**CRTC INTERCONNECTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

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**Task Title: Update CSCN-Administered Guidelines for Thousands-Block Pooling**

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**Subject: Thousands Block Pooling Guideline Definitions**

**Thousands-Block Number Pooling Guidelines**

**Definitions**

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| **Contamination** | **Contamination occurs when at least one Telephone Number (TN) within a Thousand-Block (NPA-NXX-X) of TNs is not available for assignment to end users or customers. Thousands-Blocks contaminated up to and including 10 percent are eligible for Donation/return. For purposes of**  **this provision, a TN is not available for assignment if it**  **is classified as Administrative, Aging, Assigned, Intermediate, or reserved as defined in …** |
| **Donation** | **The process by which Service Providers (SP) are required to contribute Telephone Numbers (TN) to an Exchange Area Pool. In the context of these guidelines, SPs shall use the Thousands-Block (NPA-NXX-X) return/disconnect process to donate/return Thousands-Blocks to the Exchange Area Pool.** |
| **Exchange Area** | **Tariffed (historically) pursuant to CRTC approved tariffs and corresponds to an area served by an Incumbent Local**  **Exchange Carrier (ILEC). The term Exchange Area is often used interchangeably with the term Rate Center and there is a one-to-one mapping.** |
| **Exchange Area Number Pool** | **Used in Thousands-Block Number Pooling to describe a reservoir of un-Allocated Thousands-Blocks (NPA-NXX-X) in an Exchange Area administered by the Pooling Administrator (PA) for purposes of assignment to Service Providers (SP) participating in Thousands-Block Number Pooling.** |
| **Growth Block/CO**  **Code/Numbering Resource** | **Additional numbering resource(s) assigned to an Operating Company Number (OCN) where the OCN already has a numbering resource(s) in that same Exchange Area. A Growth Block/CO Code/Numbering Resource is requested by an OCN when the Telephone Numbers (TN) available for assignment in a previously assigned a number resource(s) in the Exchange Area shall not meet expected demand.** |
| **Initial**  **Block/Code/Numbering**  **Resource** | **The first geographic Numbering Resource Assigned to an Operating Company Number (OCN) in an Exchange Area where the OCN has no other Assigned or retained Number Resources in the Exchange Area.** |
| **Intra-Service Provider (ISP) Port** | **A process which allows a Service Provider (SP) to retain unavailable Telephone Numbers (TN) in contaminated Thousands-Blocks (NPA-NXX-X) that are being donated/returned to an Exchange Area Number Pool. Specifically, numbers assigned to customers from donated/returned Thousands-Blocks that are contaminated shall be ported back to the donating/returning SP to enable it to continue to provide service to those customers. An ISP Port can also be used to move a TN(s) from one Switching Entity/Point of Interconnection (POI) serving an Exchange Area to another Switching Entity/POI serving the same Exchange Area where Location Routing Number (LRN)-Local Number Portability (LNP) is in use.** |
| **Local Number Portability (LNP)** | **The ability of users of telecommunications services to retain, at the same location, existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or**  **convenience when switching from one telecommunications Carrier to another.** |
| **Local Routing Number (LRN)** | **A 10-digit (NPA-NXX-XXXX) number Assigned to a Switching Entity/Point of Interconnection (POI) by a CO Code Holder to a Switching Entity/POI for routing Local**  **Number Portability (LNP) Ported Telephone Numbers (TN) in a Local Number Portability (LNP) environment.** |
| **Pooling Administrator (PA)** | **Refers to the entity responsible for administering Exchange Area Number Pools.** |
| **Number Portability Administration Center (NPAC)** | **The database that contains routing information on ported Telephone Numbers (TN) and Thousands-Block Number Pooled Thousands-Blocks (NPA-NXX-X) and facilitates the**  **updating of the routing databases of all subtending Service Providers (SP) in the portability area. Also called the Number Portability Administration Center (NPAC) Service Management System (SMS)** |
| **Thousands-Block** | **A range of one thousand Telephone Numbers (TN) within a Central Office (CO) Code (NPA-NXX) beginning with X000 and ending with X999, where X is a value from 0 to 9.** |
| **Thousands-Block Number Pooling** | **A process by which the 10,000 numbers in a Central Office (CO) Code (NPA-NXX) are separated into ten sequential blocks of 1,000 numbers each (Thousands-Block NPANXX-X)), and all ten thousand Telephone Numbers (TN) within each CO Code continue to be associated with the same Exchange Area designation (i.e., V&H coordinates), but can be distributed among multiple Service Providers (SP) at the Thousands-Block level.** |
| **Thousands-Blocks Available**  **for Assignment** | **Thousands-Blocks (NPA-NXX-Xs) within an Exchange Area Number Pool, and which are Available for Assignment within the Exchange Area.** |
| **Thousands-Block**  **Holder/Assignee** | **The entity to which a Thousands-Block (NPA-NXX-X) has been assigned for use.** |
| **Thousands-Block Protection and Donation/Disconnect**  **Identification Date** | **The deadline by which Service Providers (SP) are required to protect Thousands-Blocks (NPA-NXX-X) with 0% up to and including 10% Contamination from further Contamination and identify their surplus of Thousands-Blocks. This is also the date when SPs may begin to port all Telephone Numbers (TN) in contaminated Thousands-Blocks that they are donating/returning to an Exchange area Number Pool.**  **All Thousands-Blocks to be donated/returned shall have the associated Central Office (CO) Code (NPA-NXX) opened in the Number Portability Administration Center**  **(NPAC) and marked portable in BIRRDS.** |