



Public Service Commission

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DATE: MARCH 7, 2002

TO: DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF THE COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (BAYO)

FROM: DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE MARKETS & ENFORCEMENT (ILERI,
CASEY, BULECZA-BANKS) *CRB*
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL (FORDHAM) *E.P.T. LNU*

RE: DOCKET NO. 990457-TL - REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF PROPOSED
NUMBERING PLAN RELIEF FOR THE 954 AREA CODE.

AGENDA: 3/19/2002 - REGULAR AGENDA - PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION -
INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: APRIL 1, 2002 - MANDATORY 10-DIGIT DIALING IN THE
954 AREA CODE BEGINS

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: NONE

FILE NAME AND LOCATION: S:\PSC\CMP\WP\990457E.RCM

CASE BACKGROUND

By Order No. PSC-00-1937-PAA-TL, issued October 20, 2000, in Docket No. 990457-TL, the Commission approved an area code overlay relief plan for the 954 area code, but withheld the implementation dates pending the outcome of various number conservation measures. Currently, the majority of available central office codes (NXX) between the Broward County exchanges (954 area code) and the Palm Beach County exchanges (561 area code) are protected due to code conflicts. At the time of the Commission's vote, there were only 12 of 119 NXXs in the 954 area code that could be assigned, and only 6 of 143 NXXs in the 561 area code that could be assigned in these exchanges. On June 28, 2001, the Commission issued Order No. PSC-01-1403-PCO-TL and approved implementation dates for the area code overlay to eliminate the code conflicts and provide numbering resources for the 954 and 561 area codes. The Commission ordered

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that permissive 7 or 10-digit dialing would begin on August 1, 2001, and mandatory 10-digit dialing would begin on April 1, 2002.

The Commission also ordered the affected Local Exchange Companies (LEC) to send a letter to alarm monitoring companies nine months before the mandatory dialing period advising them of the need to reprogram their equipment.

On March 4, 2002, Coastal Security Systems (CSS) requested an extension of time for the permissive 7 or 10-digit dialing for four NXX codes in the 954 area code. This recommendation addresses CSS' request.

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission grant CSS' request to provide a 90-day extension of time for permissive 7 or 10-digit dialing for the 971, 926, 943 and 946 NXXs in the 954 area code?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. Staff recommends that the Commission grant CSS' request to provide a 90-day extension of time for permissive 7 or 10-digit dialing for the 971, 926, 943 and 946 NXXs in the 954 area code. (ILERI, CASEY)

STAFF ANALYSIS: On March 4, 2002, CSS requested a 90-day extension of time for permissive 7 or 10-digit dialing for the 971, 926, 943 and 946 NXXs in the 954 area code. This request was made to enable CSS to complete the reprogramming of the alarm monitoring devices for its customers. CSS has informed staff that it began the conversion process on September 1, 2001, as soon as it received notice from BellSouth. CSS immediately added three new service technicians in an attempt to handle the conversion process before the mandatory 10-digit dialing date of April 1, 2002. CSS estimates that out of over 5,000 accounts, only 1,426 accounts will

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need to be converted after April 1, 2002. CSS' average conversion rate is 150 accounts per month; therefore, it requires a three-month extension of the permissive dialing period until July 1, 2002 for the four NXX codes in the 954 area code.

The Commission has granted extensions of time in two other cases in the past. By Order No. PSC-98-1267-FOF-TL, issued September 23, 1998, in Docket No. 971058-TL (305 area code), the Commission granted SecurityLink an extension of the permissive dialing period for three months, and subsequently extended the time frame by another month. The Commission granted the extension because the 305 area code overlay was the first overlay relief plan approved in the state of Florida, and since SecurityLink had recently acquired ten to twelve new companies with different alarm system technologies, it needed the extra time to complete the conversions.

By Order No. PSC-99-2185-FOF-TL, issued November 8, 1999, in Docket No. 980671-TL (407 area code), the Commission denied ADT's request for an extension because a stricter rationing of NXX codes in the 407 area code was needed. In this case, the wireless carriers needed access to telephone numbers during the month of December due to seasonal sales increases. Also, substantial costs would have been incurred by the LEC to renotify customers of a new date if the mandatory date was postponed. BellSouth filed for reconsideration of the Commission Order indicating that it misinformed the Commission of potential problems with an extension of the permissive dialing period. The Commission subsequently granted an extension of the permissive dialing period for six months.

BellSouth has informed staff that it does not anticipate a problem with the extension of the permissive dialing period for the NXXs that CSS requested.

CSS has worked diligently to complete the conversion process within the required time period, but has been unable to do so. CSS monitors over five thousand fire, intrusion, hold-up and medical alarm systems in Broward County. Staff believes that the inability to provide service to those customers could expose CSS' customers to potential life-threatening situations. Therefore, staff recommends that the Commission grant CSS' request and provide a 90-

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day extension of time for permissive 7 or 10-digit dialing for the 971, 926, 943 and 946 NXXs in the 954 area code.

ISSUE 2: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: No. Staff recommends that this docket should remain open pending full implementation of the 754 area code overlay.

STAFF ANALYSIS: Staff recommends that this docket should remain open pending full implementation of the 754 overlay.