

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

## ENTRY

- (1) On December 28, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released its Third Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket 99-200, *Numbering Resource Optimization*. At paragraph 61 of this Order, the FCC delegated authority to the states to hear claims that a safety valve mechanism should be applied when the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) or the Pooling Administrator (PA) denies a specific request for numbering resources. Furthermore, the FCC clarified that the safety valve mechanism could be employed in those instances where a carrier is unable to meet a specific customer need or other verifiable need for additional resources.
- (2) On April 29, 2011, CenturyTel of Ohio Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink (CenturyLink or applicant) filed a Motion for Review of a Decision of the PA to deny CenturyLink's request for numbering resources. In its filing, CenturyLink explains that on April 8, 2011, it submitted a request with the PA for the assignment of a block of 1,000 telephone numbers in the Avon, Ohio rate center in order to satisfy a specific customer's request.

CenturyLink represents that it is unable to meet the customer's request for 700 consecutive numbers with its existing inventory and, therefore, it requires a new block of 1,000 telephone numbers. According to the attachments accompanying CenturyLink's

motion, the PA refused to grant CenturyLink's request for additional numbering resources in the Avon rate center because the applicant's utilization did not meet the 75-percent utilization of assigned numbers as required by the FCC prior to the assignment of additional number resources. In addition, CenturyLink's projected months-to-exhaust of its numbering resources in this rate center exceeds the FCC's requirement of six months-to-exhaust.

- (3) Pursuant to the Commission's Entry of November 7, 2002, in Case No. 97-884-TP-COI, *In the Matter of the Commission's Investigation into Telephone Numbering and Number Assignment Procedures*, the Commission, on its own motion, delegated the authority to rule on carrier numbering requests, other than an order to reclaim a code or thousands-block, to the Legal Department pursuant to an attorney examiner's entry.
- (4) After a review of CenturyLink's motion, the attorney examiner believes that the applicant has demonstrated a legitimate need for the requested block of telephone numbers in accordance with 47 C.F.R. 52.15(g)(3)(iv) in order to assign 700 consecutive telephone numbers to its customer.

In reaching this determination, the attorney examiner recognizes CenturyLink's need for a block of 1,000 telephone numbers in order to accommodate growth of a specific customer. For this reason, the attorney examiner finds that the PA's decision to deny CenturyLink's application for additional numbering resources in the Avon rate center should be overturned. In the event that the forecasted demand does not occur in the manner represented, the unused block of telephone numbers is to be donated to the numbering pool in the Avon rate center.

It is, therefore,

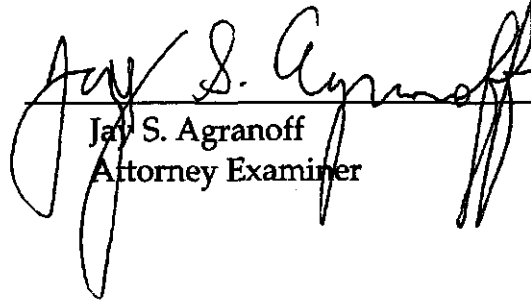
ORDERED, That CenturyLink's request to overturn the PA's decision to withhold the requested numbering resources is granted as described in Finding (4). It is, further,

ORDERED, That should the forecasted demand for the block of telephone numbers not occur in the manner represented, it will be returned to the applicable numbering pool consistent with this Entry. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon the applicant and all interested entities of record.

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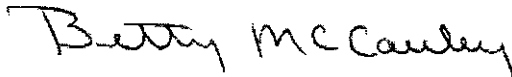
By:

  
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Betty McCauley  
Secretary