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Legal Department

Nancy B. White
General Counsel - Florida

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
150 South Monroe Street
Room 400
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(305) 347-5558

April 27, 2004

Mrs. Blanca S. Bayó
Director, Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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COMMISSION
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**Re: Docket No.:
Petition for Expedited Review of Growth Code Denials
by the Number Pooling Administrator for the Jacksonville
exchange (Beachwood)**

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed is an original and fifteen copies of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Petition for Expedited Review of NXX-X Code Denial, which we ask that you file in the *new* captioned docket.

A copy of this letter is enclosed. Please mark it to indicate that the original was filed and return the copy to me. Copies have been served to the parties shown on the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,

Nancy B White
Nancy B. White *rl*

cc: All Parties of Record
Marshall M. Criser III
R. Douglas Lackey

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rl
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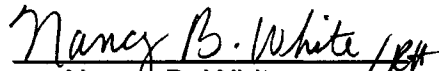
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
Petition for Expedited Review of Growth Code Denials
by the Number Pooling Administrator
for the Jacksonville exchange (Beachwood)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via

U.S. Mail this 27th day of April, 2004 to the following:

Staff Counsel
Florida Public Service
Commission
Division of Legal Services
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

NANPA
Thomas Foley
NPA Relief Planner
820 Riverbend Blvd.
Longwood, Florida 32779-2327
Tel. No.: (407) 389-8929
Fax. No.: (407) 682-1108
thomas.foley@neustar.com


Nancy B. White

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for Expedited Review of Growth Code Denials by the Number Pooling Administrator for the Jacksonville exchange (Beachwoodl))	Docket No.
)	Filed: April 27, 2004
)	

PETITION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF NXX-X CODE DENIAL

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (“BellSouth”), pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 52.15(g)(iv), Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) Order FCC 00-104, and Florida Public Service Commission (“Commission”) Order No. PSC-01-1873-PCO-TL, petitions the Commission to review the Pooling Administrator’s (“NeuStar”) denial of BellSouth’s request for additional numbering resources in the Jacksonville exchange. In support of this petition, BellSouth states:

PARTIES

1. BellSouth is a corporation organized and formed under the laws of the State of Georgia and an incumbent local exchange company (“ILEC”) regulated by the Commission and authorized to provide local exchange telecommunications and intraLATA toll telecommunications in the State of Florida.

2. NeuStar is an independent non-governmental entity, which is responsible for administering and managing the numbering resources in pooling areas. See 47 C.F.R. § 52.20(d).

JURISDICTION

3. The Commission has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Industry Numbering Committees (INC) Number Pooling Guidelines Sections 3.7 and 12(c). This

provision provides that a carrier may challenge NeuStar's decision to deny numbering resources to the appropriate regulatory authority.

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST FOR RELIEF

4. On March 31, 2000, the FCC issued Order No. 00-104 ("FCC 00-104" or the "Order") in the Numbering Resource Optimization docket (Docket No. 99-200). The goal of FCC 00-104 was to implement uniform standards governing requests for telephone numbering resources in order to increase efficiency in the use of telephone numbers and to avoid further exhaustion of telephone numbers under the NANP.

5. Among other things, FCC 00-104 adopted a revised standard for assessing a carrier's need for numbering resources by requiring rate center based utilization rates to be reported to North American Numbering Plan Administrator ("NANPA"). FCC Order at § 105. The FCC further required that, to qualify for access to new numbering resources, applicants must establish that existing numbering inventory within the applicant's rate center will be exhausted within six months of the application. Prior to the ruling, the Central Office Code Assignment Guidelines, used by the industry and NANPA to make code assignments, required the applicant's existing number inventory within the applicant's serving switch to exhaust within a specific months-to-exhaust ("MTE") of the code application in order for a code to be assigned or for the carrier to prove that it was unable to meet a specific customer's request with its current inventory of numbers. The FCC stated that the shift to a "rate center" basis for determining the need for new numbering resources was intended to "more accurately reflect how numbering resources are assigned" and to allow "carriers to obtain numbering resources in response to specific customer demands." FCC Order at ¶ 105.

6. On December 29, 2000, the FCC also released FCC 00-429, which reaffirmed FCC 00-104 and also required carriers to also meet a 60 percent initial utilization threshold. FCC 00-429 at ¶ 26. Based on these two FCC orders, carriers are required to meet a six MTE criteria as well as a utilization threshold on a rate center/exchange basis in order to be granted additional numbering resources. Id. at ¶ 29.

7. In FCC 00-104, the FCC directed the industry and the Pooling Administrator to comply with the INC Pooling Guidelines. FCC 11-104 ¶183. Pursuant to the INC Guidelines, in order to obtain thousand-block allocations, the carrier must demonstrate that its existing numbering resources for the rate center will exhaust within six (6) months and also have a utilization of 60 percent for the specific rate center. See INC Guidelines Section 4.3(d) and Appendix 3. These requirements are known as the six (6) months-to-exhaust (“MTE”) and utilization threshold.

8. Since the beginning of this year, BellSouth has submitted several requests for additional numbering resources to North American Numbering Plan Administrator (“NANPA”) and NeuStar for assignment of additional numbering resources to meet the demands of its customers in several Florida exchanges, including Daytona Beach, DeLand, Ft. Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Keys, Miami, North Dade, Orlando, Palm Coast, Sebastian, Weekiwachee Springs, and West Palm Beach.

9. BellSouth has completed these applications in accordance with INC guidelines and filled out the necessary Months-to-Exhaust and Utilization Certification Worksheets as required.

10. BellSouth has utilized mechanisms such as number pooling to manage its numbering resources in the most efficient manner. However, as the Commission is well

aware, in some circumstances, BellSouth has been required to petition the Commission for relief.

11. On May 25, 2001, BellSouth petitioned the Commission to develop an expedited process to review NANPA's denial of a request for additional numbering resources to minimize the delay carrier's experience in attempting to challenge a denial by NANPA. As a result of the BellSouth's Petition and the Commission's efforts to make numbering resources available to carriers, the Commission issued Order No. PSC-01-1873-PCO-TL setting forth an expedited code denial process for non-pooling areas. On March 15, 2002, the Commission issued Order No. PSC-02-0352-PAA-TL adopting the same expedited code denial process for pooling areas.

12. The Jacksonville exchange consists of eighteen (18) central offices and eighteen (18) switching entities that utilize numbering resources: Arlington (JCVLFLARDS0), Atlantic (JCBHFLABRS0), Avenues (MNDRFLAVDS0), Beachwood (JCVLFLBWDS0), Clay Street (JCVLFLCLDS0), Ft. Caroline (JCVLFLFCDS0), Ft. George (FTGRFLMARS0), International Airport (JCVLFLIARS0), Lake Forest (JCVLFLLF76E), Loretto (MNDRFLLODS0), Normandy (JCVLFLNODS0), Oceanway (JCVLFLOWDS0), Riverside (JCVLFLRV38E), San Jose (JCVLFLSJ73E), San Marco (JCVLFLSMDS0), San Pablo (JCBHFLSPRS0), Southpoint (JCVLFLJTRS0), and Wesconnett (JCVLFLWCDS0).

13. On March 19, 2004, BellSouth requested additional numbering resources from NeuStar for the Beachwood (JCVLFLBWDS0). See Attachment 1. Specifically, BellSouth requested six (6) 1,000 consecutive number blocks in order to have a 6-month inventory of numbers in that exchange to meet growth.

14. At the time of the code request, the Jacksonville exchange had a MTE between 10.89 – 11.36 and a utilization of 79.061%, while the MTE for the Beachwood (JCVLFLBWDS0) switch was – .38.

15. On March 19, 2004, NeuStar's automated number request system denied BellSouth's request for additional numbering resources because BellSouth had not met the rate center based MTE criteria, notwithstanding the fact that BellSouth is unable to provide the numbering resources requested by the specific customer. See Attachment 1. Pursuant to Commission Order No. PSC-01-1973-PCO-TL, attached to this Petition is the MTE and utilization rate for each switch in the Jacksonville exchange. See Attachment 2.

16. As discussed above, both the FCC Order and the INC guidelines provide that state regulatory authorities have the power and authority to review NeuStar's decision to deny a request for numbering resources. See INC Number Pooling Guidelines Sections 3.7 and 12(c).

17. Under earlier MTE procedures used by NANPA, waivers or exceptions were granted when customer hardships could be demonstrated or when the service provider's inventory did not have a block of sequential numbers large enough to meet the customer's specific request. Under existing procedures, NeuStar nor NANPA looks at the number of MTE and utilization for the entire rate center without exception. The current process is arbitrary and results in (1) decisions contrary to the public interest and welfare of consumers in the State of Florida; and (2) decisions that do not necessarily promote the efficient use of telephone numbers.

18. BellSouth requests that the Commission's reverse NeuStar's decision to withhold numbering resources from BellSouth on the following grounds:

(a) NeuStar's denial of numbering resources to BellSouth interferes with BellSouth's ability to serve its customers within the State of Florida.

(b) The MTE at the rate center level requirement is discriminatory against the incumbent LEC, since the ILEC is typically the only local service provider with multiple switches in a rate center. The ILEC deploys multiple switches in a rate center in order to meet customer demand for telephone service. The new FCC rules for obtaining numbering resources both penalizes and discriminates against the ILECs for deploying multiple switches. BellSouth believes that it is patently unfair to require that the ILEC only get six (6) MTE in all the switches it has deployed in a rate center, when the ALECs, which have recently entered the local service market, have to meet the MTE requirement in only the single switch that they have deployed to serve their customers in a single rate center or even multiple rate centers.

(c) As a result of NeuStar's denial of BellSouth's request for additional numbering resources, BellSouth will be unable to provide telecommunications services to its customers as required under Florida law.

WHEREFORE, BellSouth requests:

1. The Commission review the decision of NeuStar to deny BellSouth's request for additional numbering resources for the Jacksonville exchange; and
2. The Commission direct NeuStar to provide the requested numbering resources for the Jacksonville exchange as discussed above.

Respectfully submitted this 27th day of April, 2004.

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Nancy B. White PH
Nancy B. White
150 South Monroe Street
Suite 400
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(305) 347-5558

R. Douglas Lackey PH
R. Douglas Lackey
675 West Peachtree Street, Suite 4300
Atlanta, Georgia
(404) 335-0747

536368