

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

RECEIVED

May 18, 1999

MAY 19 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARYMagalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554*Re: Ex Parte Presentation in FCC Docket 96-98*

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(1) of the Commission's Rules, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the People of the State of California submit for filing two copies each of letters sent on May 12, 1999 to FCC Chairman William Kennard, as well as to Commissioners Harold Furchtgott-Roth, Susan Ness, Michael Powell, and Gloria Tristani. The letters addressed CPUC concerns about area code relief planning and implementation, and specifically, about the fact that states lack authority to order many number conservation measures. The letters urge each Commissioner to give serious consideration to two petitions the CPUC filed on April 26, 1999 with the FCC.

Thank you for your assistance in making these materials part of the record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Helen M. Mickiewicz".

Helen M. Mickiewicz  
Senior Staff Counsel

HMM:dd

Enclosures

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102

RICHARD A. BILAS, Ph. D.  
PRESIDENT

TEL: (415) 703-3703  
FAX: (415) 703-5091

May 12, 1999

The Honorable William E. Kennard  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 8B201  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Recent Visit by the California Public Utilities Commission Delegation

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing to express my personal thanks to you for meeting with me and the staff representatives of the California Public Utilities Commission. My staff and I all appreciated your willingness to take time to hear our presentation and our concerns about the growing area code difficulties we are experiencing. I also wanted to thank you in particular for your thoughts on the 271 review process, both at the CPUC and at the FCC.

Since our return to California, the intense media attention to our current area code crisis has intensified. We have entered the permissive dialing period for the 310 overlay in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, and the 1+10-digit dialing requirement is not being well received by the public. In addition, legislative interest in the CPUC's activities in implementing area code relief plans, and especially interest in the pace at which we are implementing relief, is escalating. We are fielding inquiries from several legislative offices in Sacramento, as well as from Congressional offices in Washington, D.C. In short, as I indicated to you when we met, the extent of the pressure on our numbering system and the constant need to open new area codes to accommodate industry number needs is leading to a chaotic situation here. I again urge you to give serious consideration to the requests for additional authority we filed with the FCC on April 26<sup>th</sup>, the day before you and I met.

We are mindful that the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau is working on a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) which the FCC may well issue within the next month or so. The Bureau, however, advised our staff that a decision in the NPRM docket authorizing states to enact conservation measures is almost a year away. Awaiting that decision before beginning to implement serious conservation measures would simply

The Honorable William E. Kennard  
May 12, 1999  
Page 2

augment the number of area codes we will need to create in the next several years. As I mentioned when we met, we already anticipate creating enough new area codes to achieve a total of 41 area codes in this state by the end of 2002. I do not believe the California public, or the California legislature, will tolerate that many area codes given that the demand for numbers is driven by an inefficient number allocation system which California has no authority to modify.

Thank you again for your time and consideration. I hope that this visit is but one of several I will have the opportunity to make to the FCC. A strong and open working relationship between our two agencies will be beneficial to the FCC and the CPUC, as well as to the California public. Please also accept my standing invitation to you to visit us here anytime the FCC's business brings you to the Golden State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard A. Bilas".

Richard A. Bilas, Ph.D.  
President



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RICHARD A. BILAS, Ph. D.  
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TEL: (415) 703-3703  
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May 12, 1999

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 8A204  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Recent Visit by the California Public Utilities Commission Delegation

Dear Commissioner Powell:

I am writing to express my personal thanks to you for meeting with me and the staff representatives of the California Public Utilities Commission. My staff and I all appreciated your willingness to take time to hear our presentation and our concerns about the growing area code difficulties we are experiencing. I also wanted to thank you in particular for your thoughts on the 271 review process, both at the CPUC and at the FCC.

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The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
May 12, 1999  
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Sincerely,

Richard A. Bilas, Ph.D.  
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RICHARD A. BILAS, Ph. D.  
PRESIDENT

TEL: (415) 703-3703  
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May 12, 1999

The Honorable Harold Furchtgott-Roth  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 8A302  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Recent Visit by the California Public Utilities Commission Delegation

Dear Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth:

I am writing to express my personal thanks for your willingness to meet with me and the staff representatives of the California Public Utilities Commission. We were, of course, disappointed that you had to cancel your personal participation in the meeting, but we were able to meet with your advisors, Paul Meisner and Kevin Martin. My staff and I all appreciated their willingness to take time to hear our presentation and our concerns about the growing area code difficulties we are experiencing. I also wanted to express my thanks in particular for their thoughts on the 271 review process, both at the CPUC and at the FCC.

Since our return to California, the intense media attention to our current area code crisis has intensified. We have entered the permissive dialing period for the 310 overlay in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, and the 1+10-digit dialing requirement is not being well received by the public. In addition, legislative interest in the CPUC's activities in implementing area code relief plans, and especially interest in the pace at which we are implementing relief, is escalating. We are fielding inquiries from several legislative offices in Sacramento, as well as from Congressional offices in Washington, D.C. In short, as I indicated to Mr. Meisner and Mr. Martin when we met, the extent of the pressure on our numbering system and the constant need to open new area codes to accommodate industry number needs is leading to a chaotic situation here. I urge you, as I urged your advisors, to give serious consideration to the requests for additional authority we filed with the FCC on April 26<sup>th</sup>, the day before my staff and I met with your office.

We are mindful that the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau is working on a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) which the FCC may well issue within the next month or

The Honorable Harold Furchtgott-Roth  
May 12, 1999  
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Richard A. Bilas, Ph.D.  
President



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RICHARD A. BILAS, Ph. D.  
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May 12, 1999

The Honorable Gloria Tristani  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 8C302  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Recent Visit by the California Public Utilities Commission Delegation

Dear Commissioner Tristani:

I am writing to express my personal thanks for your willingness to meet with me and the staff representatives of the California Public Utilities Commission. We were, of course, disappointed that you had to cancel your personal participation in the meeting, but we were able to meet with your advisor, Sarah Whitesell. My staff and I all appreciated her willingness to take time to hear our presentation and our concerns about the growing area code difficulties we are experiencing. I also wanted to express my thanks in particular for her brief thoughts on the 271 review process, both at the CPUC and at the FCC.

Since our return to California, the intense media attention to our current area code crisis has intensified. We have entered the permissive dialing period for the 310 overlay in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, and the 1+10-digit dialing requirement is not being well received by the public. In addition, legislative interest in the CPUC's activities in implementing area code relief plans, and especially interest in the pace at which we are implementing relief, is escalating. We are fielding inquiries from several legislative offices in Sacramento, as well as from Congressional offices in Washington, D.C. In short, as I indicated to Ms. Whitesell when we met, the extent of the pressure on our numbering system and the constant need to open new area codes to accommodate industry number needs is leading to a chaotic situation here. I urge you, as I urged your advisor, to give serious consideration to the requests for additional authority we filed with the FCC on April 26<sup>th</sup>, the day before my staff and I met with your office.

We are mindful that the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau is working on a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) which the FCC may well issue within the next month or so. The Bureau, however, advised our staff that a decision in the NPRM docket

The Honorable Gloria Tristani

May 12, 1999

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Sincerely,



Richard A. Bilas, Ph.D.

President



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RICHARD A. BILAS, Ph. D.  
PRESIDENT

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May 12, 1999

The Honorable Susan Ness  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 8B115  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Recent Visit by the California Public Utilities Commission Delegation

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am writing to express my personal thanks for your willingness to meet with me and the staff representatives of the California Public Utilities Commission. We were, of course, disappointed that you were unavailable for the meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>, as was I. But my staff was able to meet with your advisor, Linda Kinney. My staff appreciated her willingness to take time to hear our presentation and our concerns about the growing area code difficulties we are experiencing. I also wanted to express my thanks in particular for her thoughts on the 271 review process, both at the CPUC and at the FCC.

Since our return to California, the intense media attention to our current area code crisis has intensified. We have entered the permissive dialing period for the 310 overlay in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, and the 1+10-digit dialing requirement is not being well received by the public. In addition, legislative interest in the CPUC's activities in implementing area code relief plans, and especially interest in the pace at which we are implementing relief, is escalating. We are fielding inquiries from several legislative offices in Sacramento, as well as from Congressional offices in Washington, D.C. In short, as my staff indicated to Ms. Kinney in the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, the extent of the pressure on our numbering system and the constant need to open new area codes to accommodate industry number needs is leading to a chaotic situation here. I urge you to give serious consideration to the requests for additional authority we filed with the FCC on April 26<sup>th</sup>, two days before my staff met with Ms. Kinney.

We are mindful that the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau is working on a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) which the FCC may well issue within the next month or so. The Bureau, however, advised our staff that a decision in the NPRM docket

The Honorable Susan Ness  
May 12, 1999  
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Richard A. Bilas, Ph.D.  
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