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June 20, 1996

HAND DELIVER

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
JUN 20 1996
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: CC Docket No. 96-98;
Ex Parte Presentation

Dear Mr. Caton:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, this letter is to advise you that, at the request of Commission staff, Omnipoint Communications, Inc. met this afternoon with three staff persons from the Commission's Common Carrier Bureau. Attending the meeting on behalf of Omnipoint were Jerry O'Brien and Anna Miller of Omnipoint, and Mark Tauber, Kecia Boney, and myself of Piper & Marbury, L.L.P. Commission staff persons attending the meeting were Marion Gordon, Scott Shefferman, and May DeLuca. During the meeting, Omnipoint presented its position on numbering administration issues as outlined in a two-page bullet sheet which was distributed to Commission staff (attached hereto). Omnipoint expressed its concern that the present numbering administration, including 500-number service access codes, do not adequately address the needs of wireless and other new entrant competitors. Omnipoint also expressed its concern that the North American Numbering Council had not yet been formed and appointed.

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In accordance with the Commission's rules, I hereby submit one original and one copy of this letter for inclusion in the above-referenced docket.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark J. O'Connor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark J. O'Connor
Counsel for Omnipoint Corporation

cc: Marion Gordon
Scott Shefferman
Mary DeLuca

NUMBERING ADMINISTRATION ISSUES

I. The Current Numbering Administration Faces Immediate NPA Exhaust Problems

- In Omnipoint's New York Major Trading Area ("MTA") alone there are eight area codes nearing exhaust. Many other regions of the country face the same problem.
- With number exhaust, numbers become extremely scarce until area code relief is implemented. Dominant LEC typically controls the area code relief process and takes advantage of returned numbers for its own use.
- With area code splits, all telephones in each area must be re-programmed to take new rate centers into account. Splits cause consumer dissatisfaction, and reprogramming raises the costs to all carriers.

II. Current Local Exchange Area Boundaries and Administrative Problems Harm New Entrant Competition

- Without sufficient number resources a new entrant cannot offer competitive services to consumers. So long as the current number scarcity problems persist, the incumbent LEC is advantaged and new competition is harmed.
- Number exhaust problems are only just beginning. As multiple wireless providers and wire-based new entrants become operational, the demand for large blocks of numbers will rise exponentially.
- Currently, PCS providers and other new entrants must make their request for NPA-NXX's through the incumbent LEC, thereby revealing their business strategy.
- Multiple NPA-NXX's within a single MTA forces the PCS provider to overstock handsets to meet customer demand in every NXX.
- Area code relief planning process forces PCS providers to be subject to state regulatory approval process. This contravenes the whole purpose of efficient multi-state MTA and BTA license areas, and is a market entry barrier in contravention of Section 332 of the Act.

III. Omnipoint Proposal: Voluntary Area Codes on an MTA basis

- In addition to the current exchange and LATA-based NPA scheme, NPAs would be available on logical, larger areas than the current local exchange areas so that carriers could operate and interconnect more efficiently. All carriers could participate. Even incumbent LECs can participate after they have met the competitive checklist for inter-LATA services.
- A voluntary alternative NPA that is attractive to all new entrants will help alleviate the current number exhaust problems. Fewer splits and overlays result in less disruption of service, fewer inconveniences, and less expense (*i.e.*, re-programming PBXs and stationery changes) for the consumer.
- MTA NPAs will simplify tandem programming through three-digit, rather than six-digit, programming.
- New entrants will not be forced to reveal deployment strategies to incumbent LECs
- To further increase efficiency, large carriers (*i.e.*, those that could serve 30 million POPs or more) could be assigned their own NPA. This avoids administrative and processing costs of numbering requests by large carriers, and permits those carriers to deploy without delay.