PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, D.C. 20554

MAILED

MAY 12 2006

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
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DA 06-1000
May 9, 2006

PROPOSED NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN ADMINISTRATION FUND SIZE ESTIMATE AND CONTRIBUTION FACTOR FOR JULY 2006 THROUGH JUNE 2007

CC DOCKET NO. 92-237

In this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau announces the proposed North American Numbering Plan (NANP) Administration fund size estimate and contribution factor for the fiscal year July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 (Fiscal Year 2006). If the Commission takes no action regarding the Fiscal Year 2006 fund size estimate and contribution factor proposed herein within the 14-day period following release of this Public Notice, the fund size estimate and the contribution factor shall be deemed approved by the Commission.

Calculating the NANP Administration Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor

Under section 52.17 of the Commission's rules, all telecommunications carriers in the United States are required to contribute on a competitively neutral basis to meet the costs of numbering administration.[1] Pursuant to its contract with the Commission and section 52.16(a) of the Commission's rules, the NANP billing and collection agent, Welch & Company, LLP (Welch), is responsible for calculating, assessing, billing, and collecting payments for numbering administration functions and for distributing funds to the entities that support these functions (e.g., the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) and the Pooling Administrator (PA)).[2] Consistent with this function, Welch develops the annual projected numbering administration costs and fund size estimate for the upcoming fiscal year annually.

To develop these figures, Welch allocates a portion of the funding requirement to all NANP countries.[3] Specifically, it calculates a Canadian contribution amount, a Caribbean

[1] 47 C.F.R. § 52.17.

[2] 47 C.F.R. § 52.16(a).

[3] The NANP member countries are Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos Islands, and the United States

contribution amount, and a U.S. contribution amount. Welch then develops a contribution factor for U.S. telecommunications carriers designed to collect the projected U.S. contribution. Our rules provide that contributions shall be the product of the carrier's end-user telecommunications revenues for the prior calendar year and the contribution factor, and such contribution shall be no less than twenty-five dollars ($25).[4]

Billing and Collection Agent Projection of the Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor

On May 1, 2006, Welch filed a fund size estimate and contribution factor for recovering the cost of NANP Administration for Fiscal Year 2006, in accordance with section 52.16 (a) of the Commission's rules.[5] Welch proposed a funding requirement of $4,876,926 for Fiscal Year 2006, and a contribution factor of 0.000021.[6] The funding requirement contemplates a Canadian contribution of $69,495, a Caribbean contribution of $13,743, a contribution by U.S. carriers of $4,876,926, and the application of $1,966,444 from the accumulated surplus from the prior fiscal year.[7]

Effective Date of the Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor

If the Commission takes no action regarding the proposed fund size estimate and contribution factor within the 14-day period following release of this Public Notice, the fund size estimate and the contribution factor shall be deemed approved by the Commission, and become effective for Fiscal Year 2006.

For further information, contact Mary McManus in the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1713.

(including American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).

[4] 47 C.F.R. § 52.17(a). Carriers that have no end user revenues must contribute $25.

[5] 47 C.F.R. § 52.16(a); *In the Matter of Administration of the North American Numbering Plan*, North American Numbering Plan Administration Contribution Factor and Fund Size for July 2006 through June 2007 (filed May 1, 2006) (*Fiscal Year 2006 Contribution Factor Filing*).

[6] *See Fiscal Year 2006 Contribution Factor Filing* at 2.

[7] *Id.* at 2-3. Welch explains that the proposed contribution factor is substantially higher than the Fiscal Year 2005 contribution factor of 0.0000052, which was the result of subsidizing the funding requirement through a draw down of the surplus of $5,692,000 which carried forward from prior years. *Id.* at 2.