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April 18, 2001

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Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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MAY - 3 2001

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)  
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Alpine Township Board, a local municipality just north of Grand Rapids, Michigan, to express our concern over the alarming rate at which Michigan area codes are exhausting available numbers and to support the Michigan Public Service Commission's Petition in this docket for authority to implement number conservation measures. In Michigan, since 1994 four area codes have been added with at least three more in need of relief. One of the codes (616) encompasses the area that we, as a Board, represent.. The Michigan Public Service Commission is currently considering an all services overlay for our 616 area as a means of relief.

As you are aware, the addition of new area codes (whether through a geographic split or an overlay) is costly to businesses and their employees. The added confusion makes the overlay the least attractive option for area code relief. It is important to note that any area code solution will cost businesses needed capital to expand and create jobs.

A report to the Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users Committee stated that the available area codes, under a 10 number dialing plan, could be completely exhausted by 2007. If additional numbers are added to the dialing plan to create more available numbers, the cost to businesses nationally could reach \$150 billion. It is imperative that the FCC take action to reduce the rate of area code exhaustion and the necessity for 11 or 12 number dialing plans.

The same study also shows that the proper implementation of number conservation mechanisms could extend the life of the current 10 number dialing plans to at least the year 2048 and possibly as far into the future as 2097. In our current world, where knowledge doubles in 18 to 24 months, an additional 47 years may find the use of numbers for telecommunications obsolete.

The Michigan Public Service Commission has filed a Petition in this docket asking that you grant it delegated authority for the Grand Rapids and Detroit Metropolitan Statistical Areas

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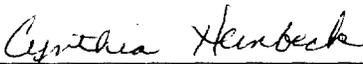
(MSA) so as to extend the life of existing and newly created area codes through 1,000 block number distribution and participation in the initial round of proposed national number pooling.

Under your criteria for such delegated authority you specify that the numbering plan area must be in jeopardy, have a remaining life span of at least one year and that the numbering plan area is in one of the largest MSA's. The Grand Rapids MSA currently meets your criterion for eligibility.

Therefore, the Federal Communications Commission should grant the Michigan Public Services Commission's Petition so that it may implement number conservation techniques that will save mine and other businesses millions of dollars in unnecessary costs.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (616) 784-1262 or cindy@gvmc.org.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Heinbeck  
Alpine Township Supervisor

cc:  
Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

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2001 APR 23 P 3: 36

THE CHAIRMAN

 **CLUSTER OFFICE ENVIRONMENTS**

April 10, 2001

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Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



David L. Custer  
President

cc: Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

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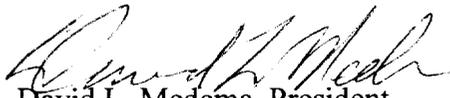
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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



David L. Medema, President

cc:  
Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

**RUSSELL E. PRICE, P.C.**

LAW OFFICES

8 E. MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 124  
FREMONT, MICHIGAN 49412  
(231) 924-0780

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April 11, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
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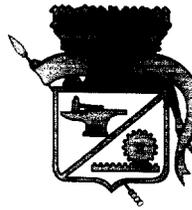
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rusty Merchant", written over a horizontal line.

cc:

Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



**MONARCH  
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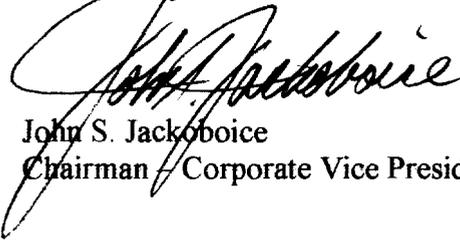
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Sincerely,

Monarch Hydraulics, Inc.



John S. Jackoboice  
Chairman / Corporate Vice President

cc:

Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



# Greater Grand Rapids Home Builders Association

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Fax: (616) 281-4500

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Grand Rapids, MI 49508-5009

Website: www.ggrhba.com

E-Mail: homes@ggrhba.com

April 10, 2001

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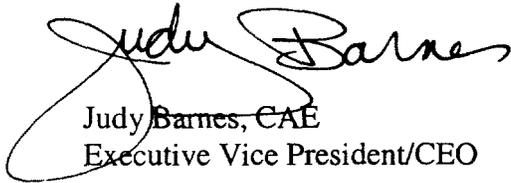
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Sincerely,



Judy Barnes, CAE  
Executive Vice President/CEO

cc:  
Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

**CBM**

*Continental Baptist Missions*

April 10, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
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Gerald K. Webber  
President

cc: Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



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Integrated Media  
group, inc.

4/11/01

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry Brandsen".

Larry Brandsen  
Vice President

cc:

Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

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FAX (616) 754-2247

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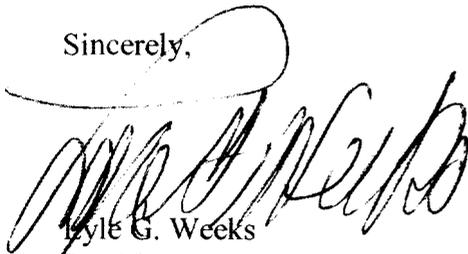
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President

cc:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)  
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200

Dear Chairman Powell:

As an executive and a citizen, I am writing to you to express my concern over the alarming rate at which Michigan area codes are exhausting available numbers and to support the Michigan Public Service Commission's Petition in this docket for authority to implement number conservation measures. In Michigan, since 1994 four area codes have been added with at least three more in need of relief. One of the codes (616) encompasses the area that I live in and do business. The Michigan Public Service Commission is currently considering an all services overlay for our 616 area as a means of relief.

As you are aware, the addition of new area codes (whether through a geographic split or an overlay) is costly to businesses and their employees. The overlay plan is tremendously confusing and absolutely the worst possible solution. Our organization alone would have a different area code for our regular incoming line than for our fax and program/info lines! This is not an acceptable solution.

It is imperative that the FCC take action to reduce the rate of area code exhaustion by immediately implementing an 11 or 12 number code, immediately implementing an interim plan to extend the life of the 10 digit system. The rate of area code exhaustion is escalating, and will continue to do so with the influx of cell phone use, DSL lines, etc.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Tami Ramaker  
Executive Director

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April 11, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
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A report to the Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users Committee stated that the available area codes, under a 10 number dialing plan, could be completely exhausted by 2007. If additional numbers are added to the dialing plan to create more available numbers, the cost to businesses nationally could reach \$150 billion. It is imperative that the FCC take action to reduce the rate of area code exhaustion and the necessity for 11 or 12 number dialing plans.

The same study also shows that the proper implementation of number conservation mechanisms could extend the life of the current 10 number dialing plans to at least the year 2048 and possibly as far into the future as 2097. In our current world, where knowledge doubles in 18 to 24 months, an additional 47 years may find the use of numbers for telecommunications obsolete.

The Michigan Public Service Commission has filed a Petition in this docket asking that you grant it delegated authority for the Grand Rapids and Detroit Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) so as to extend the life of existing and newly created area codes through 1,000 block number distribution and participation in the initial round of proposed national number pooling.

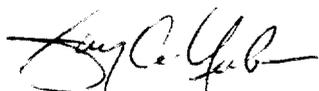
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Under your criteria for such delegated authority you specify that the numbering plan area must be in jeopardy, have a remaining lifespan of at least one year and that the numbering plan area is in one of the largest MSA's. The Grand Rapids MSA currently meets your criterion for eligibility.

Therefore, the Federal Communications Commission should grant the Michigan Public Services Commission's Petition so that it may implement number conservation techniques that will save mine and other businesses millions of dollars in unnecessary costs.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Jay A. Yule, PHR  
Human Resource Manager

cc: Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



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Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. 300 Ionia, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-2507 Voice 616-456-1521 • Fax 616-458-0770

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Chairman Michael Powell  
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Under your criteria for such delegated authority you specify that the numbering plan area must be in jeopardy, have a remaining lifespan of at least one year and that the numbering plan area is in one of the largest MSA's. The Grand Rapids MSA currently meets your criterion for eligibility.



April 11, 2001  
Page 2

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Sincerely,

Thomas M. Healy, P.E.  
President

cc:  
Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



**X-Rite, Incorporated - World Headquarters**  
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Chairman Michael Powell  
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Page Two

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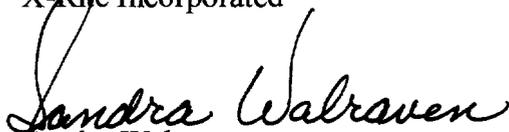
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Sincerely,

X-Rite Incorporated

  
Sandra Walraven  
Information Technologies Manager

cc: Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl St NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

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Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501

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Fax: (616) 363-5470

April 11, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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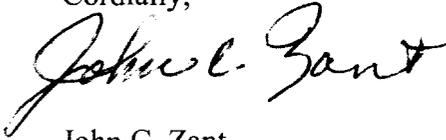
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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Zant". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a prominent "Z".

John C. Zant  
President

JCZ/jt

cc:  
Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



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**NICHOLAS**  
**PLASTICS INCORPORATED**

April 12, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
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Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
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April 12, 2001  
Page two

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Sincerely,

Terry J. Nicholas  
President/CEO

pc: Mr. Rusty Merchant  
Vice President  
Public Policy & Government  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
111 Pearl Street NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831