

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Qwest Corporation
Fargo Rate Center
Numbering Resources**

Case No. PU-13-757

**ORDER
September 11, 2013**

On August 15, 2013 Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink (Qwest) submitted an application to NeuStar Pooling Administration System (NeuStar), the North Dakota number pooling administrator, for additional numbering resources consisting of a block of 1,000 numbers out of the Fargo, North Dakota rate center pool of numbers. Qwest requested the 1,000 numbers block to fulfill a specific customer request. The customer is requested a 1,000 number block in any NXX as long as the block does not start with zero (0), 1, 6, 7, or 8. On August 20, 2013, the customer indicated that they could only use the 701-715-9 block of 1,000 numbers.

NeuStar denied the request for additional numbering resources for the Fargo switch because the company did not meet the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) months-to-exhaust requirements. The FCC requires that applicants for additional numbering resources demonstrate that the rate center for which the numbers are requested has no more than a six-month inventory of numbers and is utilizing 75% or more of the numbers in inventory.

Under FCC rules, state commissions may grant a waiver of the FCC rules and grant requests for additional numbering resources when there is a demonstrated verifiable need.

The Commission has authority under North Dakota Century Code section 49-21-01.7 (14) to resolve numbering resource conservation issues.

The Commission must take into consideration the extent to which the carrier has used available numbering resource optimization strategies and the carrier's showing that deviation from the FCC's inventory and utilization requirements is warranted. The carrier must demonstrate the following: 1) that the carrier will exhaust its numbering resources in a market or rate area within three months (in lieu of the 6 months-to-exhaust requirement; and 2) that projected growth is based on the carrier's actual growth in the market of rate area, or on the carrier's actual growth in a reasonably comparable market, but only if that projected growth varies no more than 15 percent from historical growth in the relevant market; or 3) that there is a verifiable need due to the specific customer request for numbering resources in a given rate center that the carrier is unable to satisfy with its current inventory. Regarding a specific customer

request, the carrier must provide the Commission with documentation of the customer request and current proof of utilization in the rate center.

In support of the application, Qwest provided a copy of the customer's request.

Qwest states that the 701-715-9 block of 1,000 numbers is not currently assigned to Qwest but is available for assignment in the Fargo, North Dakota rate center pool of numbers.

Based on the specific need demonstrated, the Commission finds it appropriate to grant Qwest's request.

ORDER

1. Qwest Corporation's request for a waiver of the Months to Exhaust/Utilization Threshold requirement to obtain a block of one thousand numbers from the number pool at the Fargo, North Dakota rate center, specifically the 701-715-9 block of 1,000 numbers, is granted.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Randy Christmann
Commissioner



Brian P. Kalk
Chairman



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner