



ATIS-0300060

9YY NXX Code Assignment Guidelines

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The Industry Numbering Committee (INC) provides an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of North American Numbering Plan (NANP) numbering resources within the NANP area.

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Foreword

The Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) serves the public through improved understanding between carriers, customers, and manufacturers. The Industry Numbering Committee provides an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) numbering resources within the NANP area.

The mandatory requirements are designated by the word *shall* and recommendations by the word *should*. Where both a mandatory requirement and a recommendation are specified for the same criterion, the recommendation represents a goal currently identifiable as having distinct compatibility or performance advantages. The word *may* denotes a optional capability that could augment the standard. The standard is fully functional without the incorporation of this optional capability.

Suggestions for improvement of this document are welcome. They should be sent to the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, INC, 1200 G Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005.

At the time of consensus on this document, INC, which was responsible for its development, had the following leadership:

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9YY NXX Forms:

Attachment A, 9YY NXX Code Forms

ATIS Standard on –

977 NXX Code Assignment Guidelines

1 Purpose and Scope

This document specifies guidelines for the assignment of NXX codes within the 9YY Service Access Code (SAC) and Numbering Plan Area (NPA) to service Providers (SPs).

1.1

For the purpose of these assignment guidelines, unique NXX codes will be utilized within the 9YY SAC to identify the individual carriers for routing purposes. A SAC is a non-geographic NPA or Easily Recognizable Code (ERC) used for the purpose of providing access to a specific type of service. ERCs are sometimes referred to as “NYY” codes to signify that N = digits 2-9 and YY = repeating digits 0-9.¹

1.2

These guidelines are provided to accommodate a method which utilizes unique NXX codes within the 9YY SAC to identify individual SPs in order to allow multiple SPs 9YY access. This method requires an SP to 6-digit translate the 9YY NXX portion of a 9YY-NXX-XXXX² number in order to identify the carrier for call routing. Consequently, the assignment of individual NXX codes to specific SPs is required. The 9YY SAC may be accessed by dialing (1)+9YY-NXX-XXXX.³ As an option, use of 0+9YY-NXX-XXXX dialing may also be allowed for 9YY access. Use of the 101XXXX Carrier Access Code prefix is not consistent with NXX assignment and routing and is therefore not permitted.

1.3

These guidelines were developed by the industry consensus process by the Industry Numbering Committee.

1.4

These guidelines are expected to apply throughout the NANP serving area subject to the appropriate regulatory or governmental procedures and constraints.

2 Background

The 900 SAC was first introduced in 1971 for information services in which the caller pays for call setup and the specific services associated with the 900 call. In 1986, NANPA issued the 900 NXX Assignment Guidelines in

¹ It should be noted that the INC has made the N11 NPAs (e.g. 211) not assignable, and has also reserved the N9X NPAs (where X = digits 0-9) for future NANP expansion purposes. See < www.nanpa.com > for further details. For practical purposes, YY is typically only repeating digits 0 and 2-8.

² N = digits 2-9 and X = digits 0-9.

³ This would not apply to those end user lines from which the subscriber has requested the blocking of all 9YY calls.

Advisory Letter, AL-86/07-006. The AL described the use of NXX codes to identify individual carriers for routing purposes and contained a set of procedures for obtaining NXX assignments. In 1996, the Industry Numbering Committee (INC) developed the 900 NXX assignment guidelines largely contained herein to replace the previous version. In 2008, the INC updated the title of the guidelines to the current “9YY-NXX Code Assignment Guidelines”.⁴

3 Assumptions and Constraints

The development of these guidelines includes the following assumptions and constraints:

3.1

NANP resources, including those covered in these guidelines, are collectively managed by the North American Telecommunications industry with oversight of the North American federal regulatory authorities. The NANP and the NANP resources are developed in conformance with the International Telecommunication Union Telecommunications Standardization Sector (ITU-T) recommendations including E.164 “The international public telecommunication numbering plan.”⁵

The NANP resources are considered a public resource and are not owned by the assignees. Consequently, the resources cannot be sold, brokered, bartered or leased by the assignee for a fee or other consideration.

If a resource is sold, brokered, bartered, or leased for a fee, the resource is subject to reclamation by the Administrator.

3.2

These guidelines are intended to apply to 9YY NXX code(s) which are assigned to SPs.

3.3

These assignment guidelines do not apply to an environment where 9YY number portability exists. If portability is implemented, these guidelines will be replaced with a 10-digit assignment plan negating the need for the allocation of specific NXXs to SPs. However, there may be a need to retain specific NXX assignments for areas that do not participate in portability.

3.4

The allocation and assignment of 9YY NXX codes to telecommunications SPs, as set forth in these guidelines, remains in effect until there is industry consensus and/or regulatory policy direction to change or supersede these assignment guidelines. When a service provider’s jurisdictional certification, license, or authorization to operate has been revoked, the appropriate regulatory authority should provide written direction and supporting documentation to the NANPA to deny applications for the company name associated with the revoked jurisdictional certification, license, or authorization.⁶ NANPA will remove any current NRUF Form 502 forecasts associated with the SP’s OCN(s).

⁴ To align with ATIS-0404000, Access Service Ordering Guidelines (ASOG).

⁵ <http://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-E.164/en>

⁶ See FCC 00-429 ¶ 122 and FCC 15-70 ¶ 53.

3.5

NANP numbering resources shall be assigned to permit the most effective and efficient use of a finite numbering resource in order to maximize the existing resource pool and delay the need to assign additional resources. To promote the efficient and effective use of numbering resources, audits of code holders may be performed to ensure the consistent application of, and compliance with, these guidelines.

3.6

These guidelines do not address the issue of who will fill the role of 9YY NXX code administrator. The guidelines described herein were developed by the industry without any assumption on who should be the 9YY NXX code administrator. Currently, the code administrator is North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA).

3.7

The applicant/holder of the 9YY NXX code must have authorization, if required, from the appropriate applicable regulatory authority(ies) to operate in the area in which it intends to provide 9YY service.

3.8

The guidelines should provide the greatest latitude to those 9YY SPs while effectively permitting management of a finite resource. 9YY NXX codes are a finite resource that should be used in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

3.9

9YY NXX code(s) are a public resource and administrative assignment of the codes does not imply ownership of the resource by the entity performing the administrative function, nor does it imply ownership by the entity to which it is assigned. The assignment of a 9YY NXX code(s) by the code administrator implies the use of that code(s) by the code recipient/holder for 9YY services.

3.10

SPs and numbering resource administrators are responsible for managing numbering resources in accordance with these guidelines and the orders of applicable regulatory authorities. Both SPs and numbering resource administrators are subject to audits. Further information may be found in FCC 00-104 ¶62, FCC 00-429 ¶81-99, FCC 01-362 ¶95-111, and 47 CFR §52.15(k).

The NANP Resources assigned in this guideline are expected to be used in conformance with this guideline and the related ITU-T recommendations. Misuse of a resource either as defined in this guideline or as defined in ITU-T E.156 "Guidelines for ITU-T action on reported misuse of E.164 number resources" should be reported to the NANPA.⁷ See Section 10 for contact information.

3.11

Although these guidelines refer to 9YY NXX codes, only the 900 NPA has been designated by the INC as a SAC for pay-per-call information services, and no additional 9YY NPAs have been reserved for such services. Should the 900 NPA near exhaust, the Code Administrator shall notify the INC (see Section 9) and INC shall designate an additional NPA.

⁷ <http://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-E.156/en>

4 Assignment Principles

To allow the entities the greatest possible latitude in providing services the following assignment principles apply to all aspects of the "9YY Code Assignment Guidelines":

4.1

The NXX code, as part of the 9YY-NXX-XXXX NANP number format, is to be assigned to identify the SP.

4.2

9YY NXX codes shall be assigned in a fair, timely and impartial manner.

4.3

If required, applicants for 9YY NXX codes must comply with all applicable local governmental, state, federal and the NANP area governmental regulations relative to the pay-per-call information service they wish to provide.

4.4

The 9YY NXX codes will be assigned and used only for pay-per-call information services.

4.5

Information that is requested of applicants in support of a 9YY NXX code assignment shall be uniform and kept to a minimum. Information received by the administrator shall be treated on a proprietary and confidential basis, adequately safeguarded and not shared with non-code administrator personnel.

4.6

An entity which is denied the assignment of one or more codes, under these guidelines, has the right to appeal that decision as described in Section 11 (Appeals Process).

4.7

NXX codes will be assigned on a first come, first served basis from the available pool of unassigned codes. However, the code administrator will attempt to match a code assignment with a specific code request.

5 Criteria for Assignment

The assignment criteria in the following sections shall be used by the code administrator in reviewing a 9YY NXX code assignment request.

5.1

NXX codes will only be assigned to applicants for 9YY service in the NANP area who have established plans for a 9YY access arrangement and upon approval of a completed code request form, Attachment A. Access arrangements with other entities is the responsibility of the code applicant and is outside the scope of these guidelines.

5.2

The OCN provided on the Part A must be associated with a NECA Company Code (OCN) Category Type that has been determined to be appropriate for the direct assignment of numbering resources. The following is the list of permitted Company Code Category Types for numbering resources:

Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier	ILEC
Regional Bell Operating Company	RBOC
Competitive Local Exchange Carrier	CLEC
Personal Communications Service	PCS
Unbundled Local Exchange Carrier	ULEC
Wireless Carriers	WIRE
Internet Provider Enabled Services	IPES (only interconnected VoIP)

The code administrator will deny all numbering applications from SPs with an OCN category that is not permissible for numbering assignments.

5.3

In order to obtain an NXX within the 9YY code, the applicant must complete and sign Part A, "Assignment Request/Return Notification/Information Change" form, of the "9YY NXX Code Forms" (see Attachment A). In addition, the applicant must certify that it will be providing 9YY service as a public telecommunications service and that it has secured the authorization, if necessary, from the federal, state, provincial or other regulatory authority within the NANP area in which it intends to provide 9YY service.

5.4

In order to obtain a 9YY NXX code, an applicant must submit or have submitted a North American Numbering Plan Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast Report (NRUF). See NRUF Reporting Guidelines at <http://www.atis.org/inc/incguides.asp> and NANPA Non-Geographic NRUF Job Aid at www.nanpa.com for instructions on completing the report.

The FCC's "Red Light Rule" mandates that any organization delinquent in debts owed to the FCC is barred from receiving numbering resources from the NANPA until the delinquency has been resolved.⁸ If the applicant's FCC Registration Number (FRN), associated with its OCN(s), is appearing in the FCC's Red Light Display System (<http://www.fcc.gov/redlight>) at the time the NANPA is processing the application, the application shall be denied.

5.5

All information provided on or with Part A of the "9YY NXX Code Forms" (Attachment A) will be considered proprietary and confidential.

5.6

9YY-NXX codes will be assigned to applicants who plan on placing the codes in service within six months after the date of their NXX code(s) assignment.

⁸ See FCC Order 04-72 released April 13, 2004 and FCC Public Notice DA 12-1192 released July 25, 2012.

5.7

9YY NXX codes shall be assigned on a first come, first served basis and each applicant requesting a code(s) will be assigned a unique code(s) on an exclusive basis, i.e., the code may be used only by the assignee in any state, province or country in the NANP area.

5.8

There will be no maximum placed on the total number of 9YY-NXX codes assigned to each SP, however no more than five NXX codes shall be requested per application form (Attachment A) or at any one time.

5.9

The N11 (211 through 911) codes will not be assigned as 9YY NXX codes.

5.10

The applicant's preference for a specific 9YY NXX code will be honored to the extent possible. The code administrator should advise applicants that certain NXX codes may cause dialing confusion; e.g., 700, 950, etc. However, applicants requesting one of these codes are not precluded from receiving it, if unassigned. In the event that the applicant's preferred code is unavailable, the applicant may specify up to five alternative codes in order of preference. If the preferred and alternatives are not available or the applicant does not indicate a preference for another specific code, the administrator will assign a code on a random basis.

5.11

If two applicants request the same NXX code simultaneously (i.e., their written requests are received by the code administrator with the same time and date stamp) one of the applicants would be randomly selected to receive the NXX code.

5.12 Code Assignment Criteria for Initial Code Requests

Applicants for an initial 9YY-NXX code assignment shall provide the Code Administrator with the following information:

- Projected monthly demand for new TNs in the next 12 months, substantiating the need for the NXX(s) requested.
- A commitment to place all code(s) allocated into service within six months from the date of assignment.
- A commitment that the applicant is or will be capable of providing service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resources activation date.⁹

An applicant for initial numbering resources must include in its application evidence that the applicant is authorized to provide service in the area for which the numbering resources are being requested, and that the applicant is or will be capable of providing service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resources activation date.¹⁰

For an initial 9YY code request, an applicant must provide one form of documentation from both Sections 5.12.1 and 5.12.2 below:

5.12.1 License and/or Certification

An applicant shall provide evidence that demonstrates the SP has a license or authorization issued by the FCC or a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) issued by a State Regulatory Body to provide service in the area for which the 9YY code is being requested. The SP shall email to the code administrator a copy of the FCC license or authorization¹¹ or CPCN that is appropriate for the Company Code Category Type of the OCN¹² provided on the SP's application:

- 5.12.1.1 An OCN with a Company Code Category Type of ILEC, RBOC, ULEC, or CLEC shall provide evidence that demonstrates the SP has a CPCN issued by a State Regulatory Body to provide service in the area the 9YY code is being requested.
- 5.12.1.2 An OCN with a Company Code Category Type of WIRE or PCS shall provide evidence that demonstrates the SP has a license issued by the FCC to provide service in the area the 9YY code is being requested.
- 5.12.1.3 An OCN with a Company Code Category Type of IPES shall provide evidence that demonstrates the SP has a national authorization issued by the FCC.

In the case that the name on the license or authorization issued by the FCC or CPCN does not match the SP's name on the application, the applicant shall provide documentation linking the name on the application with the name on the license or authorization issued by the FCC or CPCN.

5.12.2 Facilities Readiness

An applicant shall provide appropriate evidence that facilities are in place or will be in place to provide service within 60 days of the numbering resources activation date (i.e., the LERGTM Routing Guide effective date) is required. Evidence shall be provided via email to the code administrator with the Part A application.

⁹ 47 CFR § 52.15 (g) (2)

¹⁰ 47 CFR § 52.15 (g) (2)

¹¹ See 47 CFR §52.15 (g) (3).

¹² See Section 5.2 for a list of permitted Company Code Category Types.

A. Interconnected VoIP Providers

Interconnected VoIP providers shall demonstrate proof of facilities readiness by (1) providing a combination of an agreement between the interconnected VoIP provider and its carrier partner and an interconnection agreement between that carrier and the relevant local exchange carrier (LEC), or (2) proof that the interconnected VoIP provider obtains interconnection with the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) pursuant to a tariffed offering or a commercial arrangement that provides access to the PSTN.¹³

When providing such documentation to the code administrator, the applicant shall provide only the relevant pages or indicate in the email to the code administrator the page numbers for the relevant pages if providing entire agreements or documents. For interconnection agreements, the relevant pages are the cover page, area covered, the expiration date and the signature page from the interconnection agreements. For tariffed offering or commercial arrangement documents, the relevant pages are the cover page, pages that describe how traffic will be exchanged, term of the contract or expiration date, and the signature page. The code administrator shall deny any application when the relevant pages are not provided or the applicant does not indicate the page numbers of the relevant pages when providing entire documents via email. In the case that the name on an agreement does not match the applicant's name on the application, the applicant shall provide documentation linking the name on the application with the name on the documents.

B. SPs Other Than Interconnected VoIP Providers

For applicants other than interconnected VoIP providers, facilities readiness evidence may be provided by emailing to the code administrator a copy of any one of the following document(s) the SP selects:

- 1) A current executed interconnection agreement between a Local Exchange Carrier and the SP requesting numbering resources. The relevant pages are the cover page, area covered, the expiration date and the signature page from the interconnection agreement. The SP shall provide only the relevant pages or indicate in the email the page numbers for the relevant pages if providing the entire interconnection agreement. The code administrator shall deny any application when the relevant pages are not provided or the SP does not indicate the page numbers of the relevant pages when providing the entire interconnection agreement via email. In the case that the name on the interconnection agreement does not match the SP's name on the application, the applicant shall provide documentation linking the name on the application with the name on the interconnection agreement.
- 2) Documentation of the state commission approval of the current interconnection agreement. In the case that the name on the state commission documentation does not match the SP's name on the application, the applicant shall provide documentation linking the name on the application with the name on the state commission documentation.
- 3) A confirmation letter or letter of intent provided by the LEC with which the requesting SP will interconnect. Interconnecting LECs are encouraged, but not required, to provide such letters. In the case that the name on the letter does not match the SP's name on the application, the applicant shall provide documentation linking the name on the application with the name on the confirmation letter.

All documentation submitted will be held confidential pursuant to FCC confidentiality rules.¹⁴

5.13 Code Assignment Criteria for Growth 9YY Requests

Assignment of additional code(s) (growth codes) shall be made by satisfying the criteria in section 3c on the Part A Form. The information submitted shall demonstrate that all of the numbers assigned to the code holder will exhaust within six months. In the Months To Exhaust calculation and Utilization Level calculations, an SP shall

¹³ FCC 15-70, ¶ 37.

¹⁴ 47 CFR § 52.13 (c) (7)

include every 9YY-NXX code assigned to the SP. For additional codes for growth, each code holder shall supply supporting data in section 3c of the Part A which covers:

- Telephone Number (TNs) Available for Assignment;
- Growth history for the previous six months
- Projected demand for the coming 12 months; and
- The applicants shall demonstrate that existing numbering resources will exhaust within 6 months.

All applicants for growth numbering resources shall achieve a 75% utilization threshold, calculated in accordance with the below calculation.

The numbering resource utilization threshold shall be calculated by dividing all assigned numbers by the total numbering resources in the applicant's inventory and multiplying the result by 100.

6 Responsibilities of Code Applicants and Holders

Entities requesting new 9YY NXX code assignments as well as entities already assigned 9YY NXX codes shall comply with the following:

6.1

The code applicant may request from the 9YY NXX code administrator information associated with the assignment of NXX codes for 9YY services. This includes information on how to obtain a current copy of the "9YY NXX Code Assignment Guidelines".

6.2

The code applicant/code holder is responsible for meeting all conditions of these guidelines.

6.3

The application process for 9YY NXX assignments shall include the following:

6.3.1

Apply to the code administrator and complete all required entries on the "9YY NXX Code Forms" that are in Attachment A of these guidelines. One form shall be completed per request. No more than 5 codes can be requested per application form. Applicants who choose to submit their Part A and/or Part C via facsimile or mailed copies will be charged a fee. See the NANPA website at www.nanpa.com for specific details regarding the associated fee structure.

6.3.2

When requesting growth codes, applicants shall meet the requirements as described in Section 5.13 and conform to the conditions contained therein. On the Part A form, applicants must provide (1) information that provides utilization for the preceding six months and projected monthly utilization for the next twelve months; and (2) the applicant's current numbering utilization level.

6.3.3

Provide, if desired, requests for specific and alternative NXX code assignments in order of preference. The administrator will try to satisfy such requests but cannot guarantee specific requests will be satisfied, see Section 7.4.1.1.

6.3.4

When requesting an initial 9YY-NXX code, certify on Part A of the "9YY NXX Code Forms" that the required regulatory authority authorization has been obtained for which the code is being requested, and provide evidence of such authorization to the code administrator. An SP may demonstrate that it has a license or authorization issued by the FCC, or a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) issued by a state regulatory body to provide service in a particular geographic area. The SP may email or fax a copy of the FCC license or authorization or CPCN to the code administrator.

In the case that the name on the license or authorization issued by the FCC or on the CPCN does not match the SP's name on the application, the applicant shall provide documentation linking the name on the application with the name on the license or authorization issued by the FCC or on the CPCN.

6.3.5

Agree to abide by sound code conservation practices and the reclamation procedures (see Section 9).

6.4

Ongoing 9YY NXX code holders' responsibilities shall include the following:

6.4.1

Assume the responsibility for the assignment of the last four digits of the 9YY NXX numbers and the maintenance of up-to-date assignment records that match 9YY NXX numbers to subscribers for all allocated NXX code(s). These records will be required for audit purposes (see Section 9.0). If 9YY service number portability is implemented in the future, a portion of these records may also be required for centralized assignment of 9YY numbers.

6.4.2

Changes in the information associated with a code assignment shall immediately be made known to the code administrator using Part A of the "9YY NXX Code Forms". Such changes may occur because of the transfer of a code, through merger or acquisition, to a different company. The code holder of the NXX code acquired by merger, acquisition or other means must immediately inform the code administrator when the change becomes effective. This change information is required to ensure that an accurate record of the entity responsible for the code and the data associated with the code is maintained.

6.4.3

The code holder of the 9YY NXX code acquired by merger, acquisition, or other means shall use the code consistent with these guidelines.

6.4.4

The code holder shall participate in the audit process (see Section 9).

6.4.5

A code(s) assigned to an entity, either directly by the code administrator or through transfer from another entity, shall be placed in service within six months after the original date of assignment by the code administrator. See Section 7 and Part C of "9YY NXX Code Forms" (Attachment A).

6.5

SPs are required to submit an NRUF Report to provide both utilization and forecast data for NPA 9YY numbering resources. (Please note that any 9YY NXXs that are not reported on are subject to reclamation.)^{15, 16} SPs shall submit to the NANPA the NRUF data on or before February 1, for the period ending on December 31, and on or before August 1, for the period ending on June 30 of each year. See the NANPA Form 502 Job Aid for Non-Geographic Reporting at www.nanpa.com.

6.6

If a code holder no longer has need for the code, the code shall be returned to the code administrator for reassignment (see Section 8).

6.7

If the code is not placed in service after six months from the date of a code assignment, the code shall be returned or the code administrator shall request the voluntary return of the code (see Section 9).

6.8

The code applicant/holder should be aware that provision of 9YY service on a national or regional basis using a particular NXX code(s) may be restricted by either state or federal regulation.

7 Responsibilities of Code Administrator

The code administrator shall:

7.1

Provide information on how to obtain copies of the "9YY NXX Code Assignment Guidelines," including timely notification of changes.

7.2

Provide code applicants/holders assistance in completing the "9YY NXX Code Forms" (see Attachment A).

7.3

Track 9YY NXX code requests and make NXX code assignments on a first come, first served basis.

¹⁵ This is a requirement of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in the first Numbering Resource Optimization Report and Order, FCC 00-104, released March 31, 2000.

¹⁶ Public Notice, DA 01-1409, released June 11, 2001, clarified that 500 and 900 NPAs are covered by Numbering Resource Optimization, CC Docket No. 99-200, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 15 FCC Rcd 7574 (2000) (NRO Order).

7.4

Upon receipt of the Part A, the administrator shall process the application for 9YY NXX codes and shall follow these steps:

7.4.1

Determine if the request is in compliance with code assignment principles and criteria as set forth in these guidelines.

7.4.1.1

Based on the availability of the codes, an attempt will be made to assign the preferred code as listed on Part A of the "9YY NXX Code Forms". If two applicants request the same NXX code simultaneously (i.e., their requests are received by the code administrator with the same time and date stamp) one of the applicants would be randomly selected to receive the NXX code.

7.4.1.2

The code administrator may discuss with the applicant if one of the current codes from the existing resource pool is appropriate and select an unassigned code for assignment.

7.4.1.3

Provide a disposition on a NXX code request (See Part B of the "9YY NXX Code Forms"). There are three possible dispositions; i.e., assigned, denied and requires further information. The code administrator will respond via the Part B within 10 business days from receipt of the assignment request form. The response will include:

- a) If assigned: The NXX code actually assigned,
- b) If denied: The reason(s) for denial and instructions on how and where to make an appeal of the decision, or
- c) Requires additional information: The specific additional information required

7.4.2

If the application is approved and a code is assigned, the code administrator shall immediately notify the iconectiv® Telecom Routing Administration (TRA) of the assigned NXX code and the code holder's identification information for publication; e.g., in the iconectiv LERG™ Routing Guide. The TRA shall input the 9YY-NXX(s) in BIRDS within five business days of receiving the information.

7.4.3

Records on code assignments and resource availability shall be updated on the NANPA website and used to develop the annual 9YY assignment status report provided to INC and other appropriate bodies.

7.5

Treat information supplied by the applicant as proprietary and confidential and not disclose that information to non-9YY NXX code administrator personnel, except as requested by appropriate regulatory authorities.

7.6

Ensure applicant has a current North American Numbering Plan Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast (NRUF) Report (See NRUF Reporting Guidelines) on file with the NANPA for the non-geographic 9YY NPA(s). If an NRUF Report is not on file, the Code Administrator shall deny future 9YY code requests from that delinquent SP until a current NRUF Report has been submitted.

7.7

Use historical code assignment data and semi-annual NRUF forecast data to monitor the rate and level of 9YY code assignments and predict the exhaust of the currently implemented non-geographic 9YY NPAs, and also predict the overall exhaust of all designated non-geographic 9YY NPAs. Report these findings, on a semi-annual basis, to the industry (see Section 9.0).

7.8

If one or more 9YY-NXX codes have not been placed in service within six months from the date of assignment or returned to the Code Administrator, the Code Administrator shall begin the reclamation procedures.

7.9

In the performance of its duties and in meeting its responsibilities, the Code Administrator may encounter situations that may alert it to a possible non-compliance with the industry guidelines which warrants the need for a cause audit. In these situations, the Code Administrator will inform and forward relevant information that contains the details of the possible infraction to the designated auditor or appropriate regulatory agency for disposition. In addition, the Code Administrator may be required to provide SP-specific data to an auditor in order to facilitate the audit process.

7.10

Perform reclamation procedures outlined in Section 8, as needed.

8 Code Reclamation Procedures

Reclamation refers to the process by which SPs are required to return numbering resources to the Code Administrator. For applications within the United States, the FCC Wireline Competition Bureau (FCC) has the authority to investigate and determine whether 9YY-NXX code holders have placed into service the 9YY-NXX codes assigned to them within the applicable time frames. Such circumstances are under the direction of the FCC, and the Code Administrator shall abide by the FCC's determination. Service providers shall have an opportunity to explain the circumstances causing the delay in commencing assignment of their numbering resources to the FCC prior to reclamation of the 9YY-NXX code(s).

8.1 Resource Assignee Responsibility

The entity to which a 9YY-NXX code has been assigned shall return the resource to the code administrator if:

- It is no longer needed for the purpose for which it was originally assigned,
- The service it was assigned for is discontinued, or
- The resource was not placed in service within six months from the date of assignment.

In the latter case, the assignee may apply to the FCC for an extension date. Such an extension request must include the reason for the delay and a new activation time commitment.

8.2 Administrator Responsibility

The code administrator shall contact any 9YY-NXX assignee(s) identified as not having returned to the code administrator for reassignment of any 9YY-NXX resource:

- Assigned, but no longer in use by the assignee(s),
- Assigned to a service no longer offered,
- Assigned, but not placed in service within six months from the date of assignment, or
- Assigned but not used in conformance with these guidelines.

If a Part C has not been received by the Code Administrator during the first five months following the assignment date returned on the Part B, then the Code Administrator will send via email a reminder notice to the code assignee.

If the Code Administrator has not received a Part C from the assignee by the due date, the assignee cannot submit the Part C to the Code Administrator. The Code Administrator shall then send, via email, a notice to the assignee regarding the delinquent Part C. The notice shall be sent one day after the Part C due date, and shall direct the assignee to do one of the following immediately:

- If the 9YY-NXX code is in service, submit a manual Part C to the FCC.
- If the 9YY-NXX code is no longer needed or not in service, return the 9YY-NXX code by submitting a Part A.
- Request an extension from the FCC.

In the case where a 9YY-NXX code is abandoned, the Code Administrator may not have prior knowledge of the situation. Further, the Code Administrator may be unable to contact the incumbent code holder concerning the status of the 9YY-NXX code. Often, customer complaints or information provided by SPs are the way that the Code Administrator learns of abandoned 9YY-NXX code situations. The Code Administrator shall work closely with regulatory authorities to obtain timely information about SPs abandoning service. Such circumstances are under the direction of a regulatory authority or court. The Code Administrator shall seek guidance from the appropriate regulatory authority concerning the return of the abandoned 9YY-NXX code(s). In the event, that the Code Administrator is able to reclaim 9YY-NXX codes, the Code Administrator shall also request that the iconectiv TRA remove the record(s) from BIRRDs.

The Code Administrator will make all returned 9YY-NXX codes available for assignment following a three-month aging period.

9 Code Conservation and Relief Planning

Assignment of the NANP area 9YY NXX numbering resources is undertaken with the following conservation objectives:

- To efficiently and effectively administer/manage a limited NANP resource;
- To delay the exhaust of the 9YY NXX code resource.

9.1

For 9YY-NXX code holders, the Code Administrator shall examine each NRUF data submission for inconsistencies or anomalies. If the Code Administrator identifies any significant inconsistencies or anomalies in an SP's data, the Code Administrator shall inform the submitting SP of its findings, after which the SP shall have five business days to explain the inconsistencies or anomalies, or to resubmit the data. All information provided by the SP will be treated as proprietary and confidential by the Code Administrator. If, after the discussions with the SP, the Code Administrator preliminarily concludes that the SP's data are insufficient, then the Code Administrator shall report that preliminary conclusion to the FCC. The FCC may make a determination on the validity of the data and may instruct the SP on how any deficiencies should be remedied. The Code Administrator

shall assign no additional 9YY-NXX resources to that SP until the FCC has resolved all questions regarding the inconsistency or anomaly.

9.2

9YY NXX code assignments shall be tracked and monitored, and when the projected exhaust is within 5 years, relief planning activities will be initiated, as needed, within the industry. The Code Administrator shall present an annual report of 9YY NXX utilization to the INC.

9.3

When the assigned 9YY NPAs are projected to exhaust within five years, the Code Administrator shall examine the available options (e.g., assignment of another 9YY or other NPA) and in consultation with the INC shall assign another NPA code for 9YY services.

9.4

The Code Administrator, six (6) months prior to the exhaust of the 9YY resource, shall notify the industry of the next 9YY NPA to be made available after 100% of the assignable codes are assigned. All existing 9YY-NXXs shall be assigned from the currently assignable 9YY NPA inventory before any newly available 9YY-NXXs may be assigned.

10 Maintenance of Guidelines

It may be necessary to modify the guidelines periodically to meet changing and unforeseen circumstances. Questions regarding the maintenance of the guidelines may be directed to the North American Numbering Plan Administration at https://www.nationalnanpa.com/contact_us/index.html:

Requests for changes to these guidelines should be directed to the appropriate industry forum, currently the INC.

11 Appeals Process

Disagreements may arise between the Code Administrator and code applicants/holders in the context of the administration of these guidelines. In all cases, the Code Administrator and code applicants/holders will make reasonable, good faith efforts to resolve such disagreements among themselves consistent with the guidelines prior to pursuing any appeal. Appeals may include but are not limited to one or more of the following options:

- The code applicant/holder will have the opportunity to resubmit the matter to the administrator for reconsideration with or without additional input.
- Guidelines interpretation/clarification questions may be referred to the body responsible for maintenance of the guidelines. Unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the parties, these questions will be submitted in a generic manner protecting the identity of the appellant.
- The Code Administrator and code applicant/holder may pursue the disagreement with the appropriate governmental/regulatory authority.

Reports on any resolution resulting from the above options, the content, which will be mutually agreed upon by the involved parties, will be kept on file by the code administrator. At minimum, the report will contain the final disposition of the appeal; e.g., whether or not a code was assigned.

12 Glossary

For a list of common communications terms and definitions, please visit the *ATIS Telecom Glossary*, which is located at < <http://www.atis.org/glossary> >.

9YY Code Holder: The entity to which a 9YY NXX code has been assigned for the provisioning of 9YY services.

9YY Services: These are any public telecommunication service which may accessed by the public over the PSTN using the dialing format 9YY-NXX-XXXX, in which the caller pays for the call. 9YY Service is frequently referred to as “Pay-Per-Call”.

Authorized Representative: The person from the applicant's/holder's organization or of code applicant/holder its agent that has the legal authority to take action on behalf of the applicant/holder.

Auditor: The FCC Common Carrier Bureau's Audits Branch of the Accounting Safeguards Division or its other designated agents perform audits of US numbering resources (FCC 00-429 ¶ 90)¹⁷. State Commissions also may conduct audits (FCC 01-362 ¶ 101).

Carrier: A “telecommunications carrier” or “carrier” is any provider of telecommunications services, except that such term does not include aggregators of telecommunications services (as defined in 47 U.S.C. 226(a)(2)). For the purposes of this part, the term “telecommunications carrier” or “carrier” includes an interconnected VoIP service provider (47 CFR §52.5 (i)).

Central Office (CO): A Central Office is a local switching system that connects lines and trunks.

Code Administrator: Entity(ies) responsible for the administration of the NXXs within an NPA. In the United States and its territories, this is currently the NANPA. See also 47 CFR §52.15.

Conservation: Consideration given to the efficient and effective use of a finite numbering resource in order to minimize the cost and need to expand its availability in the introduction of new services, capabilities and features.

Easily Recognizable NPA Codes (ERCs): NPA codes that, due to their unique, recognizable digit pattern (i.e., common 'B' and 'C' digit), convey certain unique knowledge regarding a call to a telephone number other than the number being dialed (e.g., 800+). ERCs may be sometimes referred to as “NYY” codes to signify that N = digits 2-9 and YY = repeating digits 0-9.

FCC Registration Number (FRN): A ten-digit number assigned by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to an entity that does business with the FCC. A filer, licensee, certificate holder, or any entity sending payments to the FCC is considered to be doing business with the FCC. The FCC uses the FRN to determine if all of an entity's fees have been paid. The FRN is the same number used by entities on FCC Form 499-A and FCC Form 502 (NRUF Report). More information about FRNs can obtained by calling the FRN Help Line (877-480-3201) or from the following website: <https://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do>.

INC: Industry Numbering Committee, a standing committee of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) that provides an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) numbering resources within the NANP area.

In Service: A code (block of 10,000 numbers) in which the code holder has one or more telephone numbers within the NXX code Assigned to an end user (FCC 00-104, ¶240) and services being used.

LERG™ Routing Guide: An iconectiv® document which contains information about local routing data obtained from the iconectiv Business Integrated Routing and Rating Database System (BIRRDs). This information reflects the current network configuration and scheduled network changes for all entities originating or terminating PSTN calls within the NANP.

NANP (North American Numbering Plan): A numbering architecture in which every station in the NANP area is identified by a unique ten-digit address consisting of a three-digit NPA code, a three digit central office code of the form NXX, and a four-digit line number of the form XXXX, where N represents the digits 2-9 and X represents the digits 0-9.

¹⁷ The Common Carrier Bureau is now the Wireline Competition Bureau.

It is the basic numbering scheme for the telecommunications networks located in Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Sint Maarten, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Turks & Caicos Islands, Trinidad & Tobago, and the United States (including American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) [see also 47 CFR §52.5 (d)].

NANPA (North American Numbering Plan Administration): The NANPA is responsible for the neutral administration of NANP numbering resources, subject to directives from regulatory authorities in the NANP member countries (see also 47 CFR §52.7 (e)). The NANPA is an impartial non-governmental entity that is not aligned with any particular telecommunications industry segment.¹⁸ Under contract to the FCC, NANPA's responsibilities include assignment of NANP resources, and, in the U.S. and its territories, coordination of area code relief planning and collection of utilization and forecast data. See also 47 CFR §52.13.

NECA: NECA or the National Exchange Carrier Association administers the FCC's Access Charge Plan. Administration of the plan includes but is not limited to the filing of access charge tariffs with the FCC, the collection and validation of cost and revenue data and the processing of FCC Regulatory fees. Access charges are the fees long distance companies pay to access the local phone network to complete calls and ensure that telephone service remains available and affordable in all parts of the country.

NPA: Numbering Plan Area, also called area code. An NPA is the 3-digit code which occupies the A, B, and C positions in the 10-digit NANP format that applies throughout the area served by the NANP. NPAs are of the form NXX, where N represents the digits 2-9 and X represents any digit 0-9. NPAs are classified as either geographic or non-geographic.

a) Geographic NPAs are NPAs which correspond to discrete geographic areas within the area served by the NANP.

b) Non-geographic NPAs are NPAs which do not correspond to discrete geographic areas, but which are instead assigned for services with attributes, functionalities, or requirements that are not limited by geographic boundaries. The common examples are NPAs in the N00 format; e.g., 800.

Number Portability: Number portability in the context of 9YY service implies that a 9YY NXX subscriber can change 9YY carriers while retaining the number assignment. It should be noted that 9YY portability is not currently available and further details are available in the INC's "500/900 Report on LEC Portability" (July 1998).

Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN): The PSTN is comprised of all transmission and switching facilities and signal processors supplied and operated by all telecommunications common carriers for use by the public. Every station on the PSTN is capable of being accessed from every other station on the PSTN via the use of NANP E.164 numbers.

Public Telecommunication Service: A public commercial service, the subscribers to which must be capable of being reached over the public switched telephone network.

Reclamation: Reclamation refers to the process by which Service Providers are required to return numbering resources to the North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA) or Pooling Administrator (PA) (47 CFR, § 52.15 (i) (1)).

Service Access Code (SAC): A non-geographic NPA or Easily Recognizable Code (ERC) used for the purpose of providing access to a specific type of service.

Service Provider (SP): Any telecommunications carrier or other entity that receives numbering resources from the NANPA, a Pooling Administrator, or a telecommunications carrier for the purpose of providing or establishing telecommunications service. For the purposes of this part, the term "service provider" includes an interconnected VoIP service provider (47 CFR §52.5 (e)).

¹⁸ Administration of the North American Numbering Plan, Report and Order, CC Docket No. 92-237, 11 FCC Rcd 2588, 2608 (1995) (NANP Order).