



Canadian Numbering Administrator Administrateur de la numérotation canadienne

Date: 15 December 2023

BY EMAIL

To: Current and Prospective Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Holders

Subject: Inputs required for 2024 Numbering Resource Utilization Forecasts, and Reserved and Held Telephone Number Report

On 30 October 2023, the Canadian Numbering Administrator (CNA) was directed by letter from the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC):

limit the assignment of geographic CO codes to the July 2023 round of Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (NRUF) on a yearly, per carrier, and per Numbering Plan Area (NPA) complex basis, for all carriers, and 80% of the forecasts for any carrier who has forecasted more than 20 codes for any given year and NPA complex.

A follow-up letter from the CNA to the CRTC, to which CRTC staff subsequently concurred on 15 November 2023, indicated that the CNA would follow some assumptions implementing the direction. Specifically related to NRUFs, the CNA would request two (2) versions of the January 2024 NRUF for Geographic NPAs:

- i. Form 1 shall contain the frozen submission data up to 1 January 2029, with subsequent years not being frozen.
- ii. Form 2 shall contain submission data that is not frozen, showing the forecasts without CO Code assignment restrictions.

Accordingly, based on the above stated direction, assumptions and the guidelines approved by and Decisions made by the CRTC, current and prospective Central Office (CO) Code Holders are required to submit inputs to the CNA for NRUFs. In addition, certain CO Code Holders are required to submit an Exception Report on the Quantities of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers to the CNA.

The required NRUF inputs are:

- a) **Combined Geographic G- and R- NRUFs (Form 1 and Form 2)** – the 2024 General and Relief Planning NRUFs, due by **1 February 2024**.

General Planning NRUFs for the following ten (10) NPAs:

- i. 204/431/584
- ii. 226/382/519/548
- iii. 263/438/514
- iv. 306/474/639
- v. 354/450/579
- vi. 428/506
- vii. 468/819/873
- viii. 709/879



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- ix. 807
- x. 867

Relief Planning NRUFs for the following eight (8) NPAs:

- i. 236/250/257/604/672/778
- ii. 249/683/705
- iii. 289/365/742/905
- iv. 343/613/753
- v. 367/418/581
- vi. 368/403/587/780/825
- vii. 416/437/647/942
- viii. 782/902

- b) **Non-Geographic G-NRUF** – the 2024 General NRUF for non-geographic NPAs, due by **1 February 2024**;
- c) **Exception Report on the Quantities of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers** – due by **31 March 2024**.

It is not necessary to complete any of the forms listed above if there is no data to submit, however an email to indicate that your company does not have and is not intending to have any of these resources over the period from 1 January 2024 to 1 January 2030 should be sent to the CNA to avoid unnecessary follow up.

It is **preferable** that all completed 2024 NRUF forms be submitted by email to nruf@cnac.ca and that the Exception Report on the Quantities of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers be sent to randh@cnac.ca.

Alternatively, the completed worksheets can also be sent via regular mail or courier to the following address:

CNA NRUF Coordinator
January 2024 NRUF
or
CNA R&H Coordinator
2024 R&H Telephone Numbers
(as appropriate)
Canadian Numbering Administrator
880 Taylor Creek Drive, Room 102
Orleans ON K4A 0Z9
Tel: 613-702-0016



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a) Geographic G- & R-NRUF

The *Canadian Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (C-NRUF) Guideline*, Version 5.1 (C-NRUF Guideline) requires all current and prospective CO Code Holders to submit actual and forecast quantities of CO Codes as input for the annual G-NRUF. The G-NRUF is required by the CNA to project Canadian Numbering Plan Area (NPA) exhaust dates and aids the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) in projecting North American Numbering Plan (NANP) exhaust.

When NPAs enter the timeframe for Relief Planning NRUFs (R-NRUFs) in accordance with the C-NRUF Guideline (about 72 months), initial R-NRUFs are conducted. The C-NRUF Guideline requires subsequent R-NRUFs be conducted semi-annually until 3 months before the Relief Date to monitor CO Code forecast changes prior to implementing relief.

Additionally, all current and prospective CO Code Holders in Canadian Geographic NPAs are required to provide actual and forecast CO Code quantities using the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet including both a Form 1 and Form 2 version.

The forecast amounts in the Form 1 version cannot exceed the forecast amounts submitted to the CNA at or before the July 2023 NRUF for all geographic NPAs in years 2024 through 2029. The amount for 2030 is unrestricted.

The Form 2 version is an unrestricted forecast where carriers should include the amounts they would forecast if there were no restrictions in place.

The January 2024 G- and R-NRUF Geographic worksheet is available at <https://www.cnac.ca/NRUF/NRUF.htm#LatestForms>. See Annex A for instructions for the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet. Completed NRUF worksheets must be returned to the CNA no later than **1 February 2024**.

b) Non-Geographic G-NRUF

The *Canadian NPA 600 NXX Code Assignment Guideline*, *Canadian Non-Geographic Code Assignment Guideline* or the *Canadian Adjunct to the Industry Numbering Committee (INC) 9YY NXX Code Assignment Guidelines*, as applicable, require all current and prospective CO Code Holders to submit actual and forecast quantities of CO Codes for non-geographic NPAs as input for the annual G-NRUF. The G-NRUF is required by the CNA to project Canadian NPA exhaust dates and aids the NANPA in projecting NANP exhaust.

All current and prospective CO Code Holders using numbers in NPAs 600, Non-Geographic Codes (i.e., NPA 622/633) and 9YY are required to provide actual and forecast CO Code quantities using the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet. During CSCN 121 on 26 October 2021, the CSCN directed the CNA not to require a forecast for NPAs 600 or 9YY unless the CO Code Holder is forecasting any change in demand in the next 6 years. Accordingly, all current and prospective CO Code Holders must complete the Non-



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Geographic (i.e. 6YY or alternately NPA 622/633) section of the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet but they are only required to complete the 600 or 9YY sections if they are forecasting any change in demand.

The January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet is available at <https://www.cnac.ca/NRUF/NRUF.htm#LatestForms>. See Annex B for instructions for the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet. Completed January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet must be returned to the CNA no later than **1 February 2024**.

c) Exception Report on the Quantities of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers

If on 1 January 2024 a CO Code Holder's quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers for a Switching Entity/POI and Exchange Area exceeds the amount permitted by Appendix G of the *Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guideline* (COCA Guideline), the Code Holder must submit an exception report to the CNA. See the instructions in Annex C for the Exception Report on the Quantities of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers. The Reserved and Held worksheet is available at <https://www.cnac.ca/NRUF/NRUF.htm#LatestForms>.

TSPs to which this requirement applies must submit their completed Exception Reports to the CNA on or before **31 March 2024**.

All CO Code Holder inputs will be treated as confidential in accordance with the Guideline. Aggregate NRUF results will be posted on the CNA website at: <https://www.cnac.ca/NRUF/NRUF.htm#Results> once the information has been consolidated and reviewed by CRTC staff.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the NRUFs, please contact the CNA NRUF Coordinator at NRUF@cnac.ca.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Sent via email by

Kelly T. Walsh
Program Manager
Canadian Numbering Administrator

Annexes

c.c.: Michel Murray, CRTC staff
Alexander Pittman, CRTC staff
Étienne Robelin, CRTC staff

ANNEX A

Geographic G- & R-NRUF Instructions

These instructions are for the geographic section of the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet. For additional information see the *Canadian Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (C-NRUF) Guideline* at <https://crtc.gc.ca/cisc/eng/cisf3fg.htm>. The term CO Code Holder used below refers to the representative of the current or prospective CO Code Holder who submits the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet.

- 1) CO Code Holders must review the C-NRUF Guideline and these instructions before completing the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet.
- 2) If a CO Code Holder has more than one Operating Company Number (OCN), a separate January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet must be completed for each OCN assigned to that CO Code Holder.
- 3) Each CO Code Holder that holds any assigned or reserved CO Codes in any Canadian NPA or that intends to obtain any such CO Codes by 1 January 2030 must complete the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet.
- 4) Each current and prospective CO Code Holder must complete both Form 1 (with forecast amounts limited to amounts provided on or before the July 2023 NRUF) and Form 2 (an unrestricted forecast).
- 5) All CO Code quantities entered on the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet should be whole numbers (i.e., 1, 2, 3, etc.) for both actual and forecast years. Actual and forecast entries should reflect the total quantity of assigned and reserved CO Codes as of the indicated date.
- 6) Plant Test Codes other than industry test codes 958 and 959 must be included in the quantities of CO Codes submitted by the CO Code Holder.
- 7) Where the CO Code Holder's data is inconsistent with or indicates a significant difference from previously submitted NRUF data, the CO Code Holder shall submit a written explanation to the CNA with January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet in the "Remarks" section of the form or in an attachment to assist the CNA in the assessment of the data.

CO Code Holders are requested to submit the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet to the CNA **as soon as it is completed** rather than waiting for the deadline. CO Code Holders must complete the worksheet and submit it to the CNA no later than **1 February 2024, preferably via email to nruf@cnac.ca**.

Alternatively, the worksheet can be sent via regular mail or courier, as follows:

CNA NRUF Coordinator
January 2024 NRUF
Canadian Numbering Administrator
880 Taylor Creek Drive, Room 102
Orleans ON K4A 0Z9

Tel: 613-702-0016

If you have any questions concerning the worksheets or these instructions, contact the CNA NRUF Coordinator at nruf@cnac.ca.

ANNEX B

Non-Geographic G-NRUF Instructions

These instructions are for the non-geographic section of the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet. For additional information see the, *the Canadian NPA 600 NXX Code Assignment Guideline*, *the Canadian Non-Geographic Code Assignment Guideline* or the *Canadian Adjunct to the Industry Numbering Committee (INC) 9YY NXX Code Assignment Guidelines*, as applicable, at: <http://www.crtc.gc.ca/cisc/eng/cisf3fg.htm>.

The term CO Code Holder used below refers to the representative of the current or prospective CO Code Holder who submits the non-geographic section of the January 2024 G- & R-NRUF worksheet.

- 1) CO Code Holders must review the applicable Canadian Adjunct or Guideline and these instructions before completing the January 2024 Non-Geographic G-NRUF section of the worksheet.
- 2) If a CO Code Holder has more than one Operating Company Number (OCN), a separate worksheet must be completed for each OCN assigned to that CO Code Holder.
- 3) Each CO Code Holder that holds any assigned or reserved CO Codes in Non-Geographic NPAs (i.e., NPA 622 & 633) or intends to obtain any such CO Codes by 1 January 2030 must complete the January 2024 Non-Geographic G-NRUF section of the worksheet.
- 4) Each current or prospective CO Code Holder for 600 or 9YY that intends to obtain any such CO Codes by 1 January 2024 must complete the January 2030 Non-Geographic G-NRUF section of the worksheet. If CO Code Holders are not intending to apply for any of those CO Codes, they do not need to complete those sections of the January 2024 Non-Geographic G-NRUF section of the worksheet.
- 5) All CO Code quantities entered on the worksheet should be whole numbers (i.e., 1, 2, 3, etc.) for both actual and forecast years. Actual and forecast entries should reflect the total quantity of assigned and reserved CO Codes as of 1 January of each year.
- 6) The CO Code Holder need only submit a written explanation concerning the input if it will assist the CNA in the assessment of the data.

CO Code Holders are requested to submit the January 2024 Non-Geographic G-NRUF worksheet to the CNA **as soon as it is completed** rather than waiting for the deadline. CO Code Holders must complete the worksheet and submit it to the CNA no later than **1 February 2024, preferably via email to nruf@cnac.ca**.

Alternatively, the worksheet can be sent via regular mail or courier, as follows:

CNA NRUF Coordinator
January 2024 NRUF
Canadian Numbering Administrator

880 Taylor Creek Drive, Room 102
Orleans ON K4A 0Z9
Tel: 613-702-0016

If you have any questions concerning the worksheets or these instructions, contact the CNA NRUF Coordinator at nruf@cnac.ca.

Annex C

Instructions - Exception Report on the Quantities of Reserved & Held Telephone Numbers

These instructions are for the annual Exception Report on the Quantities of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers.

- 1) CO Code Holders must review these instructions before completing the January 2024 Reserved and Held worksheet.
- 2) If a Code Holder to which this reporting requirement is applicable has more than one Operating Company Number (OCN), a separate Exception Report must be completed for each OCN assigned to that Code Holder which has a quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers that exceeds the amount specified in Appendix G of the *Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guideline*. The applicable sections of the Appendix have been attached to these instructions.
- 3) The Report shall include data as at **1 January 2024**.
- 4) A copy of the first page of the Code Holder's report, bearing the signature of the Authorized Representative must be sent by mail, email, courier or facsimile to the address shown below.

Code Holders are requested to submit the Exception Report on the Quantities of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers to the CNA **as soon as it is completed** rather than wait for the deadline. Code Holders must complete the worksheet and submit it to the CNA no later than **31 March 2024, preferably via email to randh@cnac.ca**. Alternatively, the completed worksheet can also be sent via regular mail or courier to the following address:

CNA R&H Coordinator
2024 R&H Telephone Numbers
Canadian Numbering Administrator
880 Taylor Creek Drive, Room 102
Orleans ON K4A 0Z9
Tel: 613-702-0016

If you have any questions concerning the worksheets or these instructions, contact the CNA R&H Coordinator at randh@cnac.ca.

Appendix G - Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers

1. The quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers maintained by a Code Holder for customers in an Exchange Area served by a Switching Entity/POI, shall not exceed an amount equal to 20% of the following: 10,000 times the quantity of CO Codes assigned to the Code Holder and associated with that Switching Entity/POI and Exchange Area, less the quantity of telephone numbers ported out of the Code Holder's Switching Entity/POI in that Exchange Area, plus the quantity of telephone numbers ported into the Code Holder's Switching Entity/POI in that Exchange Area. An Exchange Area could be served by more than one Switching Entity/POI. A single switch may serve more than one Switching Entity/POI and therefore may serve more than one Exchange Area.
2. In an NPA Jeopardy Condition, these guidelines may be temporarily modified as a result of CRTC-approved industry consensus or regulatory order.
3. When applying for an Additional CO Code for Growth for a specific Switching Entity/POI and Exchange Area, the Code Applicant shall certify on the Part 1 Form (CO Code Assignment, Reservation, Information Change, or Return) that the quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers maintained by the Code Applicant for customers in the specific Switching Entity/POI and Exchange does not exceed the quantity permitted by item 1 or 2 above.
4. In order to determine when the quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers for a Switching Entity/POI and Exchange Area exceeds the amount permitted by item 1 or 2 above, Code Holders shall annually track the quantity of CO Codes and Telephone Numbers assigned to them and the quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers for all Switching Entities/POIs by Exchange Area. Code Holders shall keep the data for 5 years either in the attached report format or in a format that will allow the attached report format to be created within a reasonable time frame, if required in the event of an audit or a request from the CRTC.
5. If on 1 January each year a Code Holder's quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers for a Switching Entity/POI and Exchange Area exceeds the amount permitted by item 1 or 2 above, the Code Holder shall by March 31 of that year submit an exception report to the CNA using the attached form, and shall make a good faith effort to bring the quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers into compliance in a timely manner.
6. If a Code Holder's quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers for a Switching Entity/POI and Exchange Area exceeds the amount permitted by item 1 or 2 above, the CNA shall advise, support and monitor (e.g., quarterly reports) the efforts of the Code Holder to bring the quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers into compliance.
7. The CNA shall, if any exception reports are received, submit a report to the CRTC each year that identifies Code Holders' Switching Entities/POIs by Exchange Area where the permitted quantity of Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers as determined under item 1 or 2 above is exceeded. The CSCN anticipates that the CRTC will review all reported violations and consult with the Code Holders to determine the reasons for the violations. In conducting the review, the CSCN anticipates the CRTC will assess the circumstances that gave rise to the violation, including but not limited to the impact of ported-in Reserved and Held telephone numbers, competitive equity considerations, and new entrant requirements. After conducting the review, the CSCN anticipates the

- CRTC will take whatever action it deems appropriate to address the violations. For example, the CSCN anticipates that the CRTC could order a Code Holder to come into compliance within a reasonable period of time, or authorize a Code Holder to exceed the maximum for a specified period of time under certain terms and conditions.
8. Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers are subject to porting between Code Holders participating in LNP and/or Wireless Number Portability (WNP) in Exchange Areas where LNP or WNP is implemented, provided that such numbers have been reserved or held by the Disconnecting Code Holder for the customer prior to the request for porting, and that the customer requests the Recipient Code Holder to port such numbers at the same time as the customer (i.e, the end customer or reseller) requests the Recipient Code Holder to port In-Service numbers. Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers may also be ported between a Code Holder's Switching Entities or POIs in a single Exchange Area in the event that a Code Holder has multiple Switching Entities or POIs within an Exchange Area. Code Holders shall include such ported-in Reserved and Held telephone numbers within the quantities of Reserved and Held telephone numbers reported for the Switching Entity/POI into which the numbers are ported.
 9. Where Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers are to be ported between Code Holders, the Recipient Code Holder shall request such porting at the same time as In-Service number porting is requested.
 10. Although a Central Office (CO) Code Holder may set aside a quantity of numbers in a CO Code for the potential future use of its customers in general (rather than for a specific customer), such numbers shall not be considered as Reserved or Held Telephone Numbers.
 11. Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers that have been ported shall be treated by the Recipient Code Holder as disconnected numbers in the event that the customer for whom the numbers have been ported disconnects service or moves to another Code Holder and the Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers are not ported at the customer's request to the subsequent Code Holder.
 12. Any Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers that have been ported which are no longer required by the customer, or which are disconnected and are not placed in reserved or held status for the customer, shall be returned by the Recipient Code Holder to the CO Code Holder from which the Telephone Number was initially ported immediately after the customer advises that the Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers are no longer required (i.e., "snapback").
 13. Reserved and Held Telephone Numbers that have been ported shall not be assigned by the Recipient Code Holder to any entity other than to: (a) the customer for whom the numbers were originally ported or (b) any successor of that customer (e.g., merger, acquisition or other corporate reorganization of the customer).
 14. A ported Reserved or Held Telephone Number that is activated and then subsequently disconnected by the customer may be put into: (a) reserved or held status for the customer by the Recipient Code Holder, or (b) aging in accordance with the Aging Guidelines and subsequently snapped back to the CO Code Holder from which the Telephone Number was initially ported according to the customer's request.
 15. Code Holders shall be subject to periodic audits of, and enforcement mechanisms for, compliance with the above procedures in accordance with Appendix A of the Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines.

16. This Guideline does not affect the ability of any Code Holder to offer number reservation at tariff rates to its subscribers within a given Exchange Area served by a given Switching Entity/POI.

DEFINITIONS:

Disconnecting Code Holder:	The Disconnecting Code Holder is the Local Exchange or Wireless Carrier which is disconnecting or has disconnected the subscriber's service and telephone number(s).
Held Telephone Number:	A Held Telephone Number is a non-working number (i.e., not in-service) which has been allocated to a specific customer at the Code Holder's discretion without any payment required from the customer.
Recipient Code Holder:	The Recipient Code Holder is the Local Exchange or Wireless Carrier to which telephone number(s) are being or have been ported.
Reserved Telephone Number:	A Reserved Telephone Number is a non-working number (i.e., not in-service) which has been allocated to a specific customer under a legally binding written agreement (e.g., contract, Tariff), with or without payment to the Code Holder at the Code Holder's option.