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May 11, 2023

Via Electronic Filing

Commission Filing Clerk
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress Avenue, Suite 8-100
Austin, Texas 78701

RE: ***Project No.***

Petition of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator on
behalf of the Texas Telecommunications Industry for Relief
of the 281/346/713/832 NPA Overlay

Dear Filing Clerk:

The North American Numbering Plan Administrator (“NANPA”), hereby submits a petition on behalf of the Texas Telecommunications Industry to add a new NPA (aka area code) for relief of the 281/346/713/832 NPA Overlay of the greater Houston area.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at at hwayman@nanpa.com or 571-363-3824.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Wayman

Heidi Wayman
Manager, Data Management, NANPA
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East Brunswick, NJ 08816
571-363-3824
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cc: Therese Harris
Patricia Garcia

**Before the
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
Austin, Texas 78711-3326**

Petition of the North American Numbering)
Plan Administrator on Behalf of the Texas) Project No.
Telecommunications Industry for Relief of)
the 281/346/713/832 NPA Overlay)

**PETITION OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN ADMINISTRATOR
ON BEHALF OF THE TEXAS TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY**

The North American Numbering Plan Administrator (“NANPA”), as the neutral third-party numbering plan area (“NPA”) (also referred to as “area code”) relief planner for Texas and on behalf of the Texas telecommunications industry (“Industry”),¹ hereby notifies the Public Utility Commission of Texas (“Commission”)² that the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay is projected to exhaust its Central Office codes (often referred to as “CO” or “NXX” codes) during the third quarter of 2025.³ This means that absent NPA relief, the supply of CO codes in the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay is projected to run out during the projected exhaust quarter.

In the case of an existing NPA overlay complex in need of relief, such as the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay, the NPA Code Relief Planning and Notification Guidelines (“NPA Relief Planning Guidelines”), which NANPA is required to follow

¹ The Industry is composed of current and prospective telecommunications carriers operating in, or considering operations within, the 281/346/713/832 NPA.

² The Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) delegated authority to the states to review and approve NPA relief plans. *See* 47 C.F.R. §52.19.

³ The October 2022 NPA Exhaust Analysis Changes as of March 27, 2023 can be accessed on the NANPA website at:
https://www.nationalnanpa.com/reports/Changes_from_Oct2022_NPA_Exhaust_Projections_03.27.2023.pdf

when conducting the relief planning process, state that a streamlined process should be used to implement an additional overlay. Specifically the NPA Relief Planning Guidelines state that when “NPA relief is required for an existing overlay complex, then the Initial Planning Document, relief planning meeting, and industry consensus to recommend an overlay is not required.”⁴ Instead, NANPA will draft a Petition for Industry review and approval recommending implementation of an additional all-services distributed overlay NPA.

As such, the Industry respectfully requests that the Commission approve the addition of a new overlay NPA for the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay to be implemented as set forth herein.

I. Background

The 713 NPA was established in 1947 as one of the original four NPAs assigned to Texas, located in the southeastern part of the state, from the Sabine River to the Brazos Valley. On November 2, 1996, area code 713 was split, with most of Houston's suburbs switching to area code 281. Although this was intended as a long-term solution, the rapid growth in demand required additional numbering resources within two years in both the 713 and 281 NPAs. In 1998, the Commission approved the elimination of the boundary between the 713 and 281 NPAs, creating an overlay for the combined area, while simultaneously adding a third NPA, 832, to the entire region. The 832 area code was implemented on January 16, 1999. As a result, ten-digit local dialing was required for all calls in the greater Houston area. In 2013, the Commission approved the addition

⁴ NPA Code Relief Planning and Notification Guidelines (ATIS-0300061, April 1, 2022) at §5.6.1 (“NPA Relief Planning Guidelines”). The NPA Relief Planning Guidelines can be accessed on the ATIS website located at https://access.atis.org/apps/group_public/documents.php?view=.

of a fourth NPA, 346, to the 281/713/832 NPA overlay, and it was implemented on July 1, 2014.

As required by the FCC, NANPA collects CO code assignment, utilization, and forecasted demand data to determine the projected need for numbering resources. NANPA uses this data to project the exhaust date of each area code and publishes the results twice a year. The October 2022 Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast (NRUF) and NPA Exhaust Analysis (“October 2022 NRUF Report”), published by NANPA, projected the exhaust of the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay during the first quarter of 2026.⁵ However, due to an increase in CO code assignments, NANPA published a Delta NRUF on March 27, 2023, revising the exhaust date to the third quarter of 2025.⁶

Based upon the October 2022 NRUF Report, NANPA distributed a notice to the Industry on March 14, 2023, containing a draft Petition for review prior to the meeting requesting approval for the only relief alternative that meets Industry guidelines, a new all-services distributed overlay NPA.⁷ The Industry met on April 4, 2023, and approved the Petition for an new all-services distributed overlay NPA of the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay.⁸

II. Description of the Relief Plan

The all-services distributed overlay will superimpose a new NPA over

⁵ The NRUF and NPA Exhaust Analysis can be accessed on the NANPA web site at https://nationalnanpa.com/reports/reports_npa.

⁶ Ibid Footnote 3.

⁷ NANPA’s March 14, 2023 notice to the Industry is attached as Exhibit A and contains CO code assignment information, thousands-block pooling statistics, and a map of the overlay.

⁸ A copy of the April 4, 2023 final meeting minutes is attached as Exhibit B.

the same geographic area covered by the existing 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay and is projected to last approximately nine years. NANPA will assign CO codes from the new overlay NPA once all assignable CO codes from the 281/346/713/832 NPAs are allocated. All existing customers will retain their current area code in the overlay area and will not have to change their telephone numbers. The dialing plan for the new overlay NPA and the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay will be as follows:

Dialing Plan for the New NPA and the 281/346/713/832 All-Services Distributed Overlay

Type of Call	Call Terminating in	Dialing Plan
Local	Home NPA (HNPA) or Foreign NPA (FNPA)	10 digits (NPA-NXX-XXXX)*
Toll	HNPA or FNPA	1 + 10 digits (1 + NPA-NXX-XXXX)
Operator Services Credit card, collect, third party	HNPA or FNPA	0 + 10 digits (0 + NPA-NXX-XXXX)

* 1+10 digits permissible at each service provider's discretion

The Industry reached consensus to implement the new relief NPA in accordance with a 9-month schedule which is the timeframe the Industry typically uses when 10-digit local dialing is already in place.⁹ The schedule, outlined below, does not include specific dates, but rather timeframes to identify the phases of implementation including customer education and technical milestones. Once the Commission approves the Petition, the Industry will select specific dates at an implementation meeting to ensure the dates do not interfere with certain holidays, high traffic calling days, network freeze periods, or other NPA relief

⁹ The NPA Code Relief Guidelines at §7.2.

implementation activities occurring across the country. Moreover, the Commission’s prompt approval of the Petition and adherence to the proposed implementation timeframe schedule will avoid the denial or delay of service to telecommunications providers’ customers due to the unavailability of CO codes. It should be noted that there is no requirement for a permissive dialing period because mandatory 10-digit local dialing is already in place with the current 281/346/713/832 NPAs. Thus the key customer education focus is the introduction of the new additional overlay NPA.

**The Implementation Timeframe
for the New NPA Added to the 281/346/713/832
All-Services Distributed Overlay**

EVENT	TIMEFRAME
Customer Education and Network Preparation Period*	9 months
Earliest Activation of CO codes in the new NPA **	At completion of Customer Education and Network Preparation Period and after all 281/346/713/832 available CO codes are assigned. Six months prior to exhaust

* *There is no requirement for a permissive dialing period because mandatory 10-digit local dialing is already in place.*

***CO codes in the new NPA will not be assigned until all available CO codes in the existing 281/346/713/832 NPA are allocated.*

Within 75 calendar days after the release of a final Commission order, NANPA will assign a new NPA, ensure a press release is issued to announce the new NPA, schedule and facilitate the initial industry implementation meeting, and publish the Planning Letter(s).¹⁰ The Industry will then form an implementation committee to implement the new area code. The following table outlines the methods and processes

¹⁰ NPA Code Relief Planning Guidelines at §5.10.1.

the Industry typically utilizes for implementation of an additional overlay when an existing overlay and mandatory 10-digit local dialing are already in place; however, the methods and processes outlined below may be modified by agreement of the Industry members during the actual implementation of the new NPA:

Customer Education Milestones:

	Action	Responsibility
1	Issue single customer notification (e.g., bill messages, bill inserts, direct mail, text messaging, email)	All Service Providers
2	Issue initial press release announcing the new overlay NPA.	Commission; Service Providers to the extent they are able to do so
3	Send Special letters to Directory Publishers	Co-chairs of Industry committee
4	Update social media with information regarding additional overlay NPA.	All Service Providers (optional)
5	Update websites with information regarding the additional overlay NPA.	All Service Providers
6	Develop language for use in Directories to alert the consumers of the new NPA.	Directory Publishers
7	Issue second press release just prior to the new NPA effective date	Commission; Service Providers to the extent they are able to do so

Technical Milestones:

		Responsibility
1	Obtain industry test code from NANPA and activate the test number	One Service Provider Volunteer
2	Open the test code in carriers' network	All Service Providers
3	Establish NPA Specific type of Trunks	All Service Providers (as needed)
	<u>E911 Work Plan</u>	
4	Confirm new Emergency Service Number (ESN)/Numbering Plan Digit (NPD) has been established for the new NPA	E911 Providers
5	Ensure SRDB table has new NPA built	E911 Providers
6	Notify PSAPs, PSALI customers and County Coordinators	E911 Providers
7	Notify Statewide 911 Coordinator	Co-chairs

8	Review and Submit CLEC Trunk Order Requests to local provider if needed	All Service Providers (as needed)
9	Update PSAP equipment to recognize new NPA	PSAP's
10	Trunk Orders Complete	E911 Providers
11	Build E911 Network/Tandem Translations	E911 Providers
12	Verify if all PSAP work has been completed	PSAP's
13	Activate E911 Network/Tandem Translations	E911 Providers

III. Conclusion

As consumers are already familiar with the characteristics of an all-services distributed overlay and 10-digit local dialing is already required in the greater Houston area, the Industry requests that the Commission issue an order in response to this Petition approving a new additional all-services distributed overlay NPA and the recommended implementation schedule for relief of the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay without a hearing. To the extent possible, the Industry requests that the Commission forego in-person meetings and hearings in favor of written comments and reply comments. Once the Commission has granted this Petition, the Industry will implement an all-services distributed

overlay over the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay in accordance with the implementation schedule set forth above. As such, the Industry requests that the Commission grant this Petition no later than December 31, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Wayman

Heidi Wayman

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May 11, 2023

EXHIBIT A



March 14, 2023

To: All 281/346/713/832 NPA Code Holders and Interested Industry Members (Texas)

Subject: Texas 281/346/713/832 NPA Draft Petition Review Meeting

The North American Numbering Plan Administrator (“NANPA”) has scheduled a draft petition review meeting via web conference to provide the telecommunications industry of Texas (“Industry”) an opportunity to review and approve a draft petition to add an additional overlay NPA to the Texas 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay complex which is projected to exhaust in the first quarter of 2026. According to the NPA Code Relief Planning and Notification Guidelines (ATIS-0300061), Section 5.6.1 “Where NPA relief is required for an existing overlay complex, then the Initial Planning Document, relief planning meeting, and industry consensus to recommend an overlay is not required. NANPA shall draft a relief plan filing requesting approval of the overlay and recommending an implementation schedule including a timeframe for network preparation and customer education, with the new NPA effective at the end of the implementation schedule. There is no need for a permissive dialing period because 10-digit local dialing will already be in place. The draft filing shall include the state’s existing overlay dialing plan.”

NANPA will convene an Industry relief planning meeting on April 4, 2023, to review and approve the draft petition for the 281/346/713/832 NPA. The resulting relief plan will be filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (“Commission”) for their consideration. The Industry recognized consensus process developed by the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (“ATIS”) will be applied in the decision-making efforts.

Also attached with this notice is an agenda, the consensus process, relief planning meeting aids, CO code summary, thousands-block statistics report, service provider CO code assignments by OCN, draft petition, and a map of the rate centers in the 281/346/713/832 NPA.

Because the impacts of NPA relief are so significant, NANPA strongly encourages your participation on April 4, 2023. Experience demonstrates that this could be the only meeting of the Industry before a decision is reached on the relief petition that will be submitted to the Commission for approval. The details of the relief planning meeting are as follows:

Date: Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Time: 12 pm PT; 1 pm MT; 2 pm CT; 3 pm ET

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://somos.zoom.us/j/86386893127?pwd=WU1wVWp5cENiRTRiMG90UG92NUIHUT09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 863 8689 3127
Password: 621830

One tap mobile
8884754499,,86386893127# US Toll-free
8778535257,,86386893127# US Toll-free

Dial by your location
888 475 4499 US Toll-free
877 853 5257 US Toll-free
Meeting ID: 863 8689 3127

Please feel free to distribute this notice to others in the Industry that you feel should attend this important NPA relief planning meeting. If you receive this notice from someone else and would like to receive additional information in the future about the 281/346/713/832 NPA, you are encouraged to sign up to NANPA's NANP Administration System ("NAS") NANP Notification System ("NNS") by going to www.nanpa.com, then selecting NAS Login and then selecting New Registration and following the sign-up process.

If you wish to receive the draft petition in Word format for editing purposes, contact me prior to the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact me via email at hwayman@nanpa.com or phone (571) 363-3824.

Sincerely,

Heidi A. Wayman
Manager, Data Management
NANPA

CC: Patricia Garcia, Texas Public Utility Commission
Therese Harris, Texas Public Utility Commission

**Texas 281/346/713/823 NPA
Draft Petition Review Meeting
via Web Conference**

April 4, 2023 - 2:00 PM (CT)

AGENDA

Welcome / Introductions / Consensus Definition

NANPA's Role and Responsibilities

Review INC Guidelines

Review 281/346/713/823 NPA Background, History and Status

Review of Draft Petition

Consensus on Customer Education & Technical Milestones

Consensus on Implementation Intervals

Consensus on Approval & Filing

Statements for the Record

Set Date to Approve Minutes

Open Discussions

Adjourn

7 RESOLUTION PROCESS

7.1 Consensus

Consensus is the method used by the ATIS Forums to reach resolution of Issues, unless specifically otherwise provided for in these Operating Procedures or in **Appendix A**. Consensus is established when substantial agreement has been reached among those participating in the Issue at hand. Substantial agreement means more than a simple majority, but not necessarily unanimous agreement.

Consensus requires that all views and objections be considered, and that a concerted effort be made toward their resolution. Observers shall have the opportunity to express their views and to influence the opinions of Voting Members. However, the opinions of Observers are not considered by the leadership in determining whether consensus has been achieved. Under some circumstances, consensus is achieved when the minority no longer wishes to articulate its objection. In other cases, the opinions of the minority should be recorded with the report of the substantial agreement, or consensus, of the majority.

When there are questions or disputes regarding consensus, leaders or participants should ask an objecting participant(s) to state the rationale for the objection and provide an opportunity for full discussion aimed at achieving full understanding and consideration of the objection.

A participant's silence is perceived as agreement by the Forum and its leadership. If participants do not agree, they should be encouraged to speak up and voice their opinion. A participant may appeal the resolution of an Issue in the manner provided for in Section 13.

4.2.2

NANPA investigates and resolves, wherever possible, any discrepancies in the information provided.

4.2.3

Any information released by NANPA to the industry will be released only on an aggregated or summary basis (See Section 16.1.2 of the Thousands-Block (NPA-NXX-X) & Central Office Code (NPA-NXX) Administration Guidelines).

4.3

NANPA continually monitors and projects CO code (NXX) exhaust within NPAs in order to anticipate the need and prepare for NPA relief activity.

4.4

NANPA develops plans for NPA relief and initiates implementation efforts, in both normal and jeopardy situations (See Section 16 of the Thousands-Block (NPA-NXX-X) & Central Office Code (NPA-NXX) Administration Guidelines). When the need for code relief is identified and relief activity is initiated, NANPA advises all parties affected by NPA relief activities and includes them in the planning effort.

4.5

Currently, NANPA's NPA Relief Planner submits the necessary information to the NPA Administrator who is responsible for the review and assignment of the new NPA. This is currently an internal NANPA function.

4.6

Where necessary, NANPA presents the industry-consensus recommended NPA relief plan to appropriate regulatory authority(ies).

4.7

NANPA and the industry jointly identify dialing plan issues within local jurisdictions at the relief planning meeting.

4.8

NANPA provides assistance to users of numbering resources and suggests alternatives, when possible, that will optimize numbering resource utilization.

4.9

Prepares and issues information related to reports for special information requests and scheduled periodic reports that relate to utilization of numbering resources.

5 NPA Relief Planning Process

The NRUF and other available resources are used to identify projected NPA exhaust. NANPA shall prepare relief options for each NPA projected to exhaust within thirty-six months.

Considerations in the NPA Relief Planning Process include:

the face-to-face meeting manageable, participants on the bridge shall not be accorded special consideration⁴. NANPA shall moderate these meetings or conference calls and be fully prepared to answer questions regarding the alternatives. During the meetings/conference calls, new alternatives may be proposed and shall be considered in these discussions. Inasmuch as the objective of these meetings/conference calls is to reach industry consensus, subsequent meetings/conference calls shall be held as required until consensus is reached, or until NANPA determines consensus cannot be reached.

5.5.1 Modifications to Previous Industry Agreements

This process provides industry participants an opportunity under prescribed circumstances to reopen and possibly modify previous agreements reached by consensus. To be fair to all parties and cognizant of the time and effort required to reach industry consensus, the following procedures shall be used to request a reopening of a previous consensus agreement(s).

- At least two Affected Parties are required to request the reopening and review of a consensus agreement(s) achieved at a previous industry meeting. This excludes a previously agreed to industry NPA relief plan, regardless of whether or not that plan has been filed. The request by the parties for a reopening/review must be made in writing to the Director, North American Numbering Plan Administration.
- At least three Affected Parties are required to request the reopening of a previously agreed to industry NPA relief plan that has not been filed with the appropriate regulatory authority. The request by the parties for a reopening/review shall be made in writing to the Director, North American Numbering Plan Administration.
- NANPA shall request a reopening of previous consensus agreements after receiving regulatory approval when circumstances could potentially have a significant impact to the implementation plan.
- NANPA shall notify all Affected Parties at least two (2) weeks in advance that a special conference call has been scheduled. Attached to the notice will be the reasons for and description of the proposed changes. Every effort will be made to avoid conflicts with other industry meetings so that all parties may participate.
- At the beginning of the conference call, Affected Parties will consider whether the previous consensus agreement will be reopened for discussion. If consensus is reached to reopen the discussion, the call will proceed. Absent such a consensus, the conference call will be adjourned.
- Only issues related to the scheduled topic will be considered on this special conference call.
- Meeting minutes shall be produced and distributed by NANPA within 14 calendar days of the conference call.

5.6 Notify Appropriate Regulatory Authority

When consensus is reached within the industry or when NANPA determines additional meetings would not achieve consensus, NANPA should submit to the appropriate regulatory authority the results of the industry effort, if required. In its submission NANPA should also furnish all relevant background information including any statements for the record submitted in real time by industry participants (unless otherwise agreed), meeting minutes, mailing lists, etc. In the case where consensus could not be reached, brief position papers could be included.

5.6.1 Relief for An Existing Overlay

Where NPA relief is required for an existing overlay complex, then the Initial Planning Document, relief planning meeting, and industry consensus to recommend an overlay is not required. NANPA shall draft a relief plan filing requesting approval of the overlay and recommending an implementation schedule including a timeframe for network preparation and customer education, with the new NPA effective at the end of the implementation schedule. There is no need for a permissive dialing period because 10-digit local dialing will already be in place. The draft filing shall include the state's existing overlay dialing plan.

⁴ Caveat: those on the bridge may NOT ask for comments to be repeated or for additional explanations to be given because they cannot see what's happening in the room. The use of a bridge must not slow down the meeting.

NANPA shall notify all Affected Parties at least three (3) weeks in advance of a conference call scheduled to review and approve the draft filing. During the conference call, the timeframes for the implementation schedule will be determined. The recommended relief should be in place six (6) months prior to the forecasted exhaust (see Section 7.2). As usual, meeting minutes shall be produced and distributed by NANPA within 14 calendar days of the conference call.

Within 6 weeks of the conference call (unless otherwise agreed by the Affected Parties), NANPA shall submit the filing to the appropriate regulatory agency requesting approval of the overlay, and after regulatory approval has been received, NANPA shall proceed with the implementation process, as reflected in Sections 5.7 – 5.12.

5.6.2 Relief For A Single NPA When An Overlay is the Only Viable Alternative

Where NPA relief is required for a single NPA area, 10-digit local dialing has not been implemented, and NANPA has determined that only an overlay alternative will meet the guidelines, then the Initial Planning Document, relief planning meeting, and industry consensus to recommend an overlay is not required.

NANPA shall draft a relief plan filing requesting approval of the overlay and recommending an implementation schedule including network preparation, customer education, and a permissive dialing period.

NANPA shall notify all Affected Parties at least three (3) weeks in advance of a conference call scheduled to review and approve the draft filing. In the notification, NANPA will include data (e.g., an NPA with a high concentration of assigned NXXs in one or only a few rate centers) supporting the recommendation that the overlay is the only relief method in compliance with the criteria listed in Section 5.0. The three (3) week timeframe notification may be necessary to allow individual industry members to fully analyze the technical, educational, and operational impacts to their respective subscribers and networks in determining the timeframes needed for implementation.

During the conference call, the timeframes for the implementation schedule will be determined to finalize the relief filing. The draft filing will include a recommendation for 10-digit dialing for local⁵ calls (to either the home NPA (HNPA) and to foreign NPA(s) [FNPA]), and 1+10-digit dialing for toll calls (to either HNPA or FNPA), unless the state has an existing overlay dialing plan that is different. The recommended relief (i.e., mandatory dialing and the new NPA's inservice date) should be six (6) months prior to the forecasted exhaust (see Section 5.1). As usual, meeting minutes shall be produced and distributed by NANPA within 14 calendar days of the conference call.

Within six (6) weeks of the conference call (unless otherwise agreed by the Affected Parties), NANPA shall submit the filing to the appropriate regulatory agency requesting approval of the overlay. After regulatory approval has been received, NANPA shall proceed with the implementation process, as reflected in Sections 5.7 – 5.12.

5.6.3 Relief For A Single NPA When 10-Digit Local Dialing Has Been or Will Be Implemented

Where NPA relief is required for a single NPA area that is scheduled to transition to 10-digit local dialing or has already transitioned to 10-digit local dialing⁶, then the Initial Planning Document, relief planning meeting, and industry consensus to recommend an overlay is not required.

NANPA shall draft a relief plan filing requesting approval of the overlay and recommending an implementation schedule including a timeframe for network preparation and customer education, with the new NPA effective at the end of the implementation schedule. There is no need for a permissive dialing period because 10-digit local dialing will already be in place. The draft filing shall include the state's existing overlay dialing plan.

NANPA shall notify all Affected Parties at least three (3) weeks in advance of a conference call scheduled to review and approve the draft filing. During the conference call, the timeframes for the implementation schedule will be determined. The recommended relief should be in place six (6) months prior to the forecasted exhaust (see Section 7.2). As usual, meeting minutes shall be produced and distributed by NANPA within 14 calendar days of the conference call.

⁵ As an industry Best Practice, service providers are encouraged to also provide permissive 1+ 10 digit local dialing at their discretion.

⁶ For example, FCC 20-100, ¶153.

6.3 All-Services Distributed Overlay Method⁷

An all-services distributed overlay occurs when more than one NPA code serves the same geographic area. In an NPA overlay, code relief is generally provided by opening a new NPA code covering the same geographic area as the NPA(s) requiring relief. NXX codes from this new NPA are assigned on a carrier-neutral basis, i.e., first come, first served. With the overlay method, the FCC requires mandatory 10-digit local dialing between and within the old and new NPAs.⁸ Some states require 1 + 10-digit local dialing and some require 10-digit local dialing and allow 1 + 10-digit local dialing at the SP's discretion.

The all-services distributed overlay method eliminates the need for customer number changes as required under the split and boundary realignment methods. In areas where an overlay is already in place, a subsequent overlay eliminates the need for a permissive dialing period as part of implementation. In areas where mandatory 10-digit local dialing is already in place, an overlay eliminates the need for a permissive dialing period as part of implementation. Other potential implementation strategies have been identified for an all-services overlay, but they tend to provide shorter-term relief and/or may require additional technical work for some SPs. They are listed below:

6.3.1 Concentrated Growth Overlay

A concentrated growth overlay may be considered where the majority of the new telephone numbers are expected to be concentrated in one section of the existing NPA. For example, a fast growing metropolitan area and a sparsely populated rural area could exist within the same NPA. The overlay NPA would be assigned initially to the section of the NPA experiencing the fastest growth, and new NXXs in that section would be assigned from the new NPA. As the NXXs allotted to the rural area near exhaust, the overlay boundaries could expand. For this option to be practical there must be a sufficient number of available NXXs to serve the non-overlay area and these must be designated for use only in the non-overlay area. This implies that NANPA must initiate the NPA relief planning process earlier than required if this option is to be feasible. Further, enforcement of mandatory 10-digit local dialing within the concentrated overlay or allowance of continued 7-digit dialing outside the concentrated overlay may be difficult for some SPs to manage within a single NPA. A concentrated growth overlay may cause customer dialing confusion and additional technical work for some SPs, and may require a longer implementation interval.

6.3.2 Boundary Elimination Overlay

With a boundary elimination overlay, the NPA requiring relief is adjacent to an NPA with spare capacity. The boundary between these two NPAs is eliminated, and available NXX codes from the adjacent NPA are assigned within the original NPA boundary where relief is required. An appropriate use of boundary elimination might be in a state or province consisting of two NPAs, where one NPA has a considerable amount of relief life left. This solution has the advantage of not immediately requiring a new NPA code, but it also shares a limitation of boundary realignment because it offers shorter-term relief. Further, a boundary elimination overlay may require additional technical work for some SPs, and may require a longer implementation interval.

6.3.3 Multiple Overlay

The multiple overlay strategy may be considered where relief is required in two or more NPAs. For example, this solution may be appropriate in a metropolitan area where two or more NPAs cover a small geographic area and where it would be difficult to implement another kind of relief. The new NPA would be assigned to overlay the multiple existing NPAs serving the entire metropolitan area. As another example, a new NPA could be assigned for new growth within an entire state or province where more than one NPA exists. Multiple overlays may require additional technical work for some SPs, and may require a longer implementation interval.

⁷ The LNPA Working Group Best Practice 30 supports the all-services distributed overlay as the preferred form of area code relief, and was endorsed by the North American Numbering Council (NANC) on September 18, 2013. See <http://www.nanc-chair.org/docs/documents.html>.

⁸ 47 CFR §52.19 (c) (3) (ii).

6.3.4 Technology-Specific or Service-Specific Overlay

These overlays occur when a new area code is introduced to serve the same geographic area as one or more existing area code(s) and numbering resources in the new area code overlay are assigned to a specific technology(ies) or service(s). State commissions may not implement a technology-specific or service-specific overlay without express authority from the FCC.⁹ Such overlays are not feasible where local number portability and/or thousands-block pooling have been implemented. For purposes of relief planning, a technology-specific or service-specific overlay shall not be considered by the NANPA or the industry.

A state commission seeking delegated authority from the FCC to implement a technology-specific or service-specific overlay should discuss why the numbering resource optimization benefits of the proposed overlay would be superior to implementation of an all-services distributed overlay.¹⁰

6.4 Other Relief Methods

A combination of the methods described above may be used. For example, a concentrated growth overlay could be assigned initially to a section of an NPA experiencing fast growth, and as more relief is required, the section served by two NPAs could expand into a distributed or multiple overlays, as demand requires. Other combination of relief methods may be appropriate. Each NPA requiring relief must be analyzed on the basis of its own unique characteristics with regard to demographics, geography, regulatory climate, technological considerations, projected exhaust, and community needs and requirements.

7 Other Relief Planning Considerations

This section describes miscellaneous considerations that should be included during the NPA relief planning process. It is not possible to identify every potential issue which may arise when planning relief for specific NPAs; each state or province, each metropolitan area and each industry segment will have unique characteristics which could introduce concerns not included here. The following items are examples of issues which, based on past industry experiences, could create impediments to a successful and efficient implementation effort.

7.1 Regulatory Involvement

Regulatory Involvement - Involvement of the appropriate regulatory authority staff during NPA code relief planning may expedite the process of addressing public policy concerns throughout the process.

7.2 Timing and Schedules

Issues related to timing and scheduling will vary with the type of relief method to be implemented as well as the level of difficulty of the required changes. In general, the relief implementation should be completed at least six (6) months prior to the projected exhaust of the NPA, but in extraordinary situations, at least three (3) months before the existing NPA would exhaust under the highest growth projections. For overlays, relief is completed when mandatory 10-digit local dialing has been implemented and the new NPA becomes effective.

7.3 Customer Calling Patterns

Existing and planned local calling areas should be considered during the planning process and retained, wherever practical, along with their existing or planned dialing arrangements. This may prevent regulatory policy delays during implementation and/or unexpected changes to the final plan.

⁹ 47 CFR §52.19 (c) (4). See also criteria outlined in FCC 01-362 ¶¶67-94.

¹⁰ See FCC 01-362 ¶¶ 81-94.

Relief Planning Meeting Aid
Customer Education and Technical Milestones

This meeting aid is a compilation of industry developed customer education and technical milestones. This list is prepared to assist the participants in choosing the milestones that will be applicable to the specific NPA relief planning project.

Customer Milestones:

			Responsibility
		1 Issue single customer notification (e.g., bill messages, bill inserts, direct mail, text messaging, email)	
		2 Issue initial press release	
		3 Send Special letters to Directory Publishers	
		4 Update social media with information regarding new overlay NPA	
		5 Update websites with information regarding new overlay NPA	
		6 Develop language for use in Directories to alert the consumers of 10-digit local dialing and the new area code.	
		After Permissive 7 and 10-Digit Dialing Begins	
		7 Issue second customer notification (e.g., bill messages, bill inserts, direct mail, text messaging, email)	
		8 Send Special letters to Alarm and Safety, Directory, Pay Telephone & PSAPs.	
		9 Update social media with information regarding new overlay NPA.	
		10 Update websites with information regarding new overlay NPA	
		11 Issue second press release	

Technical Milestones:

			Responsibility
		1 Obtain industry test code from NANPA and activate the test number.	

Relief Planning Meeting Aid
Customer Education and Technical Milestones

	2	Open the test code in carriers' network.	
	3	LERG updates in BIRRDS or via AOCN. (i.e. routing changes, rehomes, change from 7 to 10 terminating digits at end office and at access tandem, etc.	
	4	Ensure Highway boxes are programmed with 10-digit dialing.	
	5	Network ready for Permissive Dialing	
	6	Create Permissive Dialing Industry Contact List	
		Permissive Dialing Begins	
	7	Establish NPA Specific type of Trunks	
	8	Completion of 10-digit signaling transition between carriers' networks	
	9	Require email from service providers when the 10-digit signaling transition between carriers' networks has been completed.	
	10	Update on all speed calling, call forwarding numbers and voicemail options in embedded database to reflect 10-digit dialing	
	11	Recorded announcements in Place and Tested	
		<u>E911 Work Plan</u>	
	12	Confirm new Emergency Service Number (ESN)/Numbering Plan Digit (NPD) has been established for the new NPA	
	13	Ensure SRDB table has new NPA built in	
	14	Notify PSAPs, PSALI customers and County Coordinators	
	15	Review and Submit CLEC Trunk Order Requests to local provider if needed	
	16	Update PSAP equipment to recognize new NPA	
	17	Trunk Orders Complete	
	18	Build E911 Network/Tandem	

Relief Planning Meeting Aid
Customer Education and Technical Milestones

		Translations	
	19	Verify if all PSAP work has been completed	
	20	Activate E911 Network/Tandem Translations	

Texas 281/346/713/832 NPA Background Information

Relief Planning Background and Assumptions:

The 713 NPA was established in 1947 as one of the original four NPAs assigned to Texas, located in the southeastern part of the state, from the Sabine River to the Brazos Valley. On November 2, 1996, area code 713 was split, with most of Houston's suburbs switching to area code 281. Although this was intended as a long-term solution, the rapid growth in demand required additional numbering resources within two years in both the 713 and 281 NPAs. In 1998, the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") approved the elimination of the boundary between the 713 and 281 NPAs, and on January 16, 1999, created an overlay for the combined area, while simultaneously adding a third area code to the entire region, area code 832. As a result, ten-digit local dialing was required for all calls in the Houston area. In 2013, the Commission approved the addition of a fourth NPA, 346, to the Houston overlay as of July 1, 2014.

CO Code Summary:

As of March 14, 2023, the 281 NPA has 785 CO codes assigned, one (1) CO code available for assignment and 14 unassignable CO codes; the 346 NPA has 554 CO codes assigned, 232 CO codes available for assignment and 14 unassignable CO codes; the 713 NPA has 785 CO codes assigned, zero (0) CO codes available for assignment and 15 unassignable CO codes; and the 832 NPA has 786 CO codes assigned, zero (0) CO codes available for assignment and 14 unassignable CO codes. There is a total of 75 service provider OCNs: 72 service provider OCNs that are CO code holders and three (3) OCNs that are only thousand-block holders in the 281/346/713/832 NPA.

Exhaust Forecast:

The October 2022 Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast (NRUF) and NPA Exhaust Analysis ("October 2022 NRUF Report"), published by NANPA, indicated that the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay complex will exhaust during the first quarter of 2026.

NPA Relief:

The projected life of adding a new overlay NPA over the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay is nine (9) years.

281/346/713/832 NPA CURRENT DIALING PLAN

Type of Call	Call Terminating in	Dialing Plan
Local Call	Home NPA (HNPA) or Foreign NPA (FNPA)	10 digits (NPA-NXX-XXXX)
Toll Call	HNPA or FNPA	1+10 digits (1+NPA-NXX-XXXX)
Operator Services Credit card, collect, third party	HNPA or FNPA	0+10 digits (0+NPA-NXX-XXXX)

Texas Central Office Code Summary

NPA	281	346	713	832		
Assigned NXXs	785	554	785	786		
Reserved NXXs	0	0	0	0		
Unavailable NXXs	14	14	15	14		
Available NXXs	1	232	0	0		
Total	800	800	800	800		
Code Assignment History	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
281 NPA	0	3	4	1	2	1*
346 NPA	51	44	56	91	82	19*
713 NPA	1	1	3	3	7	1*
832 NPA	0	0	0	0	4	1*
*As of March 14, 2023						
October 2022 NRUF and NPA Exhaust Analysis	1Q2026					
Note: Unavailable indicates codes that are unavailable for assignment. These codes include, but are not limited to, test and special use codes(e.g., 958, 959, 555, time), N11 and other unique codes (e.g., 976, 950) and codes with special dialing arrangements (e.g., 7-digit dialing across NPA boundary).						

THOUSANDS-BLOCK STATISTICS

ST/NPA:	TX 281/346/713/832
MEETING DATE:	4/4/23
RATE CENTERS	
<i># Total</i>	45
<i># Mandatory</i>	45
<i># Mandatory-Single Service Providers (M*)</i>	0
<i># Optional</i>	0
<i># Excluded</i>	0
BLOCKS ASSIGNED	
<i># Total</i>	1,045
<i>(For time period 3/01/22- 3/14/23)</i>	
BLOCKS AVAILABLE	
<i>#Total</i>	183
<i>(As of preparation date: 3/14/23)</i>	
CODES ASSIGNED	
<i># Total</i>	95
<i># for Pool Replenishment</i>	90
<i># for Dedicated Customers</i>	0
<i># for LRNs</i>	5
<i>(For time period 3/01/22- 3/14/23)</i>	
CODES FORECASTED	
<i># Total</i>	43
<i># for Pool Replenishment and Dedicated Customers</i>	41
<i># for LRNs</i>	2
<i>(For the next twelve months as of: 3/14/23)</i>	

**TEXAS 281/346/713/832 NPA
CENTRAL OFFICE CODE HOLDERS**

COMPANY	OCN	COUNT OF CO CODES
AERIAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	6701	220
AIRESPRING, INC.	996H	1
AIRUS, INC. - TX	951F	3
AMERICAN MESSAGING SERVICES, LLC	9748	9
AT&T - LOCAL	7421	9
AT&T CORP.	516C	20
BANDWIDTH.COM CLEC, LLC - TX	004F	68
CALLWORKS CORPORATION	475J	1
CAPROCK TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP. - TX	7982	19
CEBRIDGE TELECOM TX, L.P. - TX	318C	2
CELLCO PARTNERSHIP DBA VERIZON WIRELESS - TX	6506	191
CENTRAL TEL. CO. OF TEXAS DBA CENTURYLINK	2114	23
CENTURYLINK COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	508J	7
CHARTER FIBERLINK TX-CCO, LLC - TX	353D	3
COMCAST IP PHONE, LLC	318J	53
COMITY COMMUNICATIONS, LLC - TX	089G	2
COMMIO, LLC	939H	3
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF TEXAS COMPANY	2072	15
DISH WIRELESS, LLC	490J	4
ETS TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.	2091	9
EXIANT COMMUNICATIONS LLC	114J	1
FOREMOST TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION - TX	319D	7
FRACTEL, LLC	965H	40
FRONTIER SOUTHWEST INC DBA FRONTIER COMM OF TEXAS	2154	4
FRONTIER SOUTHWEST INC DBA FRONTIER COMM OF TEXAS	4344	59
GETGO COMMUNICATIONS LLC - TX	270H	1
GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES, INC. - TX	8489	19
GRANDE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, INC. - TX	7670	31
HD CARRIER LLC	321J	2
INTRADO COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	9558	1
IONEX COMMUNICATIONS SOUTH, INC. - TX	4911	10
IP GLOBAL NETWORKS - TX	763H	2
IP HORIZON LLC	515J	1
LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC - TX	6114	100
LEVEL 3 OF TELECOM OF TEXAS, LLC - TX	7074	71
LOCAL ACCESS LLC - TX	997G	2
LOGIX COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION - TX	8833	38
MATRIX TELECOM, LLC. S/I/I TNCI - TX	7715	12
MCIMETRO ACCESS TRANSMISSION SERVICES LLC	7229	17
MCIMETRO ACCESS TRANSMISSION SERVICES LLC - TX	7239	67
METROPCS, INC.	5562	39

NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC - IL	6534	311
NUSO, LLC	478J	1
NUSO, LLC	551G	1
ONVOY SPECTRUM, LLC	624H	12
ONVOY, LLC - TX	903C	108
PEERLESS NETWORK OF TEXAS, LLC - TX	177F	16
RADIANTIQ LLC	566J	3
RCLEC, INC. - TX	880G	1
SKYE TELECOM LLC DBA SKYETEL	622J	3
SOUTHWESTERN BELL	9533	852
SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY - TX	7726	1
SPRINT SPECTRUM, L.P.	6664	144
STRATUS NETWORKS	495J	2
TELEPORT COMMUNICATIONS AMERICA, LLC - TX	7138	59
TELETOUCH COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	6591	4
TELNYX LLC	073H	3
TERRA NOVA TELECOM INC.	145J	1
THE VOICE APPLICATION NETWORK, LLC	507J	1
TON80 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	516J	8
TWILIO INTERNATIONAL, INC.	506J	3
U.S. TELEPACIFIC CORP. DBA TPX COMMUNICATIONS	671J	21
USA MOBILITY WIRELESS, INC.	6630	91
VOIP INNOVATIONS, LLC	597F	3
VONAGE AMERICA LLC	197D	4
WAVENATION, LLC	700J	1
WESTEL, INC. - TX	7399	1
WHITESKY COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	553J	1
WIDE VOICE, LLC - TX	706G	1
WINDSTREAM SUGAR LAND, LLC	2147	40
XO TEXAS, INC.	8958	5
YMAX COMMUNICATIONS CORP. - TX	327E	3

TEXAS 281/346/713/832 NPA THOUSANDS-BLOCK HOLDERS THAT DO NOT HAVE A CENTRAL OFFICE CODE ASSIGNED		
COMPANY	OCN	NPA COMPLEX
BCM ONE CLOUD COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	683G	281/346/713/832
CSC WIRELESS, LLC	425J	281/346/713/832
WORLDCALL INTERCONNECT INC.	139F	281/346/713/832

**TEXAS 281/346/713/832 NPA
RATE CENTER TABLE**

NPA COMPLEX	ABBREVIATED RATE CENTER	FULL RATE CENTER NAME
281/346/713/832	ALVIN	ALVIN
281/346/713/832	APOLLO	APOLLO
281/346/713/832	ARCOLA	ARCOLA
281/346/713/832	BAMMEL	BAMMEL
281/346/713/832	BARKER	BARKER
281/346/713/832	BAYTOWN	BAYTOWN
281/346/713/832	BEACH CITY	BEACH CITY
281/346/713/832	BROOKSHIRE	BROOKSHIRE
281/346/713/832	CHANNELVW	CHANNELVIEW
281/346/713/832	CLEVELAND	CLEVELAND
281/346/713/832	CROSBY	CROSBY
281/346/713/832	CYPRESS	CYPRESS
281/346/713/832	DEER PARK	DEER PARK
281/346/713/832	DICKINSON	DICKINSON
281/346/713/832	FRIENDSWD	FRIENDSWOOD
281/346/713/832	HIGHLANDS	HIGHLANDS
281/346/713/832	HOUSTON	HOUSTON
281/346/713/832	HSTNSUBURB	HOUSTON SUBURBAN
281/346/713/832	HUFFMAN	HUFFMAN
281/346/713/832	HUMBLE	HUMBLE
281/346/713/832	KATY	KATY
281/346/713/832	KEMAH	KEMAH
281/346/713/832	LA PORTE	LA PORTE
281/346/713/832	LANGHAMCRK	LANGHAM CREEK
281/346/713/832	LEAGUECITY	LEAGUE CITY
281/346/713/832	LIVERPOOL	LIVERPOOL
281/346/713/832	MANVEL	MANVEL
281/346/713/832	MISSOURICY	MISSOURI CITY
281/346/713/832	MONTBLVIEU	MONT BELVIEU
281/346/713/832	PINEHURST	PINEHURST
281/346/713/832	PORTER	PORTER
281/346/713/832	PORTER HTS	PORTER HEIGHTS
281/346/713/832	RICHMNRNBG	RICHMOND ROSENBERG
281/346/713/832	ROSHARON	ROSHARON
281/346/713/832	SATSUMA	SATSUMA
281/346/713/832	SEABROOK	SEABROOK
281/346/713/832	SHELDON	SHELDON
281/346/713/832	SMITHERSLK	SMITHERS LAKE
281/346/713/832	SPLENDORA	SPLENDORA

TEXAS 281/346/713/832 NPA
RATE CENTER TABLE

NPA COMPLEX	ABBREVIATED RATE CENTER	FULL RATE CENTER NAME
281/346/713/832	SPRING	SPRING
281/346/713/832	STAFFORD	STAFFORD
281/346/713/832	SUGAR LAND	SUGAR LAND
281/346/713/832	TOMBALL	TOMBALL
281/346/713/832	VLY LODGE	VALLEY LODGE
281/346/713/832	WESTFIELD	WESTFIELD

936 NPA

281/346/713/832 NPA



409 NPA

979 NPA

GULF OF MEXICO

[NANPA]

Texas 281/346/713/832 NPA
Rate Center Map

- NPA Boundary
- Rate Center Boundary

September 2022

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EXHIBIT B



April 26, 2023

To: All 281/346/713/832 NPA Code Holders and Interested Industry Members (Texas)

Subject: Final Minutes of the Draft Petition Review Meeting for the 281/346/713/832 NPA

Attached are the final minutes from the April 4, 2023 draft petition review meeting for the Texas 281/346/713/832 NPA. These minutes became final on April 25, 2023. NANPA will file the petition for relief of the 281/346/713/832 NPA with the Public Utility Commission of Texas no later than May 16, 2023.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at hwayman@nanpa.com or (571) 363-3824.

Sincerely,

Heidi A. Wayman
Manager, Data Management
NANPA

CC: Patricia Garcia – Public Utility Commission of Texas
Therese Harris – Public Utility Commission of Texas

**Texas 281/346/713/832 NPA
Draft Petition Review Meeting
via Web Conference
Final Minutes
April 4, 2023**

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & AGENDA REVIEW

Heidi Wayman, Manager, Data Management, North American Numbering Plan Administrator (“NANPA”), opened the meeting with introductions and a review of the agenda. A list of attendees can be found in Attachment #1.

REVIEW CONSENSUS PROCESS AND NPA RELIEF PLANNING GUIDELINES

Heidi stated that the ATIS (Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions) approved industry consensus process would be followed. She reviewed the consensus process and explained how consensus is determined. In addition, she stated that the minutes would be comprised of consensus agreements, and that issues not captured by consensus could be expressed in the form of a Statement for the Record, which could be conveyed at any point during the meeting.

NANPA’s ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Heidi reviewed NANPA’s role and responsibilities for the relief planning meeting as follows:

- NANPA starts the relief planning process 36 months prior to exhaust of the Numbering Plan Area (“NPA”). The October 2022 Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast (NRUF) and NPA Exhaust Analysis (“October 2022 NRUF Report”), projected exhaust of the 281/346/713/832 NPAs at first quarter of 2026 (1Q2026). Due to an increase in code assignments a revised forecast was published, known as a Delta NRUF, revising the exhaust date to third quarter of 2025 (3Q2025) on March 27, 2023.
- NANPA shall distribute the meeting notice with the draft petition three weeks prior to the initial relief planning meeting which was completed on March 14, 2023.
- The main objective of this meeting is to reach consensus on the petition for relief to be filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (“Commission”).
- Determine any additional items to include in a filing with the Commission such as the state dialing plan, implementation intervals and compliance with any state-specific requirements.
- NANPA is charged with the responsibility of filing the relief petition, on behalf of the telecommunications industry of Texas (“Industry”), with the Commission. Once the Industry comes to consensus on what should be included in the filing, NANPA will file the legal document within six weeks of today’s meeting per the NPA Code Relief Planning and Notification Guidelines (ATIS-0300061, “Guidelines”) or as decided by the Industry.

An overlay is the only option for relief of the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay, per Section 5.6.1 of the Guidelines which states:

Where NPA relief is required for an existing overlay complex, then the Initial Planning Document, relief planning meeting, and industry consensus to recommend an overlay is not required. NANPA shall draft a relief plan filing requesting approval of the overlay and recommending an implementation schedule including a timeframe for network preparation and customer education, with the new NPA effective at the end of the implementation schedule. There is no need for a permissive dialing period because 10-digit local dialing will already be in place. The draft filing shall include the state's existing overlay dialing plan.

NANPA shall notify all Affected Parties at least three (3) weeks in advance of a conference call scheduled to review and approve the draft filing. During the conference call, the timeframes for the implementation schedule will be determined. The recommended relief should be in place six (6) months prior to the forecasted exhaust (see Section 7.2). As usual, meeting minutes shall be produced and distributed by NANPA within 14 calendar days of the conference call.

Within 6 weeks of the conference call (unless otherwise agreed by the Affected Parties), NANPA shall submit the filing to the appropriate regulatory agency requesting approval of the overlay, and after regulatory approval has been received, NANPA shall proceed with the implementation process, as reflected in Sections 5.7 – 5.12.

Heidi reviewed Guidelines Section 6.3:

An all-services distributed overlay occurs when more than one NPA code serves the same geographic area. In an NPA overlay, code relief is generally provided by opening a new NPA code covering the same geographic area as the NPA(s) requiring relief. NXX codes from this new NPA are assigned on a carrier-neutral basis, i.e., first come, first served. With the overlay method, the FCC requires mandatory 10-digit local dialing between and within the old and new NPAs. Some states require 1 – 10-digit local dialing and some require 10-digit local dialing and allow 1 \ 10-digit local dialing at the SP's discretion.

The all-services distributed overlay method eliminates the need for customer number changes as required under the split and boundary realignment methods. In areas where an overlay is already in place, a subsequent overlay eliminates the need for a permissive dialing period as part of implementation. In areas where mandatory 10-digit local dialing is already in place, an overlay eliminates the need for a permissive dialing period as part of implementation.

Also reviewed Guidelines Section 7.2:

Issues related to timing and scheduling will vary with the type of relief method to be implemented as well as the level of difficulty of the required changes. In general, the relief implementation should be completed at least six (6) months prior to the projected exhaust of the NPA, but in extraordinary situations, at least three (3) months before the existing NPA would exhaust under the highest growth projections. For overlays, relief is

completed when mandatory 10-digit local dialing has been implemented and the new NPA becomes effective.

Heidi referred the participants to the excerpts from the Guidelines included in the meeting notice, along with the Customer Education and Technical Milestones. These meeting aids will assist the participants in their decision making and the Guidelines can be downloaded from the ATIS web site at: www.atis.org.

BACKGROUND:

The 713 NPA was established in 1947 as one of the original four NPAs assigned to Texas, located in the southeastern part of the state, from the Sabine River to the Brazos Valley. On November 2, 1996, area code 713 was split, with most of Houston's suburbs switching to area code 281. Although this was intended as a long-term solution, the rapid growth in demand required additional numbering resources within two years in both the 713 and 281 NPAs. In 1998, the Commission approved the elimination of the boundary between the 713 and 281 NPAs, and on January 16, 1999, created an overlay for the combined area, while simultaneously adding a third area code to the entire region, area code 832. As a result, ten-digit local dialing was required for all calls in the greater Houston area. In 2013, the Commission approved the addition of a fourth NPA, 346, to the Houston overlay as of July 1, 2014.

CENTRAL OFFICE ("CO") CODE STATUS OF THE TEXAS 281/346/713/832 NPA

Heidi provided a read-out of the monthly CO code assignment activity for the Texas 281/346/713/832 NPA. As of April 3, 2023, the 281 NPA has 786 CO codes assigned, zero (0) CO codes available for assignment and 14 unavailable CO codes; the 346 NPA has 555 CO codes assigned, 231 CO codes available for assignment and 14 unavailable CO codes; the 713 NPA has 785 CO codes assigned, zero (0) CO codes available for assignment and 15 unavailable CO codes; the 832 NPA has 786 CO codes assigned, zero (0) CO codes available for assignment and 14 unavailable CO codes. (See Attachment #2)

Exhaust Forecast

The Delta NRUF published on March 27, 2023, indicated the projected exhaust date of the 281/346/713/832 NPAs is the third quarter of 2025.

Thousands-block Status

There are 45 rate centers in the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay and all 45 rate centers are mandatory for pooling. From March 1, 2022 through April 3, 2023, there were 1,077 blocks assigned and there are 176 blocks available as of April 3, 2023. For the same period, 97 CO codes have been assigned: 90 CO codes for pool replenishment, one (1) CO code for a dedicated customer, and six (6) CO codes for LRNs. The forecasted need for CO codes for the next twelve months is 35 CO codes for pool replenishment and dedicated customers. (See Attachment #3)

Heidi also reviewed the 281/346/713/832 NPA Rate Center Map, Rate Center Table, and CO Code Holder and Thousands-block Holder Tables. There are 75 service provider OCNs assigned a CO code or thousands-blocks in the 281/346/713/832 NPA overlay.

REVIEW DRAFT RELIEF PETITION FOR THE 281/346/713/832 NPA

Heidi reviewed the draft relief petition for the 281/346/713/832 NPA distributed on March 14,

2023, which recommends an all-services distributed overlay. A new NPA code would be assigned to the same geographic area occupied by the existing 281/346/713/832 NPAs. Customers would retain their current telephone numbers. The projected life of the new area code is approximately nine (9) years based on the current assignment rate. Consensus was reached to approve NANPA's recommended petition as edited by the participants during the meeting.

The following dialing plan is the current dialing plan for the 281/346/713/832 NPA. Consensus was reached by the participating members to add the following statement to the existing dialing plan, ** 1+10 digits permissible at each service provider's discretion* and recommend this dialing plan for the new NPA and the 281/346/713/832 NPAs.

Dialing Plan for the new NPA and the 281/346/713/832 All-Services Distributed Overlay

Type of Call	Call Terminating in	Dialing Plan
Local	Home NPA (HNPA) or Foreign NPA (FNPA)	10 digits (NPA-NXX-XXXX)*
Toll	HNPA or FNPA	1 + 10 digits (1 + NPA-NXX-XXXX)
Operator Services <small>Credit card, collect, third party</small>	HNPA or FNPA	0 + 10 digits (0 + NPA-NXX-XXXX)

* 1+10 digits permissible at each service provider's discretion

ESTABLISH IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

A recommendation was made, and consensus was reached to recommend to the Commission a 9-month schedule for implementation of the new overlay NPA with the new NPA becoming effective 6-months prior to the forecasted exhaust date. Since mandatory 10-digit local dialing is already in place, a permissive dialing period is not needed. The meeting participants also reached consensus to recommend that CO codes will not be assigned in the new overlay NPA until all available codes in the 281, 346, 713, and 832 NPAs have been assigned. The recommended schedule is as follows:

The Implementation Timeframe for the New NPA Added to the 281/346/713/832 All-Services Distributed Overlay

EVENT	TIMEFRAME
Customer Education and Network Preparation Period*	9 months
Earliest Activation of CO codes in the new NPA **	At completion of Customer Education and Network Preparation Period and after all 281/346/713/832 available CO codes are assigned. <i>Six months prior to exhaust</i>

** There is no requirement for a permissive dialing period because mandatory 10-digit local dialing is already in place.*

***CO codes in the new NPA will not be assigned until all available CO codes in the existing 281/346/713/832 NPA are allocated.*

CUSTOMER EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL MILESTONES

There was discussion regarding any additional items to be included in the petition and consensus was reached to include the following customer education and technical milestones:

Customer Education Milestones:

	Responsibility
1 Issue single customer notification (e.g., bill messages, bill inserts, direct mail, text messaging, email)	All Service Providers
2 Issue initial press release announcing the new overlay NPA.	Commission; Service Providers to the extent they are able to do so
3 Send Special letters to Directory Publishers	Co-chairs of Industry committee
4 Update social media with information regarding additional overlay NPA.	All Service Providers (optional)
5 Update websites with information regarding the additional overlay NPA.	All Service Providers
6 Develop language for use in Directories to alert the consumers of the new NPA.	Directory Publishers
7 Issue second press release just prior to the new NPA effective date	Commission; Service Providers to the extent they are able to do so

Technical Milestones:

	Responsibility
1 Obtain industry test code from NANPA and activate the test number	One Service Provider Volunteer
2 Open the test code in carriers' network	All Service Providers
3 Establish NPA Specific type of Trunks	All Service Providers (as needed)
E911 Work Plan	
4 Confirm new Emergency Service Number (ESN)/Numbering Plan Digit (NPD) has been established for the new NPA	E911 Providers
5 Ensure SRDB table has new NPA built	E911 Providers
6 Notify PSAPs, PSALI customers and County Coordinators	E911 Providers

7	Notify Statewide 911 Coordinator	Co-chairs
8	Review and Submit CLEC Trunk Order Requests to local provider if needed	All Service Providers (as needed)
9	Update PSAP equipment to recognize new NPA	PSAP's
10	Trunk Orders Complete	E911 Providers
11	Build E911 Network/Tandem Translations	E911 Providers
12	Verify if all PSAP work has been completed	PSAP's
13	Activate E911 Network/Tandem Translations	E911 Providers

The above are the typical milestones necessary for implementation of an additional all-services distributed overlay when mandatory 10-digit local dialing is already in place; however, these may need to be modified during the actual implementation.

STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD/OPEN DISCUSSION

There were no statements for the record submitted and no additional questions raised.

NANPA FILING INDUSTRY EFFORTS WITH COMMISSION

Participants reached consensus that NANPA will file the petition for relief with the Commission informing it of the outcome of this relief planning meeting. The petition is to be filed with the state regulator within 6 weeks (by May 16, 2023) of the initial relief planning meeting pursuant to the Guidelines unless otherwise decided by the Industry.

MEETING MINUTES DISTRIBUTION AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

There was no objection to forgoing a meeting to approve the draft minutes. The draft minutes resulting from this meeting will be distributed to the Industry by posting via the NANP Notification System (“NNS”) on the NANPA website no later than April 18, 2023. The Industry is to provide any suggested edits to Heidi Wayman via email at hwayman@nanpa.com. Any changes to the minutes should be provided no later than April 25, 2023, when the minutes will become final.

NANPA Meeting Adjourned

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These minutes became final on April 25, 2023 without any edits.

**Texas 281/346/713/832 NPA
Draft Petition Review Meeting
April 4, 2023
Participants**

NAME	COMPANY
Debbie Anstead	Altice
Sharon Poer	AT&T
Dale Holcombe	Brightspeed
Matt Nolan	Charter
Ellen Washbon	Frontier
Laura Simmons	Frontier
Heidi Wayman	NANPA
Cecilia McCabe	NANPA
Linda Hymans	NANPA
Florence Weber	NANPA
Patricia Garcia	Public Utility Commission of Texas
Jolie Mathis	Public Utility Commission of Texas
Allyson Blevins	Sinch
Shaunna Forshee	T-Mobile
Karen Riepenkroger	T-Mobile
Laura Dalton	Verizon
Chanda Brown	Verizon
Dana Crandall	Verizon Wireless
Scott Terry	Windstream

Texas Central Office Code Summary

NPA	281	346	713	832		
Assigned NXXs	786	555	785	786		
Reserved NXXs	0	0	0	0		
Unavailable NXXs	14	14	15	14		
Available NXXs	0	231	0	0		
Total	800	800	800	800		
Code Assignment History	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
281 NPA	0	3	4	1	2	2*
346 NPA	51	44	56	91	82	20*
713 NPA	1	1	3	3	7	1*
832 NPA	0	0	0	0	4	1*
*As of April 3, 2023						
Delta NRUF March 27, 2023	3Q2025					
Note: Unavailable indicates codes that are unavailable for assignment. These codes include, but are not limited to, test and special use codes(e.g., 958, 959, 555, time), N11 and other unique codes (e.g., 976, 950) and codes with special dialing arrangements (e.g., 7-digit dialing across NPA boundary).						

THOUSANDS-BLOCK STATISTICS	
ST/NPA:	TX 281/346/713/832
MEETING DATE:	4/4/23
RATE CENTERS	
<i># Total</i>	45
<i># Mandatory</i>	45
<i># Mandatory-Single Service Providers (M*)</i>	0
<i># Optional</i>	0
<i># Excluded</i>	0
BLOCKS ASSIGNED	
<i># Total</i>	1,077
<i>(For time period 3/01/22- 4/03/23)</i>	
BLOCKS AVAILABLE	
<i># Total</i>	176
<i>(As of preparation date: 4/03/23)</i>	
CODES ASSIGNED	
<i># Total</i>	97
<i># for Pool Replenishment</i>	90
<i># for Dedicated Customers</i>	1
<i># for LRNs</i>	6
<i>(For time period 3/01/22- 4/03/23)</i>	
CODES FORECASTED	
<i># Total</i>	35
<i># for Pool Replenishment and Dedicated Customers</i>	35
<i># for LRNs</i>	0
<i>(For the next twelve months as of: 4/03/23)</i>	