

FOR: Public Service commission

Date: 8/17/00
 Name: Marc D Stromberg
 Contact:
 Primary Phone: 435-723-1717
 Other Phone: 435-279-0400
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 Service Street: 130 Ashe Circle
 Service City: Brigham City
 Service State: UT
 Service Zip: 84302
 Mail Street:
 Mail City:
 Mail State:
 Mail Zip:
 Utility Name: Other
 Other Utility: Public Service commission
 Account: 435-723-1717
 Complaint Type: Other
 Complaint: New area codes;

REVIEWED BY COMMISSIONERS

STEPHEN F. MECHAM *[Signature]*
 CONSTANCE B. WHITE CBW 8/23
 CLARK D. JAMES *[Signature]*

I have been in telecommunication for 20 years and I am tired of the public service commission making changes without properly evaluating the full impact to the end user. Industries have been putting their labels on equipment/catalogs for 50 years with their assigned telephone number and with a stroke of a pin you allow these area code changes without think about the impact to the business or to their customers. Have you ever stop to think that this will be a never-ending battle. Do we need to change our telephone numbers every 5 years? Why do a temporary fix to the problem? The real problem is 7-digit dialing for local calls. This was the problem for NANP and is the problem with the assignment of new area codes. In the days of rotary phones 10-digit dialing was to slow ~~Wrong!~~ But with touch-tone phones, redial and speed calling buttons it is no big deal. Also if we would go to ten-digit dialing you would never have to dial a 1 for long distance. The PBX or central office would determine the correct path to dial. Lets move into the twenty first century in a positive direction. Lets be leaders in our industry. Stop creating financial burdens to business who have to change all of their business stationary, letters, business cards, catalogs, labels etc. etc.. Lets eliminate and fix the real problem with the shortage of telephone numbers. Lets make a stand and do the right thing.

Marc D. Stromberg
 Network Design Consultant
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 Suggestion: See above:
 Release?: Yes



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August 22, 2000

Mr. Marc Stromberg
130 Ashe Circle
Brigham City, Utah 84302

RE: Account 435-723-1717, Complaint Concerning New Area Codes

Dear Mr. Stromberg:

We are in receipt of your letter of August 17, 2000, concerning the new 385 Area Code. I would like to present you with the background of the Utah Public Service Commission's April 26, 2000, decision concerning the method of implementation of the new 385 Area Code. Contrary to your statement that the Public Service Commission is making decisions without proper evaluation of impact on the end user, months of research and evaluation of circumstances and public input were considered prior to decision.

Since you state that you have been in telecommunications industry for 20 years, you may be well aware of some of the information I am about to include. However, since I do not know in what areas your expertise lies, please bear with me and I will start at the beginning. The North American Numbering Planning Administration (NANPA) is the federal level entity that has been given the responsibility of distribution of new area codes within North America. NeuStar acts as agent for NANPA.

On September 23, 1999, members of the telecommunications industry (the Industry) and staff of the Utah Public Service Commission (PSC) and the Utah Division of Public Utilities (DPU) met with NANPA in Salt Lake City to discuss a resolution of the pending exhaust of the 801 Area Code. Various options were discussed, including ten-digit dialing for local calls and eleven-digit dialing for long distance. The following day, September 24, 1999, NANPA declared the 801 Area Code in jeopardy and estimated at that time that the exhaust date for the 801 Area Code would be the end of first quarter, 2001.

On October 27, 1999, the PSC filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requesting an accelerated grant of authority to implement number conservation measures which the PSC hoped would slow the exhaust of the 801 Area

Mission Statement

"To promote the public interest in utility regulation and work to assure that all utility customers have access to safe, reliable service at reasonable prices."

Code. This request was recently granted by the FCC in July, 2000. With the permission to implement number conservation measures, the PSC hopes to extend the life of the 801 Area Code. However, in order to gain permission from the FCC to implement number conservation measures, the PSC was required by the FCC to have in place a plan for relief of the 801 Area Code. Knowing that the decision concerning a relief plan would impact the public, the PSC felt it was imperative to have both Industry and public input prior to rendering a decision concerning area code relief.

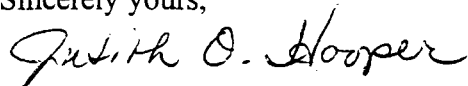
The PSC issued public notice concerning the 801 Area Code exhaust, and along with the DPU and NeuStar acting as facilitators, held hearings in Provo on March 14, 2000, Bountiful on March 15, 2000, Salt Lake City on March 16, 2000, and in Ogden on March 22, 2000. The PSC heard opinions and concerns presented by US West, Inc., other interested parties, and the general public.

The PSC considered many viewpoints and different concerns in reaching its decision on April 26, 2000, to establish an area code relief plan incorporating the new 385 Area Code. Upon deployment, the relief plan will establish the boundary of the existing 801 Area Code around Salt Lake County. All other rate areas in the current 801 Area Code will be served by the new 385 Area Code upon deployment of the relief plan. Brigham City is not affected by this change, and will retain its 435 Area Code. Though the PSC cannot with complete accuracy foretell the future demands of numbering within the world of telecommunications, through databases showing Utah specific numbering usage made available at a federal level, the PSC was able to see the necessity of a new area code for Utah.

The exhaust of the numbers in the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) is not solely a local issue, but also a federal issue. Exhaust of area codes is occurring in a majority of the states. The NANP is presently considering 6 alternatives to expand the Numbering Plan to avoid exhaust which all include adding extra digits to the present ten-digit telephone number identification. By using number conservation measures the NANPA hopes to extend the exhaust of the present national system past the projected 2008 exhaust date, thereby allowing the development and implementation of an expanded and more flexible numbering system.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact me at 801-530-6656. Or you may e-mail me at jhooper@br.state.ut.us.

Sincerely yours,



Judith O. Hooper

JOH:jc