

June 24, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
12<sup>th</sup> Street Lobby, TW-A325  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Ex Parte*  
CC Docket No. 99-200 – CTIA Petition for Forbearance from Further  
Increases in the Numbering Utilization Threshold

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On June 28, 2002, the Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association (“CTIA”) filed a petition under section 10 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the “Act”), seeking forbearance from further increases in the FCC’s numbering utilization threshold. In its *Petition*, CTIA explained that the numbering “crisis” is over, and it is not necessary to go beyond the existing utilization threshold of 70%, at this time. CTIA reiterated this message in a letter to the FCC on June 2, 2003 and described the very real expense and burdens carriers face when forced to manage their numbering inventories at high utilization levels, burdens for which there are no corresponding benefits to consumers.

To underscore that point, last week, the North American Numbering Administrator (NANPA) issued the attached formal recommendation letters asking that seven additional area codes (NPAs) be withdrawn from their list of area codes scheduled for relief.<sup>1</sup> NANPA took this action based on the numbering guidelines that provide for a relief plan when an area code is forecast to exhaust within five years. In other words, the Commission’s existing utilization threshold, coupled with the conservation of numbering resources associated with thousand block number pooling, in combination have pushed back the projected exhaust of these area codes so significantly that they are no longer projected to exhaust within the next five (5) years! This provides the strongest possible evidence that the NANP is in no danger of exhaust, and that the Commission’s existing number conservation measures have worked to reverse their “jeopardy” status.

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<sup>1</sup> The NPAs identified by NANPA are the following:

Texas	214, 972 and 469
South Carolina	843 and 803
New York	518 and 516.



CTIA believes the Commission should not impose additional costs on carriers when there is no benefit associated with meeting the higher utilization levels. Further increases in the threshold are not necessary to protect the NANP from exhaust, and accordingly they are not necessary -- at this time<sup>2</sup> -- to protect the public that relies on access to these numbers. NANPA's most recent announcements continue a trend that has developed since the Commission originally adopted its Utilization Threshold requirements. These changed circumstances regarding the forecast exhaust of the NANP provide a convincing case for granting CTIA's forbearance petition.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter and the attachments are being electronically filed with your office. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,  
Michael Altschul

#### Attachments

cc: Chairman Michael K. Powell  
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein  
Bryan Tramont  
Christopher Libertelli  
Matthew Brill  
Jennifer Manner  
Paul Margie  
Jessica Rosenworcel  
Daniel Gonzalez  
Sam Feder  
Lisa Zaina  
Barry Ohlson  
William Maher  
John Muleta  
Carol Matthey  
Catherine W. Seidel  
Eric Einhorn  
Jared Carlson

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<sup>2</sup> As CTIA has noted, when the NANP is again in jeopardy, perhaps decades from now, the FCC can reimpose the higher utilization threshold obligation with no diminution in the number of available resources. In other words, by granting CTIA's petition, the FCC can put numbers away "for a rainy day" and defer burdening carriers until there is a corresponding benefit to the public interest.

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**Subject:** FW: Texas 214, 972 and 469 NPAs Withdrawal of Relief Petition

-----Original Message-----

From: NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com [mailto:NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com]  
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2003 1:14 PM  
To: nj@stihqweb1.va.neustar.com  
Subject: Texas 214, 972 and 469 NPAs Withdrawal of Relief Petition

NANPA E-mail Document Distribution Announcement:

This is to inform you that NANPA filed a letter with the Public Utility Commission of Texas notifying the Commission and the Texas Telecommunications Industry that the 214, 972 and 469 NPAs are no longer projected to exhaust within the next five years, and in accordance with industry guidelines, the pending relief plan is now eligible to be withdrawn. A copy of the letter to the Commission was posted to the NANPA Document Distribution Service (DDS) web site on June 19, 2003, and is now available for download. For your convenience, select the following link to be directed to the DDS web page where this documentation can be found: <<http://www.nanpa.com/dds/index.html>>. A user name and password is required to access this link.

Please refer to the "General Information" appearing at the end of this e-mail, which contains instructions for downloading documents from the NANPA web site.

NANPA CONTACT:

Frank Colaco - Senior NPA Relief Planner - Central Region NANPA  
Telephone: 973 740-9100  
e-mail: [frank.colaco@nanpa.com](mailto:frank.colaco@nanpa.com)

General Information:

Documents related to this notification may be downloaded, in Adobe.pdf format, from our internet site at <http://www.nanpa.com> by selecting the "Document Distribution Service" link in the menu bar.

There are two areas to view documents: (both require log-in and password entry)  
(1) Notification of Industry Related NANP Activities  
(2) NPA Relief Planning and CO Code Administration Notification and Documentation.

Please note that access to these documents will require the use of an internet browser such as Netscape Navigator, Microsoft Internet Explorer, or equivalent. Also you will need to use the Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader.  
(available at: <http://www.adobe.com>)

Individuals who have already signed up may also remove themselves completely from receiving future notifications or may modify their notification information once they have entered the site. Also they will have the ability to retrieve their password if they've forgotten it.

Industry participants, as defined in the Industry Guidelines (<http://www.atis.org/atis/clc/inc/incdocs.htm>), who have not already done so, may also sign-up at our web site to receive future notifications of industry meetings, conference calls and related documentation.

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**Subject:**

**FW: South Carolina 843 NPA Withdrawal of Relief Petition**

-----Original Message-----

From: NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com [mailto:NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2003 12:18 PM

To: nj@stihqweb1.va.neustar.com

Subject: South Carolina 843 NPA Withdrawal of Relief Petition

NANPA E-mail Document Distribution Announcement:

This is to inform you that NANPA filed an informal letter with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina notifying the Commission and the South Carolina Telecommunications Industry that the 843 NPA is no longer projected to exhaust within the next five years, and in accordance with industry guidelines, the pending relief plan is now eligible to be withdrawn. A copy of the letter to the Commission was posted to the NANPA Document Distribution Service (DDS) web site on June 19, 2003, and is now available for download. For your convenience, select the following link to be directed to the DDS web page where this document can be found: <http://www.nanpa.com/dds/index.html> . A user name and password are required to access this link.

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NANPA CONTACT:

D. Wayne Milby - Senior NPA Relief Planner - Eastern Region NANPA

Telephone: 804-795-5919

e-mail: [wayne.milby@neustar.biz](mailto:wayne.milby@neustar.biz)

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**Subject:****FW: South Carolina 803 NPA Withdrawal of Relief Petition**

-----Original Message-----

From: NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com [mailto:NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2003 11:51 AM

To: nj@stihqweb1.va.neustar.com

Subject: South Carolina 803 NPA Withdrawal of Relief Petition

NANPA E-mail Document Distribution Announcement:

This is to inform you that NANPA filed an informal letter with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina notifying the Commission and the South Carolina Telecommunications Industry that the 803 NPA is no longer projected to exhaust within the next five years, and in accordance with industry guidelines, the pending relief plan is now eligible to be withdrawn. A copy of the letter to the Commission was posted to the NANPA Document Distribution Service (DDS) web site on June 19, 2003, and is now available for download. For your convenience, select the following link to be directed to the DDS web page where this document can be found: <http://www.nanpa.com/dds/index.html> . A user name and password are required to access this link.

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## NANPA CONTACT:

D. Wayne Milby - Senior NPA Relief Planner - Eastern Region NANPA

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**Subject:****FW: New York 516 NPA Withdrawal of Relief Petition**

-----Original Message-----

From: NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com [mailto:NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2003 11:12 AM

To: nj@stihqwebl.va.neustar.com

Subject: New York 516 NPA Withdrawal of Relief Petition

NANPA E-mail Document Distribution Announcement:

This is to inform you that NANPA filed a letter with the New York Public Service Commission notifying the Commission and the New York Telecommunications Industry that the 516 NPA is no longer projected to exhaust within the next five years, and in accordance with industry guidelines, the pending relief plan is now eligible to be withdrawn. A copy of the letter to the Commission was posted to the NANPA Document Distribution Service (DDS) web site on June 19, 2003, and is now available for download. For your convenience, select the following link to be directed to the DDS web page where this document can be found: <http://www.nanpa.com/dds/index.html> . A user name and password are required to access this link.

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Telephone: 804-795-5919

e-mail: [wayne.milby@neustar.biz](mailto:wayne.milby@neustar.biz)

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**Subject:****FW: New York 518 NPA Withdrawal of Relief Petition**

-----Original Message-----

From: NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com [mailto:NANPA.notices@NeuStar.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2003 11:33 AM

To: nj@stihqweb1.va.neustar.com

Subject: New York 518 NPA Withdrawal of Relief Petition

NANPA E-mail Document Distribution Announcement:

This is to inform you that NANPA filed a letter with the New York Public Service Commission notifying the Commission and the New York Telecommunications Industry that the 518 NPA is no longer projected to exhaust within the next five years, and in accordance with industry guidelines, the pending relief plan is now eligible to be withdrawn. A copy of the letter to the Commission was posted to the NANPA Document Distribution Service (DDS) web site on June 19, 2003, and is now available for download. For your convenience, select the following link to be directed to the DDS web page where this document can be found: <http://www.nanpa.com/dds/index.html> . A user name and password are required to access this link.

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