

ARKANSAS PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION OF THE)	
NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN)	
ADMINISTRATOR ON BEHALF OF THE)	
ARKANSAS TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	DOCKET NO. 09-043-U
INDUSTRY, PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF)	ORDER NO. 9
NUMBERING PLAN AREA RELIEF PLAN FOR)	
THE 870 NPA)	

ORDER

On October 28, 2021, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) filed its *Report and Recommendations* on the numbering plan area (NPA) relief plan for the 870 NPA, including a proposed schedule, pursuant to Order No. 6. NANPA, on behalf of the Arkansas Telecommunications Industry (Industry), recommends that the Commission adopt a 30-day comment period with reply comments due 15 days later, and suggests that surreply comments are not necessary. NANPA states that the Industry seeks a waiver of the requirement for an evidentiary hearing or that any hearing be held virtually.

The *Report and Recommendations* filed by NANPA identifies eight alternatives addressing the upcoming exhaust of the 870 area code.¹ The Commission seeks comments from all Parties (Arkansas telecommunications providers [especially those that did not participate in the October 18, 2021 NANPA meeting²], NANPA, the Attorney General of Arkansas, and the General Staff of the Commission) which discuss:

¹ NANPA's *Report and Recommendations* was developed in accordance with the Industry NPA Relief Planning Guidelines, which states that relief options shall cover a period of at least five years beyond the predicted date of exhaust, and shall cover more than one relief activity, if necessary, during the time frame, and customers should not be required to undergo number a second number change for a period of 8-10 years, developed a total of eight alternatives: seven overlay alternatives and one geographic split alternative for the 870 NPA. *Report and Recommendations* at 4-5.

² *Id.* at 94.

1. details on the pros and cons³ on each of the alternatives and their implementation schedules set out in the *Report and Recommendations* as they relate to individual telecommunications providers (current and prospective telecommunications carriers operating in or considering operation within the 870 NPA of Arkansas as well as the 501 and 479 NPAs), customers, and the state of Arkansas as a whole;
2. the reasons for supporting or opposing recommended Alternative # 1; and
3. whether it would be appropriate to consider “the overall numbering and upcoming relief plans for the entire state of Arkansas”⁴ or if this proceeding should be limited to a NPA relief plan for the 870 NPA only.

Interested persons or entities who are not Parties to the Docket but desire to offer comments are invited to file a Statement of Limited Appearance⁵ or make a Public Comment⁶.

The Commission sets the following schedule for comments from the Parties on the *Report and Recommendations*:

Simultaneous Initial Comments	December 1, 2021
Simultaneous Reply Comments	December 16, 2021

The Commission will not schedule Surreply Comments or a hearing at this time, but reserves the right to do so based on the comments filed.

All filings are to be made by noon on the day of the deadline. If legal issues are identified that the Parties believe should be briefed, the Parties should petition the

³ *Id.* at 34, 85.

⁴ *Id.* at 90. *See also id.* at 14 (FN 16).

⁵ See Rule 4.02 of the Commission’s *Rules of Practice and Procedure* http://www.apscservices.info/Rules/rules_of_practice_procedure2015.pdf.

⁶ <http://www.apscservices.info/publiccomment.asp>.

Commission for an amendment to the procedural schedule to allow for legal briefing as soon as they are aware of potential additional legal issues in this Docket to enable briefs to be filed before any hearing. Legal briefs shall not otherwise be filed.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This 1st day of November, 2021.



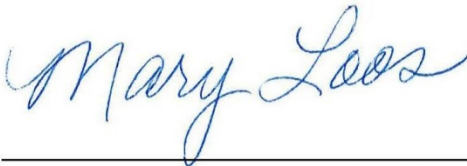
Ted J. Thomas, Chairman



Kimberly A. O'Guinn, Commissioner



Justin Tate, Commissioner



Mary Loos, Secretary of the Commission

I hereby certify that this order, issued by the Arkansas Public Service Commission, has been served on all parties of record on this date by the following method:

U.S. mail with postage prepaid using the mailing address of each party as indicated in the official docket file, or
 Electronic mail using the email address of each party as indicated in the official docket file.