

**NPA 250/604/778 Relief Planning Committee  
Meeting – Day 1  
April 19, 2011**

**Participants:** Bill Barsley – TELUS  
Olena Bilozerska – TELUS  
Peter Szabo – TELUS  
Roger Lee - TELUS  
Julia Ni - TELUS  
Martin Sollanych - TELUS  
Frank Norman – Interested Party  
Fiona Clegg – SAIC Canada (CNA)  
Suresh Khare – SAIC Canada (CNA)  
Glenn Pilley – SAIC Canada (CNA)

**Conference Bridge:** Peter Lang – Rogers Communications  
Laurie Bowie – Bell Canada  
Sam Haigh - NorthwesTel  
Pierre-Luc Hebert – Bell Canada

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Glenn Pilley welcomed the attendees and each of the participants introduced themselves. It was asked whether there were any administrative items that needed to be discussed before getting to the substance of the meeting.

**April 7, 2011 Minutes & Action Items (Joint NPAs 204, 250/604/778, 289/905, 306, 416/647 & 819 Relief Planning Committee/Industry Stakeholder Conference Call)  
January 2011 NRUF Results:**

***NPA 250/604/778 R-NRUF Results:***

It was noted that the NPA 250/604/778 Projected Exhaust Date is now forecast for November 2014, which moves the Projected Exhaust Date in by one year and nine months from the July 2010 R-NRUF result of August 2016. It was noted that the growth rate has also increased to 104 CO Codes per year.

***Action Items:***

None related to NPA 250/604/778 relief planning.

**Agenda:**

It was noted that an agenda for this week's meetings had been posted on the CNA website on April 15, 2011. At a high level, the following summarizes the agenda:

- CNA Review of Industry Guidelines
- CNA Role in the Relief Planning Process
- CRTC Staff Comments on the NPA Relief Planning Process

- NPA 250/604/778 Exhaust Date
- Review of NPA 250/604/778 Initial Planning Document
- Review of Contributions
- Round Table Discussions of Issues and Alternatives
- Integration of Contributions into Planning Document
- Next Steps

It was noted that most of the participants attending today's meeting have been involved in the NPA Relief Planning process at least once before, so the first two agenda items will only be briefly reviewed. It was also noted that CRTC staff are not in attendance at today's meeting and, therefore, the third agenda item will not be discussed.

The following two sections of these minutes address these three agenda items on a generic basis and have been included purely as information for any NPA 250/604/778 Relief Planning Committee participant that was unable to attend these meetings and is unfamiliar with the NPA Relief Planning process.

#### **CNA Review of Industry Guidelines/CNA Role in the NPA Relief Planning Process:**

These minutes contain some template text concerning the NPA relief planning process and the roles of the CRTC and CNA. This information is contained in a PowerPoint presentation, available from the CNA's website at.

[http://www.cnac.ca/npa\\_codes/relief/250-604-778/relief\\_250-604-778.htm](http://www.cnac.ca/npa_codes/relief/250-604-778/relief_250-604-778.htm).

A copy of the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guidelines is available from

<http://www.crtc.gc.ca/public/cisc/cn/CNODGL0013B.doc>.

#### **Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2010-815:**

The Commission released Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2010-815, *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area codes 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia*, on 3 November 2010. In that Notice of Consultation the Commission announced the establishment of a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc relief planning committee (RPC) to examine options and make recommendations for providing relief to area code 250/604/778 in British Columbia. The Commission also invited the public and telecommunications service providers to participate in the activities of the RPC.

A copy of the Notice of Consultation is available from:

<http://www.crtc.gc.ca/eng/archive/2010/2010-815.htm>.

It was noted that Commission staff is unable to attend this meeting so there are no direct staff comments.

#### **Exhaust Date of NPA 250/604/778:**

It was noted that the draft NPA 250/604/778 R-NRUF results were published on March 29, 2011 and were finalized by the CSCN on April 5, 2011. The current Projected Exhaust Date for NPA 250/604/778 is November 2014.

These results included the direction contained in Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2010-815 to set aside, at a minimum, seven central office codes for initial code assignments from area code 778 for carriers already providing service in the areas served by area codes 250, 604, and 778, and 10 central office codes from area code 778 for initial code assignments exclusively for new entrants.

**Review of NPA 250/604/778 Initial Planning Document:**

Suresh Khare presented some slides that picture the various forecasts and Relief Options that the CNA identified in the Initial Planning Document (IPD). It was noted that all of these slides are based on the January 2011 R-NRUF results.

It was noted that the CNA did not consider the following Relief Options:

- Geographic split - not examined in detail since 10-digit local dialling is already in effect in British Columbia and the customers in NPA 778 would have to go through a number change under any of the split options. A split could allow reintroduction of permissive 7-digit local dialling however this would provide little or no benefit and would cause customers, Carriers and TSPs to incur additional costs after already having incurred costs to change to mandatory 10-digit local dialling. It would also be inconsistent with the industry migration towards the Uniform Dialling Plan (i.e., 10-digit local and toll dialling).
- Technology-specific Overlay - not examined because assigning NPAs to specific types of technology has not been possible since number portability between technologies came into effect.

It was noted that additional Relief Options can be provided to the Relief Planning Committee in the form of contributions at any time during development of the Planning Document.

The following two methods comprising eight Relief Options were identified in the Initial Planning Document and have been examined by the CNA in detail:

- Concentrated Overlay – 5 options (Options 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5)
- Distributed Overlay – 2 options (Options 6 and 7)
- Boundary Realignment – 1 option (Option 8)

The Relief Options identified above were evaluated using the following assumptions:

- The Relief Date for the distributed overlay options will be 2nd Q 2013 (18 months prior to the NPA 250/604/778 PED of November 2014 identified using the January 2011 R-NRUF results).
- The Relief Date for the five options that use a concentrated overlay and one combined with a boundary realignment will be 2nd Q 2012 (30 months prior to the NPA 250/604/778 PED of November 2014 identified using the January 2011 R-NRUF results). This length of time is required to ensure that a sufficient

number of CO Codes remain available to provide for the future growth of NPA 778.

It was noted that the projected future average growth from 2011 is about 104 CO Codes per year and the projected dates for subsequent exhausts were developed using this average growth.

It was noted that the NPA 250/604/778 CO Code Inventory Chart contained in the Power Point presentation will be updated on a regular basis during the course of the relief planning process. It was also noted that, according to the CO Code Inventory Chart, 17 additional CO Codes can be made available for assignment if a Jeopardy Condition were announced for NPA 250/604/778.

It was asked whether the CO Code Inventory Chart which appears in the presentation, could be brought up to date. A copy of the latest version of the CO Code Inventory Chart is attached to these minutes.

It was asked whether the CNA had considered the reverse scenario to Option 8, which is a "Boundary Realignment of NPA 778 to NPA 250 Exchange Areas and Concentrated Overlay of New NPA Code 236 on NPA 604 Lower Mainland Exchange Areas only".

In response, it was noted that this option had not been considered since of a total of 402 CO Code assignments from NPA 778 325 are assigned in the NPA 604 area which leaves only 77 assignments in the NPA 250 area. It was also noted that reversing the option would cause an earlier exhaust for NPA 778 since almost half the available CO Codes are already assigned.

Some discussion took place concerning the merits of Option 6, "Distributed Overlay New NPA Code 236 and 1 additional New NPA Code on NPA 250/604/778". It was noted that one of the advantages appears to be savings in terms of the monetary cost and expenditure of time.

It was noted that, if the CRTC were to accept Option 6, then the CRTC Decision would have to contain a directive that the CO Codes from the 1 additional New NPA Code could not be assigned until NPA 236 was virtually exhausted. This would be the only way to prevent Carriers from "cherry picking" CO Codes from both NPAs.

#### **Review of Contributions:**

The CNA released the Initial Planning Document for NPA 250/604/778 on February 28, 2011. It was updated on April 7, 2011 to include the impacts of the January 2011 J-NRUF results.

Since then a joint contribution was received from Bell Canada and TELUS dated April 12, 2011. It was noted that the joint contribution is based on the updated April 7, 2011 CNA version of the Initial Planning Document.

Olena Bilozerska briefly presented the changes to the IPD that were proposed by Bell Canada and TELUS.

It was noted that in the NPA 250 Annexes from October 26, 2006 there were 15 Exchange Areas listed for NPA 250 in NorthWestTel territory. On March 24, 2011 the CNA website showed only 13 Exchanges. Questions were asked for clarification and the Note which appears below the table contained in the Planning Document was modified to read as follows:

NorthWestTel serves 14 Exchange Areas in northern British Columbia, of which 13 can only handle a single NPA Code. The 13 Exchange Areas are: Blueberry, Bob Quinn Lake, Dease Lake, Fort Ware, Good Hope Lake, Iskut, Lower Post, Mould Creek, Muncho Lake, Prophet River, Telegraph Creek, Toad River, and Wonowon. Blueberry is served by telephone numbers in the Wonowon NXX 250-772, and Mould Creek is served by telephone numbers with the Muncho Lake NXX 250-776. The NorthWestTel Exchange Area of Fort Nelson can handle more than one NPA Code.

It was noted that the NorthWestTel Exchange Areas of Bearskin Lake, Cassiar and Summit Passage no longer exist.

There were also questions concerning whether or not the TELUS Exchange Areas of Boat Basin and Kemano still exist. After some research by one of the participants, it was discovered that both these Exchange Areas were deleted from the TELUS General Tariff in 2008.

It was noted that Annex B will need to be updated to ensure the list of Exchange Areas in British Columbia is correct.

***Post Meeting Note:*** *The list of Exchange Areas contained in Annex B was updated on April 20, 2011 and is now correct.*

Agreement was reached to use the joint Bell Canada and TELUS contribution as a straw model document for developing the NPA 250/604/778 Planning Document.

#### **Development of Planning Document:**

The Relief Planning Committee began to review and edit the contribution. During this process, detailed minutes taking was suspended.

Some discussion took place concerning relief Options 6 (Distributed Overlay of two New NPA Codes (i.e. 236 and 1 additional) on NPA 250/604/778) and 7 (Distributed Overlay of one New NPA Code (236) on NPA 250/604/778). At this time Bell Canada and TELUS are proponents of Option 6, stating that they believe it is advantageous as it would cut back on costs and would be a better utilization of human resources. It was also stated that there would be no necessity to hold relief planning meetings at the time NPA 236 exhausts and that the way forward would already have been determined.

Rogers Communications does not support Option 6 at this time, citing fluidity of the telecommunications environment as a reason why relief planning should not be done too far in advance.

It was noted that if Option 6 were chosen, regardless of the intent not to assign CO Codes from the new NPA until NPA 236 was practically exhausted, there would always be the ability for a determined Carrier to file a Part VII with the Commission which may get their original Decision overturned or modified.

It was noted that all participants are in favour of a distributed overlay Relief Method, but there is no consensus about which of the two Relief Options should be chosen.

The Chair of the Relief Planning Committee cautioned that NANPA is monitoring the number of area codes that are being assigned in Canada, and that requesting two simultaneously may create some difficulty. He also noted that NANPA may suggest that Canada consider number pooling as a way to cut back on the number of area code requests.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:30 Pacific Time.

**NPA 250/604/778 Relief Planning Committee  
Meeting – Day 2  
April 20, 2011**

**Participants:** Bill Barsley – TELUS  
Olena Biloserska – TELUS  
Peter Szabo – TELUS  
Julia Ni - TELUS  
Fiona Clegg – SAIC Canada (CNA)  
Suresh Khare – SAIC Canada (CNA)  
Glenn Pilley – SAIC Canada (CNA)

**Conference Bridge:** Peter Lang – Rogers Communications  
Laurie Bowie – Bell Canada  
Sam Haigh - NorthwesTel

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Glenn Pilley welcomed the attendees and each of the participants introduced themselves.

**Planning Document:**

The Relief Planning Committee continued to review and edit the draft Planning Document. During this process, detailed minutes taking was suspended.

Questions arose concerning the Relief Date. It was noted that recently every NPA that has undergone relief planning has ended up in a Jeopardy Condition before the Relief Date was reached. It was asked whether the Relief Date could be pulled forward to June 1, 2013.

The Relief Planning Committee recreated a draft Relief Implementation Schedule utilizing a June 1, 2013 Relief Date.

Carriers were given an action item by the Chair of the Relief Planning Committee to discuss the advanced Relief Date internally and be prepared to discuss whether they would be prepared to establish a June 1, 2013 Relief Date as opposed to the November 9, 2013 Relief Date contained in the joint Bell Canada and TELUS contribution.

**Formation of the Consumer Awareness and Network Implementation Task Forces:**

It was suggested that Co-chairs for the NPA 250/604/778 Consumer Awareness and Network Implementation Task Forces be identified in the near future. Carriers should consider the matter internally and should be prepared to discuss this topic on the next conference call.

The Chair of the NPA 250/604/778 Relief Planning Committee thanked TELUS and, especially, Olena Bilozerska for arranging to provide meeting space and equipment for the past two days' meetings.

**Next Steps:**

A conference call has been scheduled as follows:

Date: Friday, May 13, 2011  
Time: 14:00 – 16:30 Eastern Time

The call in number for the conference call will be 1-800-366-7242 and the access number will be 7091039#.

The objectives of this Relief Planning Committee conference call will be to:

- Continue reviewing the NPA 250/604/778 Planning Document
- Develop a Relief Implementation Plan
- Develop a Planning Letter

The NPA 250/604/778 RPC Chair thanked the participants for attending this week's NPA 250/604/778 Relief Planning Committee meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 14:35 Pacific Time.

**Summary of Agreements Reached:**

- 1) Agreement was reached to use the joint Bell Canada and TELUS contribution as a straw model document for developing the NPA 250/604/778 Planning Document.

**Summary of Action Items:**

- 1) Carriers were given an action item by the Chair of the Relief Planning Committee to discuss the advanced Relief Date internally and be prepared to discuss whether they would be prepared to establish a June 1, 2013 Relief Date as opposed to the November 9, 2013 Relief Date contained in the joint Bell Canada and TELUS contribution.
- 2) Co-chairs for the NPA 250/604/778 Consumer Awareness and Network Implementation Task Forces should be identified in the near future. Carriers should consider the matter internally and be prepared to discuss this topic on the next conference call.

## NPA 250/604/778 CO Code Inventory Chart

The following chart and the instructions it contains will apply in NPA 250/604/778 in a Jeopardy Condition.

The chart shown below lists quantities of CO Codes unassignable prior to a Jeopardy Condition, CO Codes that become assignable in a Jeopardy Condition, and CO Codes in NPA 250/604/778 assigned and In-service as of 20 April 2011. For an Overlay option it identifies 79 CO Codes that are unassignable prior to a Jeopardy Condition, 17 of which become assignable in a Jeopardy Condition. The CO Codes that become assignable in a Jeopardy Condition shall only be made available for assignment when all other available CO Codes have been assigned. The types of CO Codes that become assignable in a Jeopardy Condition should be made available in the same order as listed in the chart.

		<b>Quantity</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Total CO Codes in NPAs 250/604/778 (NXX format)</b>	<b>2400</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>CO Codes unassignable prior to a Jeopardy Condition</b>	
	N11 Service Codes (211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711, 811, 911)	24
	Special Use Codes (555, 950 & 976)	9
	Home NPA Code(s) (250, 604, 778)	8
	Current Neighbouring NPA Codes	0
	Future BC Geographic NPA Code (236, 672 - see Note 1)	5
	Plant Test Codes (958 & 959)	6
	Special 7-digit Dialling Codes (310, 610 & 810)	7
	Protected for future NorthwTel use(250/948, 986 & 987 - see Note 2)	3
	CO Codes set aside for Initial Codes for New Entrants only (for assignment after relief via an overlay [or before if a split])	10
	CO Codes set aside for Initial Codes for carriers already providing service (for assignment after relief via an overlay, [or before if a split])	7
	<b>Total B</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>CO Codes assignable prior to a Jeopardy Condition (C=A-B)</b>	<b>2321</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>CO Codes unassignable prior to a Jeopardy Condition that become assignable in a Jeopardy Condition:</b>	
	CO Codes set aside for Initial Code assignments after relief via an overlay (available subject to CRTC staff approval)	17
	<b>Total D</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>Assignable CO Codes in a Jeopardy Condition (E=C+D)</b>	<b>2338</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>Assigned CO Codes as of 20 April 2011</b>	<b>1892</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>Net CO Codes available for assignment as of 20 April 2011 without a Jeopardy Condition (G=C-F)</b>	<b>429</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>Net CO Codes available for assignment as of 20 April 2011 in a Jeopardy Condition (H=E-F)</b>	<b>446</b>