2008; 80 FR 66479, Oct. 29, 2015]

§ 52.34 Obligations regarding local number porting to and from interconnected VoIP or Internet-based TRS providers.

(a) An interconnected VoIP or VRS or IP Relay provider must facilitate an end-user customer's or a Registered Internet-based TRS User's valid number portability request, as it is defined in this subpart, either to or from a telecommunications carrier or an interconnected VoIP or VRS or IP Relay provider. "Facilitate" is defined as the interconnected VoIP or VRS or IP Relay provider's affirmative legal obligation to take all steps necessary to initiate or allow a port-in or port-out itself or through the telecommunications carriers, if any, that it relies on to obtain numbering resources, subject to a valid port request, without unreasonable delay or unreasonable procedures that have the effect of delaying or denying porting of the NANP-based telephone number.

(b) An interconnected VoIP or VRS or IP Relay provider may not enter into any agreement that would prohibit an end-user customer or a Registered Internet-based TRS User from porting between interconnected VoIP or VRS or IP Relay providers, or to or from a telecommunications carrier.

(c) Telecommunications carriers must facilitate an end-user customer's valid number portability request either to or from an interconnected VoIP or VRS or IP Relay provider. "Facilitate"

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is defined as the telecommunication carrier's affirmative legal obligation to take all steps necessary to initiate or allow a port-in or port-out itself, subject to a valid port request, without unreasonable delay or unreasonable procedures that have the effect of delaying or denying porting of the NANP-based telephone number.

[73 FR 9481, Feb. 21, 2008, as amended at 73 FR 41294, July 18, 2008; 80 FR 66479, Oct. 29, 2015]

§ 52.35 Porting Intervals.

(a) All telecommunications carriers required by the Commission to port telephone numbers must complete a simple wireline-to-wireline or simple intermodal port request within one business day unless a longer period is requested by the new provider or by the customer. The traditional work week of Monday through Friday represents mandatory business days and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. represents minimum business hours, excluding the current service provider's company-defined holidays. An accurate and complete Local Service Request (LSR) must be received by the current service provider between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. local time for a simple port request to be eligible for activation at midnight on the same day. Any simple port LSRs received after this time will be considered received on the following business day at 8 a.m. local time.

(b) Small providers, as described in the *2009 LNP Porting Interval Order*, must comply with this section by February 2, 2011.

(c) Unless directed otherwise by the Commission, any telecommunications carrier granted a waiver by the Commission of the one-business day porting interval described in paragraph (a) must complete a simple wireline-to-wireline or simple intermodal port request within four business days unless a longer period is requested by the new provider or by the customer.

(d) All telecommunications carriers required by the Commission to port telephone numbers must complete a non-simple wireline-to-wireline or non-simple intermodal port request within four business days unless a longer period is requested by the new provider or by the customer.

(e) For purposes of this section:

(1) The term “local time” means the predominant time zone of the Number Portability Administration Center (NPAC) Region in which the telephone number is being ported; and

(2) The term “intermodal ports” includes

(i) Wireline-to-wireless ports;

(ii) Wireless-to-wireline ports; and

(iii) Ports involving interconnected VoIP service.

[75 FR 35315, June 22, 2010, as amended at 80 FR 66480, Oct. 29, 2015]

§ 52.36 Standard data fields for simple port order processing.

(a) A telecommunications carrier may require only the data described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section to accomplish a simple port order request from an end user customer’s new telecommunication’s carrier.

(b) *Required standard data fields.*

(1) Ported telephone number;

(2) Account number;

(3) Zip code;

(4) Company code;

(5) New network service provider;

(6) Desired due date;

(7) Purchase order number;

(8) Version;

(9) Number portability direction indicator;

(10) Customer carrier name abbreviation;

(11) Requisition type and status;

(12) Activity;

(13) Telephone number of initiator; and

(14) Agency authority status.

(c) *Optional standard data field.* The Passcode field shall be optional unless the passcode has been requested and assigned by the end user.

[75 FR 35315, June 22, 2010, as amended at 80 FR 66480, Oct. 29, 2015]

§ 52.37 Number Portability Requirements for Wireless Providers.

(a) *Applicability.* This section applies to all providers of commercial mobile radio service (CMRS), as defined in 47 CFR 20.3, including resellers of wireless service.

(b) *Authentication of port-out requests.* A CMRS provider shall use secure methods to authenticate a customer that are reasonably designed to con-

firm the customer’s identity before effectuating a port-out request, except to the extent otherwise required by 47 U.S.C. 345 (Safe Connections Act of 2022) or Part 64 Subpart II of this chapter. A CMRS provider shall regularly, but not less than annually, review and, as necessary, update its customer authentication methods to ensure that its authentication methods continue to be secure.

(c)–(e) [Reserved]

(f) *Employee Training.* A CMRS provider shall develop and implement training for employees to specifically address fraudulent port-out attempts, complaints, and remediation. Training shall include, at a minimum, how to identify fraudulent requests, how to recognize when a customer may be the victim of fraud, and how to direct potential victims and individuals making potentially fraudulent requests to employees specifically trained to handle such incidents.

(g) [Reserved]

(h) This section contains information-collection and/or recordkeeping requirements. Compliance with this section will not be required until this paragraph is removed or contains a compliance date.

[88 FR 85813, Dec. 8, 2023]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 88 FR 85813, Dec. 8, 2023, § 52.37 was added. However, paragraphs (c), (d), (e) and (g) contain information collection and recordkeeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget. These paragraphs are also delayed indefinitely

§§ 52.38–52.99 [Reserved]

Subpart D—Toll Free Numbers

SOURCE: 62 FR 20127, Apr. 25, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 52.101 General definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) *Toll Free Numbering Administrator (TFNA).* The entity appointed by the Commission under its authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 251(e)(1) that provides user support for the Service Management System database and administers the Service Management System database on a day-to-day basis.

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(b) *Responsible Organization* (“*RespOrg*”). The entity chosen by a toll free subscriber to manage and administer the appropriate records in the toll free Service Management System for the toll free subscriber.

(c) *Service Control Points*. The regional databases in the toll free network.

(d) *Service Management System Database* (“*SMS Database*”). The administrative database system for toll free numbers. The Service Management System is a computer system that enables Responsible Organizations to enter and amend the data about toll free numbers within their control. The Service Management System shares this information with the Service Control Points. The entire system is the SMS database.

(e) *Toll Free Subscriber*. The entity that has been assigned a toll free number.

(f) *Toll Free Number*. A telephone number for which the toll charges for completed calls are paid by the toll free subscriber. The toll free subscriber’s specific geographic location has no bearing on what toll free number it can obtain from the SMS database.

[62 FR 20127, Apr. 25, 1997, as amended at 83 FR 53395, Oct. 23, 2018]

§ 52.103 Lag times.

(a) *Definitions*. As used in this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) *Assigned Status*. A toll free number record that has specific subscriber routing information entered by the Responsible Organization in the Service Management System database and is pending activation in the Service Control Points.

(2) *Disconnect Status*. The toll free number has been discontinued and an exchange carrier intercept recording is being provided.

(3) *Lag Time*. The interval between a toll free number’s reservation in the Service Management System database and its conversion to working status, as well as the period of time between disconnection or cancellation of a toll free number and the point at which that toll free number may be reassigned to another toll free subscriber.

(4) *Reserved Status*. The toll free number has been reserved from the Service

Management System database by a Responsible Organization for a toll free subscriber.

(5) *Seasonal Numbers*. Toll free numbers held by toll free subscribers who do not have a year-round need for a toll free number.

(6) *Spare Status*. The toll free number is available for assignment by a Responsible Organization.

(7) *Suspend Status*. The toll free service has been temporarily disconnected and is scheduled to be reactivated.

(8) *Unavailable Status*. The toll free number is not available for assignment due to an unusual condition.

(9) *Working Status*. The toll free number is loaded in the Service Control Points and is being utilized to complete toll free service calls.

(10) *Transitional Status*. Toll free numbers that have been disconnected for less than four months, but for which no Exchange Carrier Intercept Recording is being provided.

(b) *Reserved Status*. Toll free numbers may remain in reserved status for up to 45 days. There shall be no extension of the reservation period after expiration of the initial 45-day interval.

(1) Toll free numbers assigned via competitive bidding may remain in reserved status for a period of unlimited duration.

(2) [Reserved]

(c) *Assigned Status*. Toll free numbers may remain in assigned status until changed to working status or for a maximum of 6 months, whichever occurs first. Toll free numbers that, because of special circumstances, require that they be designated for a particular subscriber far in advance of their actual usage shall not be placed in assigned status, but instead shall be placed in unavailable status.

(d) *Disconnect Status*. Toll free numbers must remain in disconnect status or a combination of disconnect and transitional status for no less than 45 days and for no more than 4 months. No requests for extension of the 4-month disconnect or disconnect and transitional interval will be granted. All toll free numbers in disconnect or transitional status must go directly into the spare or unavailable category

upon expiration of the 4-month disconnect or transitional interval. A Responsible Organization may not retrieve a toll free number from disconnect or transitional status and return that number directly to working status at the expiration of the 4-month disconnect or transitional interval.

(e) *Suspend Status.* Toll free numbers may remain in suspend status until changed to working status or for a maximum of 8 months, whichever occurs first. Only numbers involved in billing disputes shall be eligible for suspend status.

(f) *Unavailable Status.* (1) Written requests to make a specific toll free number unavailable must be submitted to the *Toll Free Numbering Administrator (TFNA)* by the Responsible Organization managing the records of the toll free number. The request shall include the appropriate documentation of the reason for the request. The *Toll Free Numbering Administrator (TFNA)* is the only entity that can assign this status to or remove this status from a number. Responsible Organizations that have a *Toll Free Subscriber* with special circumstances requiring that a toll free number be designated for that particular subscriber far in advance of its actual usage may request that the *Toll Free Numbering Administrator (TFNA)* place such a number in unavailable status.

(2) Seasonal numbers shall be placed in unavailable status. The Responsible Organization for a *Toll Free Subscriber* who does not have a year round need for a toll free number shall follow the procedures outlined in §52.103(f)(1) of these rules if it wants the *Toll Free Numbering Administrator (TFNA)* to place a particular toll free number in unavailable status.

[62 FR 20127, Apr. 25, 1997, as amended at 83 FR 53396, Oct. 23, 2018; 84 FR 11232, Mar. 26, 2019]

§ 52.105 Warehousing.

(a) As used in this section, warehousing is the practice whereby Responsible Organizations, either directly or indirectly through an affiliate, reserve toll free numbers from the Service Management System database without having an actual toll free sub-

scriber for whom those numbers are being reserved.

(b) Responsible Organizations shall not warehouse toll free numbers. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that a Responsible Organization is warehousing toll free numbers if:

(1) The Responsible Organization does not have an identified toll free subscriber agreeing to be billed for service associated with each toll free number reserved from the Service Management System database; or

(2) The Responsible Organization does not have an identified toll free subscriber agreeing to be billed for service associated with a toll free number before switching that toll free number from reserved or assigned to working status.

(c) Responsible Organizations shall not maintain a toll free number in reserved status if there is not a prospective toll free subscriber requesting that toll free number.

(d) A Responsible Organization's act of reserving a number from the Service Management System database shall serve as that Responsible Organization's certification that there is an identified toll free subscriber agreeing to be billed for service associated with the toll free number.

(e) *Tariff Provision.* The following provision shall be included in the Service Management System tariff and in the local exchange carriers' toll free database access tariffs:

[T]he Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has concluded that warehousing, which the FCC defines as Responsible Organizations, either directly or indirectly through an affiliate, reserving toll free numbers from the SMS database without having an identified toll free subscriber from whom those numbers are being reserved, is an unreasonable practice under §201(b) of the Communications Act and is inconsistent with the Commission's obligation under §251(e) of the Communications Act to ensure that numbers are made available on an equitable basis; and if a Responsible Organization does not have an identified toll free subscriber agreeing to be billed for service associated with each toll free number reserved from the database, or if a Responsible Organization does not have an identified, billed toll free subscriber before switching a number from reserved or assigned to working status, then there is a rebuttable presumption that the Responsible Organization is

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warehousing numbers. Responsible Organizations that warehouse numbers will be subject to penalties.

(f) The provisions of this section shall not apply to toll free numbers assigned via competitive bidding or to numbers transferred under this exception.

[62 FR 20127, Apr. 25, 1997, as amended at 83 FR 53396, Oct. 23, 2018]

§ 52.107 Hoarding.

(a) As used in this section, hoarding is the acquisition by a toll free subscriber from a Responsible Organization of more toll free numbers than the toll free subscriber intends to use for the provision of toll free service. The definition of hoarding also includes number brokering, which is the selling of a toll free number by a private entity for a fee.

(1) Toll free subscribers shall not hoard toll free numbers.

(2) No person or entity shall acquire a toll free number for the purpose of selling the toll free number to another entity or to a person for a fee.

(3) Routing multiple toll free numbers to a single toll free subscriber will create a rebuttable presumption that the toll free subscriber is hoarding or brokering toll free numbers.

(b) *Tariff Provision.* The following provision shall be included in the Service Management System tariff and in the local exchange carriers' toll free database access tariffs:

[T]he Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has concluded that hoarding, defined as the acquisition of more toll free numbers than one intends to use for the provision of toll free service, as well as the sale of a toll free number by a private entity for a fee, is contrary to the public interest in the conservation of the scarce toll free number resource and contrary to the FCC's responsibility to promote the orderly use and allocation of toll free numbers.

(c) *Toll Free Numbers Assigned via Competitive Bidding.* The provisions of this section shall not apply to toll free numbers assigned via competitive bidding or to numbers transferred under the exception to § 52.105 contained in paragraph (f) of that section.

[62 FR 20127, Apr. 25, 1997, as amended at 83 FR 53396, Oct. 23, 2018]

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§ 52.109 Permanent cap on number reservations.

(a) A Responsible Organization may have in reserve status, at any one time, either 2000 toll free numbers or 7.5 percent of that Responsible Organization's numbers in working status, whichever is greater.

(b) A Responsible Organization shall never reserve more than 3 percent of the quantity of toll free numbers in spare status as of the previous Sunday at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Time.

(c) The Wireline Competition Bureau shall modify the quantity of numbers a Responsible Organization may have in reserve status or the percentage of numbers in the spare pool that a Responsible Organization may reserve when exigent circumstances make such action necessary. The Wireline Competition Bureau shall establish, modify, and monitor toll free number conservation plans when exigent circumstances necessitate such action.

[62 FR 20127, Apr. 25, 1997, as amended at 67 FR 13226, Mar. 21, 2002; 83 FR 53396, Oct. 23, 2018]

§ 52.111 Toll free number assignment.

Toll free telephone numbers must be made available to Responsible Organizations and subscribers on an equitable basis. The Commission will assign toll free numbers by competitive bidding, on a first-come, first-served basis, by an alternative assignment methodology, or by a combination of the foregoing options.

[83 FR 53396, Oct. 23, 2018]

Subpart E—Universal Dialing Code for National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Hotline System

SOURCE: 85 FR 57783, Sept. 16, 2020, unless otherwise noted.

§ 52.200 Designation of 988 for a National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Hotline.

(a) 988 is established as the 3-digit dialing code for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system maintained by the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and

Substance Use and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(b) All covered providers shall transmit all calls initiated by an end user dialing 988 to the current toll free access number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, presently 1-800-273-8255 (TALK).

(c) All covered providers shall complete 10-digit dialing implementation in areas that use 7-digit dialing and have assigned 988 as a central office code as defined in §52.7(c) by July 16, 2022.

(d) All covered providers shall complete all changes to their systems that are necessary to implement the designation of the 988 dialing code by July 16, 2022.

(e) For purposes of complying with the requirements of this section,

(1) The term “covered provider” means any telecommunications carrier, interconnected VoIP provider, or provider of one-way VoIP.

(2) The term “one-way VoIP”—

(i) Means a service that—

(A) Enables real-time, two-way voice communications;

(B) Requires a broadband connection from the user’s location;

(C) Requires internet protocol-compatible customer premises equipment; and

(D) Permits users generally to receive calls that originate on the public switched telephone network or to terminate calls to the public switched telephone network.

(ii) Does not include any service that is an interconnected VoIP service.

§52.201 Texting to the National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Hotline.

(a) *Support for 988 text message service.* Beginning July 16, 2022, all covered text providers must route a covered 988 text message to the current toll free access number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, presently 1-800-273-8255 (TALK).

(b) *Access to SMS networks for 988 text messages.* To the extent that Commercial Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) providers offer Short Message Service (SMS), they shall allow access by any other covered text provider to the capabilities necessary for transmission of

988 text messages originating on such other covered text providers’ application services.

(c) *Definitions.* For purposes of this section:

988 text message. (i) Means a message consisting of text, images, sounds, or other information that is transmitted to or from a device that is identified as the receiving or transmitting device by means of a 10-digit telephone number, N11 service code, or 988;

(ii) Includes and is not limited to a SMS message and a multimedia message service (MMS) message; and

(iii) Does not include—

(A) A real-time, two-way voice or video communication; or

(B) A message sent over an IP-enabled messaging service to another user of the same messaging service, except a message described in paragraph (b) of this section.

Covered 988 text message means a 988 text message in SMS format and any other format that the Wireline Competition Bureau has determined must be supported by covered text providers.

Covered text provider includes all CMRS providers as well as all providers of interconnected text messaging services that enable consumers to send text messages to and receive text messages from all or substantially all text-capable U.S. telephone numbers, including through the use of applications downloaded or otherwise installed on mobile phones.

Multimedia message service (MMS) shall have the same definition as the term in §64.1600(k) of this chapter.

Short message service (SMS) shall have the same definition as the term in §64.1600(m) of this chapter.

[87 FR 412, Jan. 5, 2022]

APPENDIX TO PART 52—DEPLOYMENT SCHEDULE FOR LONG-TERM DATABASE METHODS FOR LOCAL NUMBER PORTABILITY

Implementation must be completed by the carriers in the relevant MSAs during the periods specified below:

Phase I—10/1/97–3/31/98

Chicago, IL	3
Philadelphia, PA	4
Atlanta, GA	8
New York, NY	2

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Los Angeles, CA 1
 Houston, TX 7
 Minneapolis, MN 12

Phase II—1/1/98-5/15/98

Detroit, MI 6
 Cleveland, OH 20
 Washington, DC 5
 Baltimore, MD 18
 Miami, FL 24
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 39
 Orlando, FL 40
 Cincinnati, OH 30
 Tampa, FL 23
 Boston, MA 9
 Riverside, CA 10
 San Diego, CA 14
 Dallas, TX 11
 St. Louis, MO 16
 Phoenix, AZ 17
 Seattle, WA 22

Phase III—4/1/98-6/30/98

Indianapolis, IN 34
 Milwaukee, WI 35
 Columbus, OH 38
 Pittsburgh, PA 19
 Newark, NJ 25
 Norfolk, VA 32
 New Orleans, LA 41
 Charlotte, NC 43
 Greensboro, NC 48
 Nashville, TN 51
 Las Vegas, NV 50
 Nassau, NY 13
 Buffalo, NY 44
 Orange Co, CA 15
 Oakland, CA 21
 San Francisco, CA 29
 Rochester, NY 49
 Kansas City, KS 28
 Fort Worth, TX 33
 Hartford, CT 46
 Denver, CO 26
 Portland, OR 27

Phase IV—7/1/98-9/30/98

Grand Rapids, MI 56
 Dayton, OH 61
 Akron, OH 73
 Gary, IN 80
 Bergen, NJ 42
 Middlesex, NJ 52
 Monmouth, NJ 54
 Richmond, VA 63
 Memphis, TN 53
 Louisville, KY 57
 Jacksonville, FL 58
 Raleigh, NC 59
 West Palm Beach, FL 62
 Greenville, SC 66

Honolulu, HI 65
 Providence, RI 47
 Albany, NY 64
 San Jose, CA 31
 Sacramento, CA 36
 Fresno, CA 68
 San Antonio, TX 37
 Oklahoma City, OK 55
 Austin, TX 60
 Salt Lake City, UT 45
 Tucson, AZ 71

Phase V—10/1/98-12/31/98

Toledo, OH 81
 Youngstown, OH 85
 Ann Arbor, MI 95
 Fort Wayne, IN 100
 Scranton, PA 78
 Allentown, PA 82
 Harrisburg, PA 83
 Jersey City, NJ 88
 Wilmington, DE 89
 Birmingham, AL 67
 Knoxville, KY 79
 Baton Rouge, LA 87
 Charleston, SC 92
 Sarasota, FL 93
 Mobile, AL 96
 Columbia, SC 98
 Tulsa, OK 70
 Syracuse, NY 69
 Springfield, MA 86
 Ventura, CA 72
 Bakersfield, CA 84
 Stockton, CA 94
 Vallejo, CA 99
 El Paso, TX 74
 Little Rock, AR 90
 Wichita, KS 97
 New Haven, CT 91
 Omaha, NE 75
 Albuquerque, NM 76
 Tacoma, WA 77

[62 FR 18295, Apr. 15, 1997]

**PART 53—SPECIAL PROVISIONS
 CONCERNING BELL OPERATING
 COMPANIES**

Subpart A—General Information

- Sec.
 53.1 Basis and purpose.
 53.3 Terms and definitions.

**Subpart B—Bell Operating Company Entry
 Into InterLATA Services [Reserved]**