

NPA 450 RELIEF PLANNING COMMITTEE - TIF REPORT

Date Submitted: 18 February 2009

WORKING GROUP: NPA 450 Relief Planning Committee (Ad Hoc)

REPORT #: NPA 450 TIF Report 1 **File ID:** 450RE01A.doc

REPORT TITLE: Relief Planning Committee (RPC) Recommendation for the NPA 450 Planning Document

OUTCOME: Consensus

RELATED TASK(s) #: None

BACKGROUND:

On 29 March 2007, the Canadian Numbering Administrator (CNA) announced that Number Plan Area (NPA) 450 had entered the relief planning window of 72 months. The CNA advised the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) and industry of this situation and conducted the July 2007 Relief Planning Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (R-NRUF), which indicated NPA 450 would exhaust in September 2013. Subsequently, the January 2008 R-NRUF indicated that the Projected Exhaust Date (PED) had moved out to October 2014 and the July 2008 R-NRUF indicated that the Projected Exhaust Date had moved in to September 2012. The December 31, 2008 J-NRUF indicated that the Projected Exhaust Date had moved in to November 2010. .

On 4 November 2008, the CRTC issued Telecom Public Notice CRTC 2008-17, *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for area code relief planning in Quebec area code 450*, in which it established the CISC ad hoc Relief Planning Committee (RPC) for NPA 450. In the Public Notice, the CRTC requested the RPC to examine options for providing relief to area code 450. The Commission invited the public and Telecommunications Service Providers to participate in the activities of the RPC.

In addition, the Public Notice directed the RPC to set aside 7 CO Codes for initial code assignments and 10 CO Codes for initial code assignments for new entrants only. The directives in the Public Notice and additional R-NRUF forecast information caused the Projected Exhaust Date to move forward to December 2010, thereby contributing to a Jeopardy Condition in NPA 450.

The most recent NPA 450 J-NRUF conducted in November 2008, indicated that the Projected Exhaust Date would be November 2010; however, if the RPC's recommendation to allow the 17 CO Codes corresponding to 17 Future Canadian NPAs to become assignable, then the Projected Exhaust Date would move out to February 2011.

In Telecom Decision CRTC 2007-24 dated 13 April 2007, the Commission approved Version 2.0 of the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guidelines (the Guidelines). The Guidelines require the NPA 450 Relief Planning Committee (RPC) to develop relief

planning documents, which describe all options that might reasonably be pursued to implement relief for area code 450.

The CNA convened the Initial Planning Meeting on November 25-26, 2008 to review the Initial Planning Document which was used as a straw model for developing the NPA 450 Planning Document. The RPC has since held a number of conference calls to review and edit the Planning Document and to review the changing results of the R-NRUFs and J-NRUF that have been conducted since NPA 450 entered the relief planning window.

The following table summarizes the Projected Exhaust Dates from the various surveys conducted by the CNA:

Source	Projected Exhaust Date
G-NRUF January 2007	September 2013
R-NRUF January 2008	October 2014
R-NRUF July 2008	September 2012.
Updated November R-NRUF Forecast in conjunction with Telecom Public Notice CRTC 2008-17 and CRTC Staff Opinion regarding Jeopardy Condition	December 2010
J-NRUF December 31, 2008 (assumes the 7 CO Codes for Initial Code Assignment are available for assignment; however the 17 CO Codes that are the same as the Future Geographic NPA Codes listed below are not available for assignment)	November 2010
J-NRUF December 31, 2008 (assumes the 7 CO Codes for Initial Code Assignment and the 17 CO Codes that are the same as the Future Geographic NPA Codes listed below are available for assignment)	February 2011

The objective of the NPA Relief Planning process is to ensure that Central Office (CO) Codes and telephone numbers are always available for use by Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs) and their customers in the geographic area requiring relief.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The NPA 450 RPC hereby submits the attached NPA 450 Planning Document for CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee (CISC) consideration and Commission approval.

In the Planning Document, the RPC makes the following recommendations including:

- 1) To ensure that the supply of CO Codes in NPA 450 is maximized and to extend the life of NPA 450 and the relief NPA as much as reasonably possible, the RPC recommends that 17 CO Codes corresponding to future Canadian Geographic NPAs that are currently designated as unavailable for assignment in NPA 450

(i.e., 249, 257, 273, 354, 365, 367, 382, 387, 428, 487, 639, 683, 851, 871, 873, 879, & 942) be made available for assignment at the time of CRTC approval of a split, Distributed Overlay or Boundary Extension Overlay, and in any new NPA when CO Codes become available for assignment in that NPA. Retaining these 17 CO Codes as unavailable for assignment would serve no useful purpose and would unnecessarily reduce the life of area code 450.

- 2) The revised PED be February 2011 based upon the deliberations of the RPC in section 5 of this report regarding the revised quantity of CO Codes available for assignment.
- 3) The Relief Date should be 23 October 2010 in order to provide Carriers and customers with advanced notification and sufficient lead-time to implement relief;
- 4) The relief method be an overlay – however, no consensus concerning the type of overlay was reached.

The following companies preferred the Distributed Overlay using NPA Code 579:

- TELUS including TELUS Mobility;
- Québecor on behalf of Videotron;
- Rogers Communications Inc. (Rogers Telecom, Rogers Wireless, Fido);
and
- Cogeco Cable
- ACTQ
- Maskatel

The following companies preferred the Boundary Extension Overlay using existing NPA Code 438:

- Bell Canada including Bell Mobility

- 5) The RPC recommends that the Commission not suspend their deliberations concerning the Relief Implementation Method and Relief Date pending submission of the Relief Implementation Plan (RIP). The RIP including schedule, Consumer Awareness Plan and Network Implementation Plan, will be submitted at a later date for approval for implementation of relief for NPA 450.
- 6) Per the discussion in section 10 of this Planning Document, the RPC recommends that, since a Jeopardy Condition has been in effect since 10 November 2008, the CNA maintain the quantity of CO Codes set aside for initial code assignments as follows:
 - 10 CO Codes set aside for initial code assignments to new entrants only;
 - no CO Codes set aside for initial code assignments to applicants in general;
 - the 10 CO Codes set aside for initial code assignments to new entrants only shall be available for assignment as initial codes for new entrants for activation on or after the relief date;

- any of the CO Codes that were set aside for initial code assignments to new entrants only that remain unassigned two years after relief via an overlay shall be returned to the general assignment pool;
 - a new entrant is an entity who at the time of its first request for assignment of CO Codes in an NPA does not provide any telecommunications service in the NPA and does not hold any CO Codes in the NPA;
 - in the event that a split is approved, all CO Codes set aside for initial code assignments shall be returned to the general assignment pool on the Relief Date.
- 7) Per the discussion in section 12 of this Planning Document, the RPC recommends that NPA Code 579 be assigned as the area code for the forthcoming relief of NPA 450 if the relief is a Split or Distributed Overlay, or be reserved for the subsequent relief of NPA 450/438/514 if the forthcoming relief of NPA 450 is a Boundary Extension Overlay using NPA 438.

These recommendations are described in more detail in the appropriate sections of the NPA 450 Planning Document.

ATTACHMENT:

NPA 450 Planning Document and Annexes, dated 11 February 2009