

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3256

**Petition of the North American
Numbering Plan Administrator on behalf
of the Pennsylvania Telecommunications
Industry for Approval of Numbering Plan
Area Relief Planning for the 814 NPA**

**Public Meeting- March 17, 2011
2112925-LAW
Docket No. P-2009-2112925**

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER TYRONE J. CHRISTY

Before us for consideration today is further action on the pending proceeding and implementation schedule regarding area code relief for the 814 Numbering Plan Area (NPA). In light of additional forecast information from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA), the Commission is proposing to suspend the implementation timeline for the 814 area code concerning network preparation and permissive and mandatory dialing. In addition, the Commission proposes to continue to schedule technical and public input hearings to gather additional information on the impact that both types of area code relief will have on all of the citizens and businesses located in the current 814 area code.

I adamantly believe that additional information continues to be integral in aiding this Commission in its further evaluation of whether, when and what type of area code relief may be necessary for the 814 area code. Both the evidentiary and public input hearings will allow the residents and businesses in the 814 NPA to further inform this Commission of the real implications that the overlay and geographic split options may impose on them. Thus far, it is clear from the record in this proceeding as well as from the issues raised in the various petitions for reconsideration that neither an overlay nor a geographic split is a perfect solution that will cure the many inconveniences and expenses caused by the imposition of a new area code. Each option has its own set of problems and disruptions that, in the short term, may significantly impact those that reside and do business in the area code receiving relief. Inevitably, the Commission must be prepared, if necessary, to choose one of the relief options in order that adequate numbering resources remain in the area code.

I only wish that I could indicate to the residents of the 814 NPA that area code relief has been resolved and no further action needs to be taken. Unfortunately, this is not the case. The current forecasting data extends the 814 area code projected exhaust date but not to a point in time to ensure that relief is no longer needed. Area code exhaust analyses as well as the carriers' projected numbering needs are dynamic in nature and, truly, best guess estimates. Because of the dynamic nature of the analysis and data regarding projected exhaustion of the 814 NPA, I believe that the technical conferences and public input hearings will provide a forum for the receipt of

necessary information from the industry and public which will be analyzed in conjunction with the October 2011 NRUF data and further projected exhaust information on this area code. Once the Commission has gathered all of the pertinent information on the issues involved, then we can further determine if and when timely area code relief will be implemented.

During the time that this area code has been slated for relief as well as during this next phase of the proceeding, our staff has worked diligently to ensure that there continues to be adequate numbering resources in all of Pennsylvania's area codes. In particular, our staff, on a daily basis, constantly reviews the numbering resources in the 814 area code as an additional step in monitoring the projected exhaust of this NPA. Their constant efforts ensure that the telecommunications industry as well as the residents and businesses in the 814 NPA do not commence network preparation and do not endure new dialing patterns prematurely. Further, their efforts will be integral in the Commission's final determination of when relief is truly necessary for the 814 area code.

3-17-11
DATE

Tyrone J. Christy
COMMISSIONER TYRONE J. CHRISTY