

mechanized. It is paramount that these functions be fully defined and understood before the systems design analysis is performed. To do otherwise would be to guess at the functionality that is needed and to design a structure that might fit the need.

The industry and the Commission must not take data base design lightly. The data base must not be based on guesses and suggestions. The Commission should allow this Notice to complete its cycle, and the Commission should then issue a broad policy regarding number portability requirements. Then, and only then, should the appropriate industry groups begin the process of determining the appropriate data base design. This should not be accomplished by battling suggestions in a comment cycle. The analysis and subsequent design must be performed by industry experts. The public interest will be served only if the end result of the number portability project is a service that runs smoothly and efficiently and satisfies consumer needs.

B. THE COMMISSION SHOULD NOT CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS SUBMITTED DURING THIS COMMENT CYCLE.

Since the Notice seeks comments on alternative designs for the number portability data base, the pleadings cycle is likely to generate several. For the reasons stated above, the Commission should not consider alternatives that may be submitted in this proceeding as anything more than guesses as to what might be a good way of implementing number portability solutions. To give more than minimal credence to such submissions would underestimate the

complexities of proper systems analysis and design. Moreover, the Commission should not attempt to evaluate such submissions to somehow decide which is best. This analysis must be made by the industry experts with knowledge of the specific functions to be performed after the Commission has decided the broad policy issues surrounding number portability.

C. LOCAL NUMBER PORTABILITY PROPOSALS CANNOT BE ADEQUATELY EVALUATED AT THIS TIME.

While SBC cannot, at this time, provide an in-depth analysis of the various number portability proposals, SBC will provide certain suggestions concerning how the analysis should proceed as well as some preliminary thoughts concerning various portability solutions that have been proposed within the industry. Some alternatives are currently being tested, but no results have been published. Industry groups, no doubt, will want to examine the proposals. SBC suggests that the Commission allow the industry processes to run their course; otherwise, reasoned judgment will be impaired.

The industry should define a uniform technical solution consistent with the Commission's number portability policy. The goal of the industry process should be to define a uniform technical portability solution. The concept of multiple solutions implemented on a state-by-state basis would result in dilution of development efforts, less than optimal administrative efforts, potential incompatibilities, and confusion that would serve only to delay implementation of number portability.

The combinations of portability selected--that is, whether service provider portability only is implemented, or whether service provider portability and location portability are implemented--will determine the degree and the extent to which existing systems must be modified. The addition of location portability to a requirement for service provider portability will multiply the impacts on the existing infrastructure. In addition, the area of coverage (i.e., location portability limited to an exchange area, within an NPA, or across several NPA boundaries) will alter which architecture would offer the best solution. With the possible addition of location portability to service provider portability, the selection of the best approaches for determining both the addressing scheme and the location of the data base query will directly relate to the area of coverage chosen.

At this juncture, it appears that if service provider portability with location portability within a limited geographic area were implemented, the best solution might be AT&T's proposal for a Network Routing Address (NRA), Location Routing Number (LRN), addressing approach, with a flexible architecture that would include terminating-end queries. However, if location portability within a larger area were included in addition to service provider portability, the NRA approach would require that switches with ported numbers support numbers with potentially hundreds of different NPA/NXXs, which may be a problem for some older switches.

Further, if service provider portability were to be implemented along with location portability within a large

geographic area, US Intelco's/ELI's Customer Network Address/ Network Node Address (CNA/NNA) addressing approach, along with originating data base queries, may be the best solution. By comparison, however, the CNA/NNA approach appears to have more administrative impacts on the network than the NRA approach.

Both proposals merit further study. It appears, however, that both would require the development of new signaling standards and/or triggers. Therefore, neither can be broadly implemented today.

SBC does not support MCI's proposal for a Carrier Portability Code (CPC) approach. It is unclear how the MCI Metro proposal, which identifies the service provider alone through use of the Carrier Portability Code (CPC), permits geographic identification of the called number for rating purposes. This proposal would, in effect, employ unused Numbering Plan Area (NPA) codes to identify local carriers which would remove 7.92 million numbers per carrier from the available North American Numbering Plan (NANP) resource. This is not an efficient and effective use of the NANP resource and would result in premature exhaust of the NANP. In addition to the NANP resource problem, the MCI proposal would also require additional technical development before it could be broadly implemented.

In contrast to the MCI proposal, the AT&T proposal appears to make minimal demand on NANP resources. The CNA/NNA proposal appears to have this same potential. SBC submits that an

important element in the selection of a long-term alternative is its efficient use of NANP resources.

D. THE INDUSTRY SHOULD DECIDE WHO WILL ADMINISTER THE DATA BASE IN THE LONG TERM.

In paragraph 52, the Commission asks who should administer and own the portability data base, and how its development and ongoing management should be funded. SBC feels strongly that only thorough systems analysis and design will it be possible to provide a solid foundation for number portability. Once the design is completed, an industry group must identify the necessary hardware, software and administration suppliers; a step that will likely involve competitive bidding. Next will come execution of contracts and development of software. Once the system is in place, ongoing hardware, software, and administrative support will be required.

At the beginning of this process, it must be decided what parties will be considered to operate any permanent number portability solution. Millions of dollars will be required at the beginning, and millions of dollars will likely be required annually for operations, hardware, software and administration. SBC supports the creation of an independent, neutral industry organization to "own and operate" the necessary data bases and processes. The organization should not be under the purview of any existing industry forum; rather the entity should stand alone and be free to develop its own operating protocols and procedures. The organization should be comprised of key industry participants, with regular rotations. (These issues can be developed outside the Notice

comment cycle). Funding should come from all industry participants on a competitively neutral basis.

The companies participating in the development of local number portability must be allowed to recover their costs of the analysis, design, and implementation. Appropriate Commission rules should be established before the process begins, to prevent lengthy cost recovery proceedings. For example, the joint RBOC tariff for the national 800 Data Base (filed February, 1993), including the cost recovery accounting requirements, remains under an accounting order and has yet to be approved by the Commission. A similar delay for number portability cost recovery would cripple implementation.

IX. THE COMMISSION SHOULD DISTINGUISH BETWEEN ISSUES RELATED TO 500 SERVICE NUMBER PORTABILITY AND ISSUES RELATED TO 900 SERVICE PORTABILITY.

Under the sub-heading of "Portability for Non-geographic Telephone Numbers," in Paragraph 69, the Commission tentatively concludes that *service provider portability* for 900 and 500 numbers is beneficial for customers of those services. The Commission then seeks comments on a series of related issues.

The Commission errs in placing 900 and 500 services in discussions of local number portability. SBC urges the Commission to review each service based on its own issues. What is appropriate for 500 service is clearly inappropriate for 900 service. There are no significant similarities in applications provided over these dialing plans, and the need for portability must be weighed individually against the costs and the benefits.

Non-geographic codes may become more prevalent. The Commission must not set rules that will apply to these future services only because they are non-geographic. Current and future services should each be treated individually.

Implementing service provider portability for non-geographic numbers requires a ten-digit translation of the dialed 900 number into some form of routing information. This process requires an intelligent network solution and probably a national data base of numbers. As explained above, development of the national data base structure and ongoing administrative procedures will be difficult and extremely costly. Millions of dollars initially and millions of dollars annually will be required to develop and operate such a system. An expense of this magnitude should only be undertaken for specific and significant benefits.

Service provider portability for 900 service will not generate benefits sufficient to offset the cost of implementation. Portability is important when subscribers need to retain their existing number while changing service providers. Such was the case with 800 Service, with a large number of subscribers having widely known 800 numbers (i.e., 1-800-FLOWERS). In the 900 Service industry, this use of "vanity" or "widely known" numbers is not the rule. Certainly, some 900 subscribers may have established number recognition, but not very many, due to the nature of their service.

The cost to implement service provider portability for 900 Service is not limited to the creation of a national data base; it also includes changes in each local exchange network and

upgrades to local data bases. The costs of the national data base and the local exchange networks will have to be paid by someone. In this case, it should be the providers of the 900 Services, not the local exchange companies. Given the moribund growth of 900 Service, it is questionable whether this industry is interested in paying for national data bases and local exchange network modifications. Therefore, should the Commission decide to order 900 service provider portability, the Commission must work with the industry to decide who will create the national data base structure; who will administer ("own") it; who will pay for it; and how local exchange companies will recover costs.

Some argue that most of the regulatory hurdles have already been resolved in the 800 Data Base docket. This is not true. In fact, nine years after that docket was opened, there still is no closure. The tariff that identifies how the costs for the national 800 Data Base will be recovered and accounted has yet to be approved by the Commission. Filed over two and one-half years ago, this tariff remains under an accounting order, awaiting final disposition. The same is true for the interstate access tariffs that govern local exchange carrier cost recovery for 800 Data Base access services.

900 service provider portability will carry a huge price tag and require significant regulatory involvement. While these are not impossible hurdles, SBC questions taking on such a project, given the current low usage (less than 2.5 million minutes of use

per month throughout SWBT territory). Certainly the industry's efforts can be directed more wisely.

In paragraph 70, the Commission requests comments on whether developing and deploying a method for providing number portability for geographic telephone numbers could, or should, include service provider number portability for non-geographic telephone numbers, such as 500 and 900. SBC does not object to the Commission's adopting a set of broad guidelines on non-geographic numbers and service provider portability that would apply to some non-geographic numbers, as long as the Commission does not establish that all non-geographic numbers, under all circumstances, must be service provider portable. Some non-geographic applications (such as the 900 service previously discussed) do not warrant the expense of service provider portability. The guidelines should be general, with each non-geographic application receiving individual analysis of the need for portability.

In paragraph 74, the Commission queries whether the current 800 Data Base structure can be upgraded to include 900 Service (paragraph 78 asks the same question about 500 Service). The hardware and software for 800 Data Base are paid for directly by the users of the service. The hardware was designed to handle 800 service volumes, and the software was written to reflect the needs of 800 Service. There is no "excess capacity" in the system, nor can the software be easily modified to handle 900 Service. The hardware and software are provided under contract to the seven RBOCs jointly as a result of the FCC rulings in CC Docket 86-10.

Including 900 Service or 500 Service under this umbrella would require significant hardware and software modifications and upgrades, at significant cost. Also, including these services in the 800 environment would place them directly under the joint management of the seven RBOCs. This issue alone will generate concern within the industry, not to mention among the seven RBOCs. The Commission must complete its investigation of the "ownership" issue for national portability data bases before making decisions to force 500 and 900 services into the 800 Data Base structure. SBC does not support expanding the 800 Data Base environment to include 500 and 900 services.

X. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, SBC supports the Commission's tentative conclusion that the Commission should assume a leadership role in developing a national number portability policy, but the Commission should focus its role on broad policy development. The Commission should defer to the expertise of industry organizations and standards bodies with respect to the technical details of the implementation of any numbering policy.

The Commission should adopt the definitions of location portability, service provider portability, and service portability that have been defined by the industry and agreed upon by the INC. Furthermore, the "permanent" telephone number portability policy should be driven by end user demand, not by regulatory mandate.

SBC generally supports service provider portability for wireline services when: (1) sufficient end user demand exists; (2) those benefitting from the service are willing to pay for it; (3) adequate cost recovery mechanisms are available; and (4) the network architecture has been identified and agreed upon.

The Commission should limit its consideration of the deployment of location portability to number portability within the metropolitan calling scope of a wireline carrier or the geographic area in an NPA within which all calls are placed on a local basis, whichever is larger. For those desiring number portability outside such limited geographic area, a personal communications service is a more viable alternative.

In light of the lack of customer demand for service portability, SBC urges the Commission not to adopt any policy at the present time that would mandate service portability.

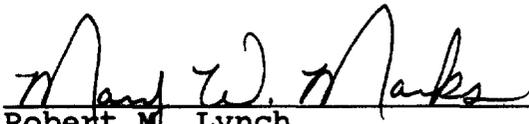
SBC would emphasize that cost recovery issues are critical elements in the formulation of a policy concerning telephone number portability, and cost recovery should be accomplished in a competitively neutral manner.

Telephone number portability, regardless of the manner in which it is implemented, will have significant impacts on many aspects of existing LEC networks. At a minimum, the implementation of a long-term solution for portability will require significant changes in switching and signaling systems, operational support systems, operator services systems, and billing systems.

Wireless number portability presents unique burdens and problems due to differences in technology, the mobile nature of wireless customers, and the potential impact on the current system of nationwide seamless roaming. The Commission should disengage analysis of wireless number portability from analysis of wireline number portability. The Commission should defer to the industry committees to further examine issues related to wireless number portability.

Respectfully submitted,

SBC Communications Inc.

By: 
Robert M. Lynch
Mary W. Marks
J. Paul Walters, Jr.

175 E. Houston, Room 1262
San Antonio, Texas 78205
(210) 351-3478

Attorneys for
SBC Communications Inc.

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APPENDIX A

A PERMANENT LONG-TERM SOLUTION FOR SERVICE PROVIDER PORTABILITY SHOULD NOT BE PROVIDED IN A SWITCH-BASED ENVIRONMENT; RATHER, A DATA BASE SOLUTION HOLDS SOME PROMISE

Depending on the area of coverage and the method of deployment, service provider portability could require the identification of a service provider based on the full ten digits of a dialed number. Given the magnitude of numbers that would be involved, such a function could not feasibly be performed through switch translations. Further, using switch translations would require the modification of every switch in which translations were performed every time a new number was assigned, and every time a service provider was changed. This would require weeks of work for every local exchange company for each of these occurrences. The result would be a service that could not survive its own administrative weight.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the investigation of alternative network architectures currently underway in the industry focuses on effecting number portability through the use of a network address mapped to a customer number stored in a data base. This data is then accessed during call processing. It follows, from the various contributions that have been submitted to the Number Portability Workshop in the INC, that requirements for call routing in a number portability environment will also have a major impact on network signaling protocols.

APPENDIX B

THE IMPACT OF VARIOUS TYPES OF PERMANENT NUMBER PORTABILITY SOLUTIONS ON OPERATOR SERVICES WILL BE SIGNIFICANT

While customers will expect operator services (Toll and Assistance, and Directory Assistance) in a portability environment to remain essentially unchanged, both service provider portability and location portability, will significantly impact all aspects of operator services.

Operator service calls require special handling for alternate billing, dialing assistance, directory assistance, intercept, rate information, coin service, busy line verification and emergency assistance. Several of these services are completely automated, while others require personal assistance. Both service provider portability and location portability raise significant issues related to signaling, billing and recording requirements, rating, and call routing for these operator services calls.

Closely integrated with operator services is the Line Information Data base (LIDB) for Alternate Billing Service (ABS). Significant LIDB and ABS issues will arise from these types of portability, including identification of the true billing or earning company for intercompany settlements, routing of LIDB queries, and determination of billing agreements between the billing and originating companies.

Service provider portability and location portability will have a major impact on other LIDB features based on the geographic location of the called and/or calling party (e.g.,

geographically restricted calling cards), and on the LECs' ability to monitor and control fraud.

Under any proposed location and/or service provider number portability plan, operator services systems will require identification of who is making the call, where the caller is located, who should be billed, what was dialed, and how the call should be routed.

APPENDIX C

THE IMPACT OF VARIOUS TYPES OF PERMANENT NUMBER PORTABILITY SOLUTIONS ON TOLL AND ASSISTANCE OPERATOR SERVICES WILL BE SIGNIFICANT

Toll and assistance operator services are accessed by dialing 0 alone (0-) or by dialing 0+ 10 digits ("0+"). These calls are directed to the appropriate Operator Services Switch ("OSS") for additional handling by an automated system or with operator assistance. InterLATA calls dialed 0+ are routed to the OSS from the local end office based on the calling party's primary inter-exchange carrier ("PIC"). IntraLATA 0+ calls are routed directly to the LEC OSS for handling and recording. Currently, multi-frequency (MF) signaling is used between the local end office and the OSS. In a *service provider portability environment*, the determination of inter-/intraLATA calls could still be made by the originating switch by examining the dialed and calling numbers. However, routing of any operator services call (e.g., 0+, 0-, Directory Assistance, Coin, Intercept) from LEC end-offices directly to a ALEC OSS raises significant translations issues which require additional investigation.

If the originating switch does not launch the data base query before the call is routed to an OSS, then continued use of MF signaling between the originating switch and the OSS may be possible. Billing recordings at the OSS will continue to be based on the dialed number, the 7-digit ANI representing the customer number, and the additional billing information (e.g., calling card, third-number, collect) entered by the caller or the assisting operator.

If the originating switch does launch the data base query before the call is routed to an OSS, then the current MF signaling will not be adequate for transmitting the ported number routing information plus the data base query indicator to the OSS. Any addressing scheme that includes both the original dialed number and the translated routing number will likely require OSS/Signaling System Seven ("SS7") signaling between the originating end office and the OSS to preserve existing operator functionality (e.g., operator hold, coin-control, ringback). SS7 signaling will also be required after operator processing to route the call for completion and to convey other information to the network. Billing and recording at the OSS will require modification to ensure accurate billing of calls involving ported numbers.

With *location portability*, the originating switch will need information regarding the geographic location of the called party, before directing the 0+ call to the appropriate OSS. Since the dialed NPA/NXX would no longer have geographic significance, the originating switch would need to launch a data base query prior to routing the call to operator services. This would require SS7 signaling between the originating office and the OSS. Other specific impacts on assistance operator services are discussed below:

1. Customers needing additional dialing assistance today may simply dial 0- for the LEC OSS operator. For any network architecture relying on an originating query to determine call routing, the operator services switch will need the ability to launch a data

base query. The call could then be routed properly once the inter-/intraLATA determination had been made. SS7 signaling would be required for call termination--to convey the fact that a data base query had been launched, and other routing information.

2. Customers also dial 0- to request rates from an operator. Rating of toll calls today is often based on mileage between the caller and the called party, using the standard Vertical and Horizontal (V&H) coordinate system. In a *service provider portability environment*, such rating should still be possible. However, when *location portability* removes geographic significance from the originating and terminating NPA/NXXs, information on both numbers will be needed at the appropriate OSS for accurate recording and rating. The OSS will need the capability to launch a data base query to obtain this information. Obviously, the rating process would remain simplified if the addressing scheme continued use of geographically significant 6-digit numbers (NPA/NXX) to determine V&H coordinates.

3. Customers also dial 0- to request an operator to verify the status of another customer's line. The operator is able to detect whether conversation is taking place on a line associated with that number. In any number portability environment, the geographic location of the requested line may not be indicated by the NPA/NXX of the requested number. In this situation, the OSS will need to launch a data base query to determine proper routing for Busy Line Verification calls. If the number is served by another service provider, the operator can transfer the caller

provided that Inward Operator trunks have been provisioned. Similarly, if the requested number is an interLATA call, the operator can transfer the caller to an IXC operator if operator transfer trunks have been provisioned between the LEC OSS and the IXC OSS.

4. Operators occasionally receive 0- calls from end-users reporting an emergency. If the caller is unable to identify his location, the operator may be able to use the incoming Automatic Numbering Identification ("ANI") with an internal data base to determine the location of the caller and to identify the appropriate fire, police, or other emergency agency to contact. In other cases, the operator may need to rely on the NPA/NXX to help determine the appropriate emergency agency. When the originating number loses geographic significance, the operator may be unable to make the proper determination. Further, if the 911/E911 operator is unable to identify the location of a caller, the emergency agency will not be directed to the proper location.

5. OSS handling of coin sent-paid toll calls is required for rating, coin control and call routing. In a *service provider portability environment*, it may be possible to continue handling these calls at the OSS, using existing rating tables, based on an examination of the originating and terminating numbers, without the need for an originating data base query. If, however, the network architecture or location portability requires the originating switch to launch a data base query, OSS/SS7 signaling will be required between the originating switch and the OSS for coin

control and conveyance of routing information. Rating functionality at the OSS will need modification to distinguish the true number from the ported number (either originating or terminating) for proper handling.

APPENDIX D

THE IMPACT OF VARIOUS TYPES OF PERMANENT NUMBER PORTABILITY SOLUTIONS ON BASIC DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE AND DIRECTORY PUBLISHING WILL BE SIGNIFICANT.

ALECs may offer their own DA, or make arrangements with the LEC for this service. LECs, including SWBT, provide DA on behalf of independent companies today, and would likely be willing to provide DA services to ALECs under the same basic terms and conditions. Either option requires local service providers to obtain or provide listing information to other local service providers. Customer access to local DA by dialing 555-1212 or 411 from a LEC line will probably continue to be routed in the same manner. Customer access to local DA from a ALEC line will probably be routed to the OSS providing DA for the ALEC. Billing modifications may be necessary at the OSS to ensure proper rating and billing for DA access.

DA systems strive for the most efficient operator search by organizing listings by locality, often by NPA NXX. However, location portability extending beyond the NPA or local calling area described by SBC in these Comments would require a major reassessment of current methods governing LEC provisioning of DA on an NPA basis. This is due to the fact that the NPA NXX of a ported number may no longer be geographically associated with the locality, resulting in additional operator search time and customer confusion. For Example, a St. Louis customer with a "314-235-XXXX" telephone number moves to Cape Girardeau and retains the same telephone number. A locality search in St. Louis may not find the correct listing, requiring the operator to expand the search to

include the entire NPA, thus increasing operator work times and operator costs. Further, significant customer and operator confusion is likely to result for foreign-NPA calls to DA (e.g., 1+NPA+555-1212), because NPA/NXXs lose geographic identity. For example, a St. Louis customer with a "314-235-XXXX" telephone number moves to San Francisco and retains her phone number. Will the LEC provider of "314" DA be expected to retain a listing for that customer? Will other callers dialing "415" DA for San Francisco be able to obtain the correct ported listing?

Location portability also raises some issues for intercept service, which informs callers when the status of a called number has changed (e.g., service disconnects, number changes, customer moves). The end office routes the dialed number to the OSS for intercept processing.¹

Number portability, in any form, will also have a significant impact on directory publishing activities, which traditionally rely on the geographical association between NPA NXX and community to determine the directory scope. Modifications to publishing and delivery systems will be necessary to accommodate number portability.

¹Traditional intercept treatment may not be required in a service provider portability environment when no local number changes are required. Similarly, traditional intercept treatment for number changes may not be required in a location portability environment, assuming that the originating office first launches a data base query to determine call routing.

APPENDIX E

THE IMPACT OF VARIOUS TYPES OF PERMANENT NUMBER PORTABILITY SOLUTIONS ON LIDB SERVICES WILL BE SIGNIFICANT.

The LIDB is an integral element of the national network supporting ABS and other evolving services, including Calling Name Delivery (CNAM), GetData, and Originating Line Number Screening (OLNS). Permanent number portability, in any form, will affect several aspects of LIDB service, including identification of the true earning and billing companies for intercompany settlements, routing of LIDB queries, and reliance upon the geographical significance of the calling and/or called numbers.

ABS provides the OSS with billing validation information for calls billed to a calling card, collect to a called party, and to a third party. The LIDB contains information about the customer's billing number, accessed by the OSS launching an ABS query. The LIDB determines if the billing number is valid for the specific call type.

The SS7 network routes ABS queries from the OSS to the appropriate LIDB, based on the first 6 digits of the billing (queried) number. The LIDB contains some information common to all line records on an NPA/NXX basis, such as the appropriate Revenue Accounting Office (RAO), and other information needed for a specific customer record, such as the calling card PIN. Response messages from the LIDB contain the information necessary for the OSS to route and bill the call.

Billing records generated at the OSS for ABS calls are sent to a local RAO to determine if intercompany settlements are

necessary. Records are exchanged between companies based on the RAO number returned from LIDB. The RAO is determined based on the first 6 digits of the billing number. In a *service provider portability environment*, if an NPA/NXX group no longer identifies a single company, this process will not be sufficient to identify the billing company or the earning company for intercompany settlements.

Permanent number portability solutions present significant problems for the routing of LIDB queries, which are sent to the appropriate LIDB owner based on the first 6 digits of the queried number. The problem is essentially the same for routing of direct-dialed calls, which currently rely on the dialed NPA/NXX for call routing and termination. Unless the CCS network moves to 10-digit routing, or until alternatives are found for unique routing or redirection of LIDB queries, the ALECs may need to store their information in the incumbent LEC data base and rely on the LEC for LIDB services. These services could be provided to the ALECs under the same terms and conditions offered today to independent companies by SWBT and other LECs. LIDB development will be required to identify the true service provider associated with each line record.

LIDB services relying on the geographic integrity of the called and/or calling number information would also be significantly impacted by permanent number portability solutions. Calling cards, for example, can be restricted geographically or to specific destinations. The LIDB examines the called number and/or calling

number provided in the query to determine whether or not to allow the call. The billing number provided in the ABS query must match the line number stored in the LIDB.

The LIDB currently supports adjunct fraud monitoring systems by providing detailed information about each query, including originating and terminating numbers. Fraud detection and deterrence efforts currently rely on analysis of calling, called, and billing numbers. Geographic information is critical to a company's efforts to compare originating and destination locations. Fraud monitoring systems may need the true dialed number and the translated number for investigation purposes.

Other services supported by LIDB would also be affected by permanent number portability, including Calling Name Delivery (CNAM), GetData, and Originating Line Number Screening (OLNS).

CNAM delivers to the called party the name associated with the originating line. When the terminating end office determines that the called party subscribes to CNAM service, a query is launched to the appropriate LIDB for the name associated with the originating line. Routing of these queries is based on the NPA/NXX of the originating line number. If the originating number is ported, the NPA/NXX may not be sufficient for query routing.

GetData aids the development of customized services based on specific data elements from a LIDB record. For example, SWBT supports Single Number Service (SNS) applications by providing ZIP code information via a GetData query. Services like SNS, dependent