**CRTC INTERCONNECTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

**TIF REPORT**

**Date Submitted:** 28 March 2024

**WORKING GROUP:** CSCN

**REPORT #:** 140A **File ID:** CNRE140A

**REPORT TITLE**: Status Report #1, Thousand-Block Pooling, Canadian Implementation

**OUTCOME: ONGOING**

**RELATED TASK(s) #:** 118, 119

**BACKGROUND:**

On 5 February 2024, the CRTC issued Telecom Regulatory Policy CRTC 2024-26 - *Implementing thousand-block pooling*.

Paragraph 31 of the Policy directs the CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee (CISC) to:

* facilitate and monitor the implementation of TBP and assist in resolving any challenges;
* file quarterly progress reports on 30 March, 30 June, 30 September, and 30 December until TBP is operational; and
* as part of its first quarterly progress report, advise the Commission as to whether the segregation of numbers between wireless and wireline technology must be retained or whether this requirement can be eliminated as a further way to preserve numbers.

Accordingly, the CSCN, as a CISC working group, has taken on the task of providing the quarterly reports.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

CSCN TIF 117 working group respectfully submits this Status Report #1 pursuant to the Commission’s direction.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Status Report #1

**CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee**

**Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering**

Per para. #31 of CRTC 2024-26

Thousand-Block Pooling TIF 117

Status Report #1 – CNRE0140A

Final 1.0

26 March 2024

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# Background

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Accordingly, the CSCN, as a CISC working group, has taken on the task of providing the quarterly reports.

# TIF Work Breakdown (Initial)

CSCN convened a series of conference calls on 14, 15 February 2024 for interested industry participants to begin the process of forming TIFs pursuant to CRTC 2024-26.

From this, 3 initial TIFs have been proposed and one has been anticipated.

TIF 117 - TBP Implementation Monitoring

TIF 118 - Update CSCN-Administered Guidelines for Thousands-Block Pooling

TIF 119 - Report of inclusion of unused numbers from previously assigned CO Codes in pool

Anticipated TIF - Report on LIR expansion or Exchange Area consolidation opportunities

In addition, a “Questions Team” without a numbered TIF has been formed to facilitate a common understanding of high-level requirements for the implementation of TBP.

# Segregation of numbers between wireless and wireline

The only party to raise a concern regarding segregation of wireless and wireline, e.g., that wireless blocks must come from wireless NXXs, was TELUS. TELUS has since resolved these concerns, and concluded that no such segregation is required. The CSCN has reached the same conclusion.

# Questions Team

Questions Team met on 20, 27 February 2024 and 5, 12, 19, 26 March 2024.

The Questions Team has been meeting weekly to work through high-level functional requirements for implementation of TBP of CRTC 2024-26. Output from the Questions Team will be fed into TIF 118 and 119. Additional TIFs may be formed.

Questions Team input will be submitted to the CSCN before the end of March. The Questions Team will wrap up on April 5.

Major work items:

* Differences between the Canadian and the US NPAC
* Forecasting requirements
* Return of contaminated blocks
* Block request order flow
* Proposed CNA web tool
* Many other lesser, but still significant details

# TIF 117 - TBP Implementation Monitoring

This TIF met on 14, 19, 26 March 2024.

Quarterly reports will be submitted on 30 March, 30 June, 30 September, and 30 December until TBP is operational.

# TIF 118 - Update CSCN-Administered Guidelines for Thousands-Block Pooling

The first meeting of this TIF has not yet been scheduled. There were dependencies that needed to be resolved at the Questions Team meetings before anything could be meaningfully considered at TIF 118.

This TIF will update the CSCN-administered guidelines to implement TBP.

Sub-tasks:

1. Update the Canadian Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (C-NRUF) Guideline
2. Update the Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guideline to incorporate pooling
3. Recommendations on CNA-required functionality to support thousand block pooling

# TIF 119 - Report of inclusion of unused numbers from previously assigned CO Codes in pool

The first meeting of this TIF has not yet been scheduled. There were dependencies that needed to be resolved at the Questions Team meetings before anything could be meaningfully considered at TIF 119.

This TIF will examine the inclusion of unused numbers from previously assigned CO codes in the number pooling inventory and file a report with the Commission by 6 August 2024. The report should make recommendations on the best mechanism to accomplish this.

The report must take the following items into consideration:

* what level of contamination is acceptable;
* whether there should be a general cleanup or other process, or both, and whether the process(es) should be voluntary or mandatory;
* what other criteria may be relevant, such as the population or population growth of a given exchange;
* whether number blocks should be returned if they are not used after a specific period of time;
* how to mitigate the impact of potential encumbrances that might hinder the reuse of telephone numbers (e.g., Short Message Service [SMS] listings, National Do Not Call List listings, 4-1-1 listings, the 90-day disconnection blackout period, and burned numbers);
* whether and how to curtail or prohibit the one and done approach in the case of IoT and other services;
* how the snap-back process would work with any new mechanism(s);
* limitations applicable to smaller carriers; and
* any other relevant factor.