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Common Carrier Bureau  
Network Services Division  
Office of the Chief

State of Vermont  
Public Service Board

October 11, 2000

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Dorothy Attwood  
Common Carrier Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Post-It* Fax Note	7671	Date	11/29	# of pages	4
To	A. GOLDBERGER	From	G. FABER		
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Re: CC Docket No. 99-200 <sup>96-98</sup>

Dear Ms. Attwood:

Enclosed please find an original and five copies of the Vermont Public Service Board's (VTPSB) petition regarding the VTPSB's request for delegated authority to implement number conservation measures. Specifically, the VTPSB requests the authority to implement mandatory thousand number block pooling in advance of the proposed national roll out of pooling as described in the Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, CC Docket No. 99-200, March 31, 2000.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Dworkin  
Chairman

cc: Yog R. Varma, Deputy Chief, Common Carrier Bureau  
L. Charles Keller, Chief, Network Services Division

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is in one of largest 100 MSAs or the majority of wireline carriers are Local Number Portability (LNP) capable. However, the FCC "recognizes that there may be 'special circumstances' where pooling would be of benefit in NPAs that do not meet all of the above criteria, and . . . may, thus, authorize pooling in such an NPA upon a satisfactory showing by the state commission of such circumstances."<sup>2</sup> While Vermont does not currently meet the standards set forth in the *Report and Order*, the PSB strongly believes that the Commission should not limit the implementation of TNP to the top 100 MSAs, as proposed in the *Report and Order*, but should now allow rural state commissions to implement TNP in areas when they find it practical and necessary.

The *Report and Order* states that interim number pooling authority will be granted in special circumstances "where pooling would be of benefit in NPAs that do not meet all of the above criteria."<sup>3</sup> The VTPSB believes that special circumstances exist in Vermont, where a recent carrier request for 98 NXX codes from a single carrier has moved the NANPA number exhaust forecast ahead four years, from 2011 to 2007.<sup>4</sup> The significant impact upon Vermont's number supply caused by this single code request serves to point out the vulnerability of rural states with one area code to premature number exhaust. Based upon this recent event, two additional requests for a similar number of codes would exhaust the 802 area code and impose a new area code on the state. The imposition of a new area code would cause great hardship and cost to consumers. These costs to consumers may be exaggerated in a state which has never experienced an area code split. The VTPSB believes this unnecessary cost and disruption can be avoided, or at the least put off for some time, through the introduction of TNP. See *The State Scene, A Numbering Resource Publication for State Public Utility Commissions*, at 4 (July/August 2000) (number pooling in the Illinois 847 NPA has extended the life of the NPA over two years past its' projected exhaust date.)<sup>5</sup> The national implementation plan, which will first introduce TNP to states with cities on the list of top 100 MSAs, cannot possibly be expected to protect Vermont consumers in the interim period.

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2. *Id.* at ¶ 170.

3. *Id.*

4. See 2000 COCUS and NPA Exhaust Analysis (April 2000) available at <http://www.nanpa.com>.

5. Newsletter available at: [http://www.nanpa.com/pdf/newsletters/nanpa\\_july\\_august.pdf](http://www.nanpa.com/pdf/newsletters/nanpa_july_august.pdf).

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As evidenced by the pooling trials presently occurring in Illinois, as noted above, the technology necessary to provide TNP already exists. The citizens of Vermont should not have to wait several years for the relief that TNP can provide. Nor should Vermont's supply of remaining numbering resources be allocated in an inefficient manner when it can readily be prevented. Therefore, we believe that our request for additional delegated authority to implement TNP will prolong the life of Vermont's one area code. Further, we believe it is our duty as a regulatory agency to the citizens of Vermont to implement all number conservation measures possible before imposing the burden of adding an additional area code. For the reasons set forth above, we respectfully request that the FCC grant our request for additional delegated authority to implement TNP.

Respectfully submitted this 11th day of October, 2000.

By: 

Michael H. Dworkin  
Chairman