

Decision No. R20-0798-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 20V-0192T

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN
ADMINISTRATION ON BEHALF OF THE COLORADO TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INDUSTRY FOR RELIEF FOR THE 303/720 AREA CODE.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
CONOR F. FARLEY
ESTABLISHING DEADLINE FOR
PARTIES TO FILE RESPONSES TO
JOINT RESPONSE TO DECISION
NO. C20-0576-I AND FOR MEMBERS
OF THE PUBLIC TO SUBMIT COMMENTS**

Mailed Date: November 10, 2020

I. STATEMENT

A. Background

1. On May 4, 2020, the North American Numbering Planning Administrator (NANPA), filed the Petition referenced in the subject line on behalf of the Colorado telecommunications industry for the approval of an overlay relief plan to address the anticipated exhaustion of available telephone numbers in the 303/720 NPA (numbering plan area). Because the 303 and 720 area codes are projected to run out of numbers in the second calendar quarter of 2023, NANPA requests that the Commission approve a nine-month implementation schedule that allows a new NPA (area code) to be implemented six months prior to the projected exhaustion date. NANPA requests that the Commission issue its decision no later than the fourth quarter of 2021.

2. On August 6, 2020, the Commission issued Decision No. C20-0576-I that referred the proceeding to an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The proceeding was subsequently assigned to the undersigned ALJ. In Decision No. C20-0576-I, the Commission noted deficiencies in the information contained in the petition including the lack of specific dates for implementation of the plan, granted permissive intervention to Qwest Corporation, doing business as CenturyLink QC, joined as parties all providers that are currently assigned telephone numbers in the 303/720 NPA, and required NANPA to work with the parties to this proceeding to jointly develop and file, within 45 days of the issuance of Decision No. C20-0576-I, a proposed plan (including specific implementation dates) that addresses the Commission's concerns.¹

3. In Decision No. C20-0576-I, the Commission also stated:

Adding a new area code is an uncommon and noteworthy endeavor, and one in which the public ought to have the opportunity to be heard. So, we direct the Administrative Law Judge to provide a reasonable opportunity for affected individuals or entities to provide feedback on the overlay relief plan.²

4. On September 10, 2020, NANPA sent an invitation to the other parties in the proceeding to participate in a meeting on September 17, 2020, at which the questions raised by the Commission in Decision No. C20-0576-I would be addressed and a report developed addressing those questions.

5. On September 17, 2020, NANPA and 42 of the 54 parties added by the Commission participated in the meeting.

6. On September 21, 2020, NANPA and the 42 parties that participated in the September 17, 2020 meeting filed a Joint Response to Decision No. C20-0576-I (Joint Response). In the Joint Response, those parties seemingly agree on the plan stated therein,

¹ Decision No. C20-0576-I at 2 (¶¶ 3-4).

² *Id.* at 4 (¶ 10).

including the dates for milestones in the overlap implementation process, the medium and methods that will be used in the customer education process, and who will bear the costs of that process.

B. Analysis

7. As noted, the Joint Response appears to answer the questions posed by the Commission in Decision No. C20-0576-I and there appears to be a consensus among the parties to this proceeding concerning those answers. Nevertheless, to provide the parties and the public further opportunity to provide input concerning the plan, the ALJ shall set a deadline of December 23, 2020: (a) for any party to file a written response to the Joint Response in this proceeding; and (b) for any member of the public to submit written comments regarding the overlay relief plan and/or the Joint Response through the Commission's website at <https://puc.colorado.gov/> by clicking on the "FILE A COMMENT OR COMPLAINT" link.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The deadline for the parties to file responses to the Joint Response to Decision No. C20-0576-I (Joint Response) is December 23, 2020.

2. The deadline for members of the public to file comments in this proceeding concerning the overlay relief plan described in the Petition that initiated this proceeding and/or the Joint Response is December 23, 2020. Members of the public can submit comments through the Commission's website at <https://puc.colorado.gov/> by clicking on the "FILE A COMMENT OR COMPLAINT" link and following the ensuing prompts.

3. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

CONOR F. FARLEY

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Dean".

Doug Dean,
Director