

NANPA Attends Public Meetings at Regulator Requests

Once an NPA relief petition has been filed with the appropriate state regulatory agency, the agency may conduct public hearings/meetings to obtain the public's input on the proposed relief alternatives. State regulators use the information gathered from these meetings in the overall decision-making process on what type of relief to implement.

At the request of the regulator, NANPA will provide assistance in preparing for the meetings as well as participate in the presentation of the material. Recent examples of hearings where NANPA participated include Texas (512 NPA), Nevada (702 NPA) and California (415 NPA). California has a state law requiring at least one local jurisdiction hearing and at least three public participation hearings be conducted when a new area code is needed.

NANPA shares its unique experience in these types of public meetings with the regulators and provides guidance in both the content and structure of the meetings. NANPA also provides suggestions of handout materials (e.g., agenda, the basics of relief planning, a prefix/rate center chart, comment form), rate center maps, and, if the regulator wishes to use it, a draft script which will explain the relief planning process, area code splits and overlays and the impacts of the proposed alternative.

The value of NANPA attending these meetings is also very important. NANPA not only provides a voice for the industry's recommended relief alternative but can answer the myriad of questions from the general public to help them understand why a new area code is needed. Further, as additional public meetings are scheduled, state regulatory staff can assume NANPA's role in these forums as they become more familiar with the relief alternatives and the relief planning process.

The introduction of an area code, whether via an NPA overlay or split, means a change to the customer. Some of the primary concerns voiced by the participants at public meetings center on possible number changes associated with a split (a number change at the area code level), the need to dial ten digits with an overlay and the impact of a new NPA on local businesses. The goal of these meetings is to receive input from the public on the various relief alternatives available and address the public's concerns. Ensuring the state regulators have the appropriate information available for these meetings and assisting in educating the public about the relief options being considered is a valuable part of the overall relief planning process. ■

What is NPA Jeopardy?

On March 12, 2013, NANPA declared the Ohio NPA 440 in jeopardy. Ten or 15 years ago, NPA jeopardy situations were quite common. Fortunately, over the past several years, NPAs in jeopardy have declined significantly due primarily to the implementation of number optimization measures such as thousand-block pooling and semi-annual utilization and forecast reporting. Still, instances will occur when an area code jeopardy condition can exist. Which leads to the question: what is NPA jeopardy?

When an area code approaches the end of its normal life cycle, there may be a condition when the demand for central office codes (prefixes) increases before a new area code can be implemented (relief). This situation is known as a jeopardy condition. According to the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines, a NPA jeopardy condition exists "when the forecasted and/or actual demand for NXX resources will exceed the known supply during the planning/implementation interval for relief."

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Mark Your Calendar!

INC Calendar

INC 129	Week of April 22, 2013 Minneapolis, MN
INC 130	Week of June 17, 2013 Overland Park, KS
INC 131	Week of August 19, 2013 Denver, CO

NANC Calendar

June 20, 2013	Washington, DC
Sept 18, 2013	Washington, DC
Dec 10, 2013	Washington, DC

News Brief

The 2012 NANPA Annual Report is now available on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com). The annual report provides an excellent summary of the status of all NANP resources, addresses NANPA's quality assurance measurements and includes a summary of numbering activities over the past year.

NANPA released new area code exhaust projections for the Oklahoma 405 and Ohio 440, 513, 614 and 740 NPAs. The revised NPA exhaust projections can be found on the NANPA website under Reports, NRUF.

On March 25, 2013, Ontario, Canada saw two new area codes introduced: NPA 437 as part of the 416/437/647 overlay and NPA 365, as part of the 289/365/905 overlay complex

On April 1, 2013, the Chaska rate center was consolidated under the TWINCITIES rate center in Minnesota 952 NPA. Effective April 8, 2013, the New Market, Prior Lake, and Webster rate centers will be consolidated under the TWINCITIES rate center.

Since the award of the NANPA new contract in June 2012, Neustar has been working to update the NANP Administration System (NAS). Specifically, we have upgraded existing system hardware components and developed improved application software that delivers richer functionality. Deployment is planned for late April. Notification of system turn-up will be distributed to the industry.

The April 2013 NPA and NANP exhaust projections will be available on the NANPA website at the end of April. Notice of their availability will be provided via the NANP Notification System. ■



Area Code Relief Planning Activity

Pennsylvania 570 NPA Overlay a 'Go' – On March 12, 2013, the Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission (PUC) directed carriers to proceed with the implementation of the 272 area code overlay of the 570 NPA and begin customer education and permissive dialing. Permissive seven-digit and ten-digit dialing started on March 21, 2013. Mandatory 10-digit dialing will begin on September 21, 2013. The effective date of the new 272 NPA will be October 21, 2013.

Oklahoma 405 NPA Relief Planning Canceled – On February 28, 2013, NANPA revised the exhaust projection of the 405 NPA from 1Q16 to 4Q16. As a result, relief planning activities planned for this NPA were canceled.

Relief Pending for TX 281/713/832 NPA Overlay – In January 2013, NANPA filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUCT) an amendment to the March 6, 2000 relief petition for an additional overlay NPA code to the Houston 281/713/832 overlay complex. Comments to the PUCT are due April 5, 2013.

Jeopardy Declared in OH 440 NPA – On March 12, 2012, NANPA revised the exhaust projection for the 440 NPA from 2Q26 to 2Q14 and declared the NPA in jeopardy. A NPA jeopardy condition exists when the forecasted and/or actual demand for NXX resources will exceed the known supply during the planning/implementation interval for relief. Relief planning activities were initiated in March with additional meetings planned for May.

NANPA Assumes Relief Planning Responsibilities for Ohio NPAs – At the request of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO), NANPA has assumed the relief planning responsibilities for all of the Ohio area codes. Previously, the PUCO had retained its NPA relief planning oversight authority, to include the facilitation of relief planning activities. Ohio was the only state that retained this authority when the relief planning function transitioned to NANPA in 1998.

Revised Exhaust Projections for Ohio NPAs – On March 12, 2013, NANPA published revised exhaust projections for the 513, 614 and 740 NPAs. As a result, relief planning for the 740 area code was initiated and will be coordinated with the relief activity planned for the 440 NPA.

Public Meetings Held for California 415 NPA – Local jurisdiction and public meetings were conducted by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and NANPA on January 16 and 17, 2013. With this input, NANPA will file an application on behalf of the industry with the CPUC recommending an overlay of the 415 area code. This application is expected to be filed in May.

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NANP Resource Status Update

The following is an update on NANP resource assignment activity from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

NPA Codes

Three NPAs were assigned this past year. NPA 782 was assigned as the relief area code for the Prince Edward Island/Nova Scotia, Canada 902 NPA. NPA 725 was assigned as the relief area code for Nevada's 702 NPA. Finally, NPA 364 was assigned as the relief NPA for the Kentucky 270 area code.

One area code (NPA 582) previously assigned to relieve an existing geographic area code in Pennsylvania was returned to the NPA inventory when NPA relief implementation was dismissed by the state regulatory authority. As such, this area code will be retained as a reserved, future NPA unless otherwise directed by the state commission.

At the end of 2012, there were 392 assigned NPAs in the NANP. Of these, 364 were in service; 350 as geographic area codes and 14 as non-geographic codes. There were 28 area codes awaiting implementation. 289 NPAs were currently unassigned. The table below identifies those NPAs introduced in 2012.

NPAs Introduced in 2012

NPA	Date In Service	Location	Overlay?	Parent NPA	Planning Letter Number(s)	NPA Overlay Complex
667	3/24/12	Maryland	Yes	410/443	427 299 266	410/443/667
566	4/17/12	Non-Geographic	Yes	500	436 432 424	500/533/544/566
984	4/30/12	North Carolina	Yes	919	422 306 271	919/984
873	9/15/12	Quebec, Canada	Yes	819	425 405	819/873
431	11/3/12	Manitoba, Canada	Yes	204	435 433 419	204/431
669	11/20/12	California	Yes	408	430 206 149	408/669

Central Office Code Assignments

For 2012, NANPA assigned 2,637 central office codes. A total of 572 codes were disconnected. Below is a comparison of 2012 with 2006 through 2011:

	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Total Code Requests Processed	10,243	13,782	12,100	11,988	15,186	18,110	17,298
Total Assignments	2,637	2,889	2,795	2,144	2,946	3,216	4,079
Net Assignments	2,065	2,273	2,484	1,610	2,162	2,467	3,413
Changes	6,199	9,336	8,203	8,572	10,590	12,778	11,209
Denials	833	941	792	736	865	1,364	1,326
Disconnects	572	616	310	534	784	749	666
Cancellations*	181	176	264	193	259	229	361
Reservations	2	0	0	2	1	3	18
Pooling Pass Throughs	7,321	9,441	6,936	5,960	7,700	7,970	9,038

*Cancellations are not included in the total quantity of code requests processed.

Feature Group (FG) B Carrier Identification Codes (CICs)

During 2012, one FG B CIC was assigned by NANPA and six FG B CICs were returned/reclaimed. At the end of 2012, 270 FG B CICs were assigned in total. The potential exhaust of the FG B CIC resource is not a concern based on the current rate of assignment.

Feature Group (FG) D CICs

In 2012, NANPA assigned 39 FG D CICs, yielding an average assignment rate of 3.5 codes per month. US/Canadian switchless resellers received seven of these assignments. A total of 37 FG D CICs were returned or reclaimed in 2012.

At the end of 2012, 2,040 FG D CICs were assigned in total, leaving 7,737 FG D CICs available for assignment. The potential exhaust of the FG D CIC resource is not a concern based on the current rate of assignment. It should be noted however that the FCC limits the number of FG D CICs assignments to two CICs per "entity"

5YY NPA

During 2012, NANPA assigned 365 new 5YY-NXX codes (yielding an average assignment rate of 30 codes per month). At the end of 2012, a total of 2,669 5YY-NXX codes were assigned. Eight 5YY-NXX codes were returned/reclaimed in 2012 and 495 codes remained available for assignment. There are presently 25 area codes reserved for 5YY purposes.

900 NPA

In 2012, there was one new 900-NXX assignment and no codes were returned/reclaimed. At the end of 2012, there were 101 codes assigned, 39 codes reserved (for Canadian use) and 652 available NXXs.

555 Line Numbers

In 2012, there was one new 555 line number assigned by NANPA. Ninety-three (93) 555 line number assignments were reclaimed. At the end of 2012, a total of 7,446 national assignments and 385 non-national line number assignments (290 actual line numbers, assigned to one or more assignees in one or more NPAs) were in effect. In addition, 116 line numbers remain in "dispute" status and 100 line numbers are reserved for the entertainment/advertising industries. At year end, 2,028 555 line numbers were available for assignment.

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What is NPA Jeopardy?

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In order to provide a continuous supply of codes to service providers in a jeopardy situation, certain code conservation measures are implemented. When NANPA declares an NPA in jeopardy, standard interim procedures of central office code “rationing” take effect immediately and are posted to the NANPA website within one week after declaration of jeopardy. These interim procedures remain in effect until the industry meets to develop final jeopardy procedures specific to the area code.

Within thirty days after jeopardy is declared, the industry will develop and approve final jeopardy procedures. These procedures typically limit the number of central office codes that can be assigned each month. NANPA posts the final jeopardy procedures to this website within two weeks after the industry reaches consensus on the content.

Typically, with the introduction of a new area code, the jeopardy situation ends and the final jeopardy procedures are no longer needed. Significant changes in CO code demand and/or forecasted demand may also result in the rescinding of jeopardy.

The list of NPAs in jeopardy and their jeopardy procedures is available on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) under Publications, Jeopardy Procedures. ■

NRUF Reporting by Rural Carriers with Pooled Codes

Rural service providers with whole central office codes (NPA-NXXs) in their numbering inventories are strongly encouraged to check the pooling status of their codes before reporting utilization on the NRUF. The pooling status of a code can be checked by referencing the Central Office Code Utilized Report on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com). Individual thousands-block assignments can be checked using the Block Report on the Pooling Administrator’s website (www.nationalpooling.com).

Per the NRUF Geographic Job Aid:

“Rural carriers are required to complete either the U2 or U4 utilization reports at the NXX level and the appropriate forecast forms.

Please note an exception exists if the rural carrier is reporting on NPA-NXXs that are pooled. The rural carrier must report on the status of pooled NPA-NXX codes on the U1 or U3 utilization reports because the U2 and U4 forms do not accommodate reporting at the block (NPA-NXX-X) level.”

If the rural service provider reports utilization for a pooled code on a U2 rather than the U1, a missing utilization notification may be generated since no utilization was reported for individual thousands-blocks within the code.

The Utilization Missing Report under NRUF Reports in NAS was modified in 2010 to list thousands-blocks as well as central office codes.

Also, as noted in the NRUF Geographic Job Aid, a service provider may submit more than one utilization form within a NRUF filing:

“Carriers that receive numbering resources from NANPA, the PA, and from another carrier, or that are rural carriers in some but not all areas will need to complete more than one utilization form to account for all of their numbering resources.” ■

Area Code Relief Planning Activity

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Relief Planning Initiated for South Carolina 843 NPA – NANPA conducted a relief planning meeting for the 843 area code on March 21, 2013. The industry reached a consensus on a relief plan which NANPA will submit to the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Implementation of Texas 512 Overlay – In June 2012, the Texas Public Utilities Commission approved an all-services overlay as the relief method for the 512 NPA. Ten-digit permissive dialing started on December 1, 2012. Mandatory 10-digit dialing will begin on June 1, 2013. The effective date of the new 737 NPA is July 1, 2013. (See PL-438)

Implementation of Nevada 702 NPA Overlay – In November 2012, the Nevada Public Utilities Commission approved an all-services overlay of the 702 NPA. The new 725 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 702 NPA. Permissive 10-digit dialing is scheduled to begin on August 3, 2013 with mandatory 10-digit dialing on May 3, 2014. The effective date for the new 725 NPA is June 3, 2014. (See PL-445). ■

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NANP Resource Status Update

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800-855 Line Numbers

800-855 numbers are used only for the purpose of accessing public services on the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) intended for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired. No 800-855 number assignments were made in 2012.

Vertical Service Codes, NPA 456-NXX codes, N11 codes and ANI Information Digit Pairs

There were no assignments of these NANP resources in 2012. ■