



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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THE COMMISSION SEEKS COMMENTS ON THE THOUSANDS-BLOCK POOLING ADMINISTRATOR TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

CC Docket 99-200

Pleading Cycle Established

COMMENTS: September 25, 2000

REPLY COMMENTS: October 2, 2000

On March 31, 2000, the Commission released a Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Numbering Resource Optimization (*NRO Order*). In the *NRO Order*, the Commission directed the North American Numbering Council (NANC)¹ to propose revisions to the existing proposed thousands-block Pooling Administrator (PA) Requirements Document to specify the technical requirements for the Pooling Administrator.² Thousands-block number pooling is an alternative method for the assignment of numbering resources. Instead of assigning all 10,000 numbers within an NXX code³ to a single service provider, thousands-block pooling involves the allocation of telephone numbers within an NXX code in blocks of a thousand sequential numbers to different service providers in a particular rate area. Under the plan laid out in the *NRO Order*, a National Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator will coordinate and administer the allocation of the thousands blocks.

¹ The NANC was created under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (1988), to advise the Commission and to make recommendations, reached through consensus, that foster efficient and impartial number administration. The membership of NANC, which includes thirty-two voting members and four special non-voting members, was selected to represent all segments of the telecommunications industry as well as regulatory entities and consumer groups with interests in numbering administration. The current NANC charter directs the Council to develop recommendations on numbering policy issues and facilitate number conservation including identification of technical solutions to numbering exhaust.

² See Numbering Resource Optimization, *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, CC Docket No. 99-200, 15 FCC Rcd 7574 (2000) (*NRO Order*) at para. 155.

³ NXX code or central office code refers to the second three digits (also called digits D-E-F) of a ten-digit telephone number in the form NPA-NXX-XXXX, where N represents any one of the numbers 2 through 9 and X represents one of the numbers 0 through 9. 47 C.F.R. § 52.7(c).

The NANC revised the PA Requirements Document, and forwarded proposed technical requirements to the Chief, Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau), Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on July 20, 2000, for information and consideration in the Numbering Resource Optimization (NRO) proceeding.

It is anticipated that the technical requirements recommended by the NANC will provide a basis for the Statement of Work in the FCC solicitation for a Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator. Therefore, we are asking for comments on the technical requirements recommended by the NANC.

The NANC's Requirements Document does not, however, reflect a position of the FCC in any way as to the final technical requirements or contract terms for the anticipated solicitation. The technical requirements in the FCC solicitation may differ from those recommended by the NANC. The NANC's Requirements Document also included some contract terms and conditions in addition to technical requirements. The contract terms and conditions for the FCC solicitation will differ from those in the NANC's Requirements Document. The final contract terms and conditions will be based on the requirements of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

The technical requirements for the National PA Requirements Document are attached, and we seek comment on them. The technical requirements are also available via the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/ccb/Nanc/>. At that address, click on <Correspondence>, then proceed to the entry dated <7/20/2000>, and click on <Attachment (Word)>. Comments should specifically address whether the technical requirements are sufficiently detailed, comprehensive, and clear, and whether they adequately describe the duties and scope of the National Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator's responsibilities. Comments from interested parties are due at 12:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST), **September 25, 2000**. Reply Comments from interested parties are due at 12:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST), **October 2, 2000**. All filings must reference **CC Docket 99-200**. Please send an original and four copies to the FCC Secretary, Magalie Roman Salas, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Suite TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554, and two copies to Al McCloud, Network Services Division, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Suite 6A-207, Washington D.C. 20554.

Comments may be filed using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. Comments filed through the ECFS may be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. If using this method, please reference **CC Docket 99-200** in the Proceeding block. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, postal service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To obtain filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, including "get form <your e-mail address>" in the body of the message. A sample form and directions will be sent in reply. After filing your comments electronically, please send an e-mail to amcccloud@fcc.gov, indicating that comments have been filed.

This is a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the FCC *ex parte* rules.⁴ As a "permit but disclose" proceeding, *ex parte* presentations will be governed by the procedures set

⁴ See generally 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-1.1216.

forth in Section 1.1206 of the FCC's rules applicable to non-restricted proceedings.⁵

Parties making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain a summary of the substance of the presentation and not merely list the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required.⁶ Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in Section 1.1206(b) as well.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sanford Williams at (202) 418-1508 or via the Internet at swilliam@fcc.gov; Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Suite 6-A207, Washington, DC 20554.

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⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206.

⁶ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1206(b)(2).