

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Teleport Communications America, LLC
Bismarck Rate Center
Numbering Resources

Case No. PU-25-174

ORDER

May 19, 2025

Preliminary Statement

On April 20, 2025, Teleport Communications America, LLC (TCAL) submitted a request to the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) for additional numbering resources consisting of 3,000 consecutive numbers out of the Bismarck, North Dakota rate center pool of numbers.

On April 20, 2025, NANPA denied the request for additional numbering resources.

On April 30, 2025, TCAL filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) a request that the Commission direct NANPA to provide TCAL with an additional 3000 consecutive numbers in its Bismarck, North Dakota Rate Center.

Discussion

Teleport Communications America, LLC is a foreign corporation with principal address of One AT&T Way, Bedminster, New Jersey, 07921. Teleport Communications America, LLC is registered with the Commission to provide local telecommunications services in North Dakota.

TCAL submitted a request to NANPA for three consecutive 1000 number blocks, specifically 701-994-6000 through 701-994-8999, for use with a customer service request from the North Dakota National Guard. This request was made because TCAL does not have the blocks of sequential numbers available within the Bismarck Rate Center and is unable to use numbers from another switch to satisfy the customer's request.

NANPA denied TCAL's request for numbers because its Bismarck switch 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 its request with the Commission, TCAL provided a copy of a letter from Brandon M. Dixon with the National Guard Bureau.

Based on the specific need demonstrated, the Commission finds it appropriate to grant TCAL's request and issues its:

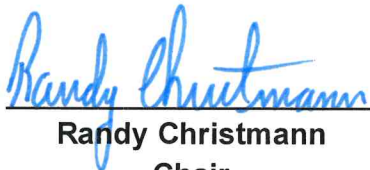
Order

The Commission Orders that Teleport Communications America, LLC's request for a waiver of the Months to Exhaust/Utilization Threshold requirement to obtain three consecutive blocks of one thousand numbers from the number pool at the Bismarck, North Dakota rate center, specifically 701-994-6000 through 701-994-8999, for use with the North Dakota National Guard's request for phone numbers, is granted.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Sheri Haugen-Hoffart
Commissioner



Randy Christmann
Chair



Jill Kringstad
Commissioner