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Kay Flynn

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Subject: News Release - Life of 407 Area Code Extended



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The attached News Release has been faxed to media throughout the State of Florida.

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State of Florida
Public Service Commission
NEWS RELEASE

May 22, 2002

Contact: Richard Tudor or Thelma Crump ♦ 850-413-6482

LIFE OF 407 AREA CODE EXTENDED

TALLAHASSEE — The need to overlay the new 689 area code over the existing 407 code area has been reduced and is currently projected to not have to be implemented until substantially later than originally planned. The Public Service Commission (PSC) had ordered the new area code beginning July 15, 2002. However, based on current projections, it appears that this implementation date can now be delayed for a number of years. Yesterday, the PSC voted to suspend implementation of the 689 area code. As a result, residents and businesses in the 407 area wanting new telephone numbers will be able to continue to receive 407 numbers, rather than 689 numbers, for the foreseeable future. The 407 area includes Seminole, Orange, Osceola Counties, and a small portion of Lake and Volusia Counties.

In January 2001, the North America Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) estimated the exhaust date for remaining telephone numbers in the current 407 area code to be the fourth quarter of 2003. NANPA is the organization authorized by the Federal Communications Commission to oversee the planning for and allocation of telephone numbering resources nationwide. Based on its estimated exhaust date, NANPA petitioned the PSC to implement a new area code. The PSC held hearings on area code relief and ordered a new overlay area code (689) effective July 15, 2002.

The change in the anticipated exhaust date for the 407 area is the result of two major factors. One is the number conservation efforts that have been undertaken by the PSC to limit the allocation of numbers to telephone companies until they need the numbers and to reclaim unused numbers. Another possible reason for the reduced demand for numbers is a general slowing in the economy. Besides the Florida decision to suspend implementation of the 689 area code, seven other states have also taken similar action to suspend area codes

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