

NANPA news

First Quarter 2014

Provided by the North American Numbering Plan Administration

NANP Resource Status Update

The following is an update on NANP resource assignment activity from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013.

NPA Codes

Eight NPAs were assigned this past year. NPA 346 was assigned as the relief area code for the Texas 281/713/832 overlay complex. NPA 930 was assigned as the relief NPA for the Indiana 812 area code. NPA 629 was assigned to relieve the Tennessee 615 NPA. In Canada, NPA 548 was assigned to relieve the 519/226 overlay complex in Southwestern Ontario and NPA 825

was assigned to relieve the 403/587/780 overlay complex in Alberta. NPA 220 was assigned as the relief area code for the Ohio 740 area code. In South Carolina, the 854 area code was assigned to relieve the 843 NPA. Finally, NPA 628 was assigned as the relief NPA for the California 415 area code.

At the direction of the industry, four area codes (NPAs 550, 535, 546 and 558) were moved from “available” to “reserved” for future non-geographic NPAs.

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Streamlined NPA Relief Process

The industry recently agreed to a streamlined NPA relief planning process when an additional area code is required for an existing overlay complex or when an all-services overlay is the only relief option that will meet industry guidelines. This process is the resolution of the Industry Numbering Committee (INC) Issue 769.

Presently the relief planning process starts with NANPA developing a draft Initial Planning Document (IPD), which examines various relief options for an area code. The industry meets to review these options and finalize an IPD that is presented to the industry at the official NPA relief meeting. Throughout this process, there are numerous activities that must be accomplished, to include the development of pros and cons associated with each alternative identified in the IPD, discussions on each of the alternatives and reaching industry consensus on a recommended relief plan, the publication and approval of meeting minutes and drafting a petition to be filed with the appropriate state regulatory agency. This process requires NANPA to coordinate numerous meetings within prescribed time intervals and industry representatives to participate in order to reach a final recommendation.

NANPA submitted Issue 769 to the INC, proposing a modified relief planning process when 1) an additional NPA is required for an existing overlay complex and 2) NANPA has determined that an overlay is the only alternative that will meet the guidelines. With the streamlined process, the IPD, relief planning meeting and industry consensus recommendation are eliminated, allowing NANPA to draft a petition to the appropriate regulatory agency when NPA relief is needed. This draft petition will be reviewed and approved by the industry prior to submission.

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Need a Source on Numbering?

Ever have a question about when an area code was introduced? Have you needed to know when a particular NANP Administration System (NAS) feature was deployed? Have you ever been asked how many CO codes were assigned in a particular year? Have you ever needed to know what the dialing plan was ten years ago for a specific NPA? The answer is available on the NANPA website: NANPA's Annual Report.

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Mark Your Calendar!

INC Calendar

INC 136	May 5–9, 2014 Denver, CO
INC 137	Week of July 28, 2014 Denver, CO
INC 138	Week of September 15, 2014 Washington, DC

NANC Calendar

June 17, 2014	Washington, DC
September 17, 2014	Washington, DC
December 9, 2014	Washington, DC

News Brief

The 2013 NANPA Annual Report is now available on the NANPA website (http://www.nationalnanpa.com/reports/reports_annual.html). 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.

Effective February 18, 2014, the OSSEO rate center was consolidated under the TWINCITIES rate center in Minnesota (763 NPA).

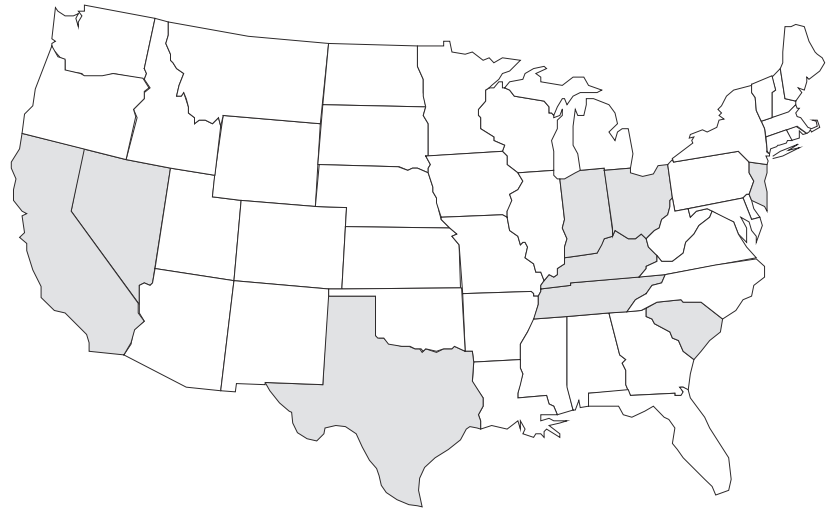
Effective May 21, 2014, the BROOKINGSR (BROOKINGS RURAL) rate center will be added under the South Dakota 605 NPA.

In the NANPA Planning Letter 465, the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) of the U.S. Government notified the industry that the non-geographic 710 NPA should allow unrestricted and ubiquitous access in all international and domestic carriers for authorized users of the 710 NPA.

The April 2014 NPA, NANP and 5XX NPA exhaust projections will be posted on the NANPA website at the end of April. Notice of their availability will be provided via the NANP Notification System.

The NAS 5XX-NXX User Guide and NAS NRUF On-line User Guide were updated in January 2014.

Need to find a contact in any of the NANP member countries that addresses numbering issues? This information can be found on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) under "Tools," "NANP Country Contacts." ■



Area Code Relief Planning Activity

Kentucky 270/364 NPA Overlay Completed – On March, 3, 2014, the new 364 NPA became effective (See PL-449). The 364 NPA serves the same geographic area served by the 270 area code.

Mandatory 10-Digit Dialing Starts in May for Nevada 702 NPA – On November 15, 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 started on August 3, 2013 with mandatory 10-digit dialing beginning May 3, 2014. The effective date for the new 725 NPA is June 3, 2014. (See PL-445).

Fourth NPA for Texas 281/713/832 NPA Complex – On April 25, 2013, the Texas Public Utilities Commission approved an all-services overlay of the 281/713/832 overlay complex. The new 346 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 281/713/832 overlay complex. The effective date of the 346 area code is July 1, 2014. (See PL-453).

NPA 959 Coming to Connecticut in August – In the Decision dated September 22, 1999, Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ordered the 959 area code overlay on the existing 860 NPA. In accordance with industry consensus, all network preparation for the implementation of the 959 NPA should be completed by August 30, 2014. Since ten-digit dialing is already mandatory in the area served by these codes, no permissive dialing period is required in preparation for this overlay. The effective date of the 959 area code is August 30, 2014. (See PL-456).

Ten-Digit Permissive Dialing for Indiana 930 NPA – On July 31, 2013, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission approved an all-services overlay of the 812 NPA. The new 930 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 812 NPA. Permissive 10-digit dialing started March 1, 2014. Mandatory 10-digit dialing will begin on September 6, 2014. The effective date for the new 930 NPA is October 6, 2014. (See PL-457).

Permissive 10-Digit Dialing for Tennessee 615 NPA Overlay – On October 23, 2013, the Tennessee Regulatory Authority approved an all-services overlay of the 615 NPA. The new 629 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 615 NPA. Permissive 10-digit dialing is scheduled to begin July 26, 2014 with mandatory 10-digit dialing starting February 28, 2015. The effective date for the new 629 NPA is March 28, 2015. (See PL-459).

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NANP Resource Status Update

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At the end of 2013, there were 400 assigned NPAs in the NANP. Of these, 371 were in service (356 geographic/15 non-geographic). There were 29 area codes awaiting implementation. 281 NPAs were currently unassigned. The table below identifies those NPAs introduced in 2013.

NPAs Introduced in 2013

NPA	Date In Service	Location	Overlay?	Parent NPA	Planning Letter Number(s)	NPA Overlay Complex
437	3/25/13	Ontario, Canada	Yes	416/647	447 441 426	416/647/437
365	3/25/13	Ontario, Canada	Yes	905/289	448 440R1 420	289/905/365
639	5/25/13	Saskatchewan, Canada	Yes	306	446 439 431	306/639
236	6/1/13	British Columbia, Canada	Yes	604/778/250	450 428	604/778/250/236
737	7/1/13	Texas	Yes	512	438	512/737
272	10/21/13	Pennsylvania	Yes	570	451 444 409	570/272
844	12/7/13	Toll-free	Yes	800	455 452 443	800/888/877/866/855/844

Central Office Code Assignments

For 2013, NANPA assigned 2,712 central office codes. A total of 284 code returns were approved. Below is a comparison of 2013 with 2007 through 2012:

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Total Code Requests Processed	20,362	10,243	13,782	12,100	11,988	15,186	18,110
Total Assignments	2,712	2,637	2,889	2,795	2,144	2,946	3,216
Net Assignments	2,428	2,065	2,273	2,484	1,610	2,162	2,467
Changes	16,366	6,199	9,336	8,203	8,572	10,590	12,778
Denials	1,000	833	941	792	736	865	1,364
Returns	284	572	616	310	534	784	749
Cancellations*	267	181	176	264	193	259	229
Reservations	0	2	0	0	2	1	3
Pooling Pass Throughs	7,995	7,321	9,441	6,936	5,960	7,700	7,970

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

NANP Resource Status Update

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

During 2013, no FG B CICs were assigned and six FG B CICs were returned/ reclaimed. At the end of 2013, 264 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 Carrier Identification Codes (CICs)

In 2013, NANPA assigned 33 FG D CICs, yielding an average assignment rate of 2.75 codes per month. US/Canadian switchless resellers received eight of these assignments. A total of 49 FG D CICs were returned or reclaimed in 2013.

At the end of 2013, 2,024 FG D CICs were assigned in total, leaving 7,753 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 CIC assignments to two CICs "entity"

5XX NPA

During 2013, NANPA assigned 341 new 5XX-NXX codes (yielding an average assignment rate of 27 codes per month). At the end of 2013, a total of 2,999 5XX-NXX codes were assigned. Eleven 5XX-NXX codes were returned in 2013 and 165 codes remained available for assignment.

900 NPA

In 2013, no new 900-NXX assignments were made and 41 codes were returned/ reclaimed. At the end of 2013, there were 60 codes assigned, 39 codes reserved (for Canadian use) and 693 available NXXs.

555 Line Numbers

The intended use for 555 line numbers, in the format 555-XXXX, where X is any digit from 0 through 9, includes the provisioning of information services, but may grow to include a broad range of existing and future services as well. In 2013, no new 555 line numbers were assigned or reclaimed. At the end of 2013, 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.

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. One 800-855 number assignment was made in 2013. There were a total of 94 800-855 line numbers assigned at the end of 2013.

NPA 456-NXX Codes

The purpose of NPA 456 and its associated NXXs is to enable the routing of inbound international calls for carrier-specific services, particular to that service provider's network, to and between countries served by the NANP. No new 456-NXX assignments were requested during 2013. Four 456-NXX codes were recovered, resulting in a total of four 456-NXXs assigned at the end of 2013.

Vertical Service Codes, N11 codes and ANI Information Digit Pairs

There were no assignments of these NANP resources in 2013. ■

Streamlined NPA Relief Process

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Examples of where this process would have benefitted the industry include the recent relief projects for the Tennessee 615 NPA and the Texas 281/713/832 NPAs. Tennessee 615 NPA is a single area code but had such a high concentration of assigned central office codes in one rate center, the only viable relief alternative was an overlay. In the Texas 281/713/832 NPA situation, since it was already an overlay complex, the only feasible relief option was adding another NPA to the complex. This process may apply in the near future for the relief of the Texas 210 NPA which only has one rate center, thus the all-services overlay may be the only viable relief option.

This relief process will still require industry input in the development of the relief petition and recommended implementation intervals. Further, state regulatory agencies will continue to be invited to assist in the review of the draft petition before it is filed as well as make the final decision concerning the type of relief to be implemented.

The Issue 769 resolution also included the addition of a footnote to the *NPA Relief Planning and Notification Guidelines* referencing the NANC Local Number Portability Administration (LNPA) Working Group Best Practice 30 recommendation that supported overlays as the preferred form of area code relief. The resolution also included a footnote to encourage service providers to make 1+10-digit dialing permissive when 10-digit local dialing is implemented due to an overlay. ■

Need a Source on Numbering?

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Each year, NANPA publishes an annual report. The report, available at the end of March, provides a detailed overview of the state of the NANP. Data concerning resource assignments and reclamations, NPA relief planning activities, NRUF process improvements and information about NANPA enterprise services is provided. Also included are various statistics concerning quality and performance measurements that NANPA must adhere to as part of its contract. And finally, there are numerous appendices that provide information about reserved NPAs, NPA dialing plans, NPA and NANP exhaust information and contact information for NANP-member countries.

The annual report is purposely designed to adhere to a specific format, making it easier to find similar information contained in the document year over year. NANPA annual reports are found at http://www.nationalnanpa.com/reports/reports_annual.html. The 2013 NANPA Annual report is now available on the NANPA website. ■

Where did the Codes Go?

Below is a list of the top five states in the U.S. in terms of net (total codes assigned less codes returned) assignments in 2013.

State	Net CO Code Assignments
Texas	307
California	284
Ohio	159
Illinois	150
New York	145

In terms of area codes, Texas' 281/713/832 led the pack with net assignments equaling 80 codes. Somewhat surprising, West Virginia's 304/681 came in second with 75 codes. The Texas 214/469/972 complex followed with 51 net code assignments. ■

Tips on NRUF Forecasting

Whether you are new to filing Form 502 or are a veteran filer, below are some tips for service providers to improve your geographic NRUF forecast:

- Keep in mind the “quantity of telephone numbers” associated with each NRUF forecast worksheet before completing it:
 - The F1a and F1b are for pooling carriers in pooling areas and the forecast is at the thousands-block level. This means that placing “1” in any year means that you are forecasting the need for 1,000 telephone numbers in that area code/rate center combination.
 - The F2a and F2b are for non-pooling carriers in pooling areas and the forecast is at the central office code level. This means that place a “1” in any year means that you are forecasting the need for 10,000 telephone numbers in that area code/rate center combination.
 - The F3a and 3b are for carriers in non-pooling areas, and like the F2a and F2b, the forecast is at the central office code level.
- If you are expanding your service area to a new pooling area, understand the NRUF forecast is a projection of where you will be requesting telephone numbering resources based on rate centers. Rate center boundaries may or may not coincide with LATA (local access and transport area) boundaries or marketing plans for a particular geographic area such as an entire state.
- Service providers should take notice of the timing of rate center additions or consolidations in order to avoid generating errors in the forecast portion of their NRUF. The service provider will need to update the forecast section to reflect the new rate center(s) on or after the effective date of the addition or consolidation.
- When forecasting in overlay areas, only forecast for one of the NPAs in the overlay complex (e.g., provide a forecast for either NPA 539 or NPA 918 in the 539/918 overlay complex in the Tulsa, Oklahoma area.) Per the NRUF Geographic Job Aid document on the NANPA website, the Number Administrator will check to see if the service provider has included a forecast for any of the NPAs in the overlay when evaluating a code or thousands-block application.
- It is not necessary to provide a non-zero forecast (i.e., a forecast greater than zero codes or thousands-blocks) for NPA/rate center combinations where you already have resources. A forecast of all zeros (i.e., “0” in Years 1-5 on a forecast worksheet) is an acceptable forecast if no growth is anticipated in your numbering requirements.
- NRUF forecasts, which are stored in the NANP Administration System (NAS), are separate and distinct from the Thousands-Block Forecast Report: Appendix 1 which is submitted through the Pooling Administration System (PAS).

Having an NRUF on file is required when requesting codes or thousands-blocks from NANPA or the Pooling Administrator. Submitting accurate forecasts helps service providers to avoid errors in the NRUF submission process and provides accurate data for projecting the exhaust of the North American Numbering Plan. ■

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Area Code Relief Planning Activity

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Overlay for California 415 NPA – On December 19, 2013, the California Public Utilities Commission approved an all-services overlay as the relief method for the 415 NPA. The new 628 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 415 NPA. Permissive 1+10-digit dialing is scheduled to begin August 16, 2014 with mandatory 1+10-digit dialing starting February 21, 2015. The effective date for the new 628 NPA is March 21, 2015. (See PL-461).

Ohio 740 NPA Overlay – On December 11, 2013, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio approved an all-services overlay of the 740 NPA. The new 220 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 740 NPA. Permissive 10-digit dialing is scheduled to begin September 20, 2014 with mandatory 10-digit dialing starting March 21, 2015. The effective date for the new 220 NPA is April 22, 2015. (See PL-462).

Dates Set for South Carolina 843 Overlay – On December 4, 2013, the South Carolina Public Service Commission approved an all-services overlay of the 843 NPA. The new 854 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 843 NPA. Permissive 10-digit dialing is scheduled to begin March 14, 2015 with mandatory 10-digit dialing starting September 19, 2015. The effective date for the new 854 NPA is October 19, 2015. (See PL-463). ■

Stay Informed on Numbering

Do you need to be notified when the schedule associated with the introduction of a new area code has been established? Are you responsible for submitting utilization and forecast data (NRUF) and need the latest information about the NRUF submission process? Do you need to be kept informed on changes in industry number assignment guidelines? The NANP Notification System (NNS) capability of the NANP Administration System (NAS) allows interested parties to register to receive notifications on such items as changes to assignment guidelines, NRUF requirements, report availability, client education and system maintenance and availability.

Notifications are categorized as either geographic or non-geographic. Geographic notifications pertain to a specific state and/or area code(s). These notifications address topics such as new processes and changes in central office code administration which impact a specific state and/or NPA. Notices concerning press releases, regulatory directives and data related to the status of resources associated with state conservation deliberations are also included in this category. Finally, notices are distributed concerning NPA relief planning and implementation activities, the development of NPA relief plans and petitions, the availability of meeting notes, and other relief planning documents. Note that access to notices concerning NPA relief is limited to those entities directly involved in the development of area code relief plans.

Non-geographic notifications pertain to INC guideline changes, reminders concerning the submission of the NRUF Form 502, updates to NRUF job aids, changes to NANPA processes, report distribution and availability, NPA and NANP exhaust forecasts, system maintenance/availability and client education. Also included are notifications pertaining to the publication of NANPA Newsletters and Planning Letters.

To receive these notifications, users may either register in NAS or sign-up as a mailing list user by visiting http://www.nationalnanpa.com/contact_us/mailling_list.html (note that distribution of notices concerning NPA relief planning are limited to those entities directly involved in the development of area code relief plans). And you can be assured that you will not be bombarded with emails. In 2013, 159 notifications were distributed by NANPA, half of which addressed NPA relief planning activities. ■