

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. P-100, Sub 137c

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Area Code Relief for North Carolina's)	ORDER CHANGING
336 Numbering Plan Area (NPA))	LOCATION OF HEARING

BY THE CHAIR: On January 5, 2001, the Commission issued an Order Requesting Comments and Scheduling Public Hearing. On January 10, 2001 the Commission issued an Errata Order correcting errors in the public notice for the proposed hearing, which was attached as Appendix A.

The public hearing site **has been changed**

FROM: Auditorium - Guilford County Social Services Building
301 North Eugene Street
Greensboro, North Carolina

TO: Guilford Technical Community College
Jamestown Campus
Medlin Campus Center
Ground Level, Room 047
601 High Point Road
Jamestown, North Carolina

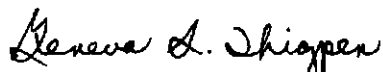
A revised Appendix A, Notice of Public Hearing, identifying the site change is attached.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This 30th day of January 2001.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION



Geneva S. Thigpen, Chief Clerk

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. P-100, SUB 137c

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Area Code Relief for North Carolina's)	NOTICE OF
336 Numbering Plan Area (NPA))	PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on September 7, 2000, the North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA) filed with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) a recommendation made by representatives of the telecommunications industry to provide relief for the 336 area code in North Carolina. The NANPA's filing states that because of increasing demand for telephone numbers, the 336 area code is projected to exhaust or run out of telephone numbers during the fourth quarter of 2002. This has created a need to introduce another area code in the geographic area now covered by the 336 area code to ensure the availability of telephone numbers in the future. The number for the new area code will not be announced until after final approval of a relief plan.

TWO AREA CODES AND TEN-DIGIT DIALING

Industry representatives have recommended a "distributed overlay" as the relief plan for the 336 area code. Under the recommended plan, a new area code would be assigned to cover or "overlay" the entire geographic area using the existing 336 area code boundary lines. This would result in two area codes for the same geographic area. The chief advantage of using an overlay relief plan is that existing telephone subscribers would not have to change area codes or their telephone numbers. When telephone numbers in the 336 area code run out, new residential and business telephone numbers for the area would be assigned from the new area code. The chief disadvantage of using an overlay relief plan is that all local and expanded local calls dialed using seven digits today would have to be dialed using ten digits (336 + seven-digit telephone number or new area code + seven-digit telephone number). A Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulation would require ten-digit dialing both between and within the 336 code and the new overlay area code.

OTHER SOLUTIONS WERE CONSIDERED

According to NANPA, the industry examined four alternatives before reaching a unanimous consensus to recommend the "distributed overlay" relief plan. Three variations of a "geographic split" relief plan were also considered. Under these plans, the geographic area covered by the 336 area code would be split into two parts. Roughly half of the affected telephone subscribers would continue to be served through the 336 area code, and half would change to the new area code. Although ten-digit dialing would not be required within area codes, most of the seven-digit dialed calling routes that exist today in the 336 area code would become ten-digit dialed calling routes in both directions if they are split by the new area code boundary. The industry rejected all geographic split relief plans because of the necessity of changing the telephone numbers of a large number of subscribers, the difficulty of predicting growth for the two areas, and potential customer confusion as the area is divided into smaller pieces.

PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD IN JAMESTOWN, NORTH CAROLINA

After carefully considering the significant potential impacts associated with the distributed overlay area code relief plan recommended by the North Carolina telecommunications industry, the Commission is determined that all affected subscribers should have an opportunity to express their views on the recommendation. Accordingly, the Commission will conduct a public hearing beginning on Tuesday, March 13, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. in the Medlin Campus Center - Ground Level Room 047, Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown Campus, 601 High Point Road, Jamestown, North Carolina, for the purpose of receiving public comment regarding the addition of a new area code to relieve the current 336 area code. The hearing will continue on Wednesday, March 14, 2001, at 9:00 a.m. at the same location. The evening hearing on Tuesday, March 13, will be conducted for the sole purpose of receiving testimony and comments from members of the public. Members of the public who are unable to attend the evening public hearing on March 13 will also be allowed to testify on the morning of March 14. The Commission will receive testimony from all formal parties, including the industry participants, the Public Staff, Attorney General, and any other intervenors, during the March hearing after public witnesses.

Persons desiring to send written statements to the Commission should submit their statement supporting the industry recommendation, or any alternative proposal, on or before March 6, 2001, and should include any information that those persons wish to be considered by the Commission in this matter. Interventions or statements should be addressed to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4325. Statements may also be faxed to (919) 733- 7300.

The Public Staff of the Utilities Commission, through the Executive Director, is required by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Executive Director should be addressed to:

Robert P. Gruber
Executive Director - Public Staff
4326 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4326
Fax: (919) 733-9565

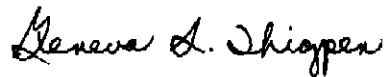
The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to:

The Honorable Roy Cooper
Attorney General - State of North Carolina
Post Office Box 629
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-0629
Fax: (919) 716-6757

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 30th day of January, 2001.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Geneva S. Thigpen".

Geneva S. Thigpen, Chief Clerk