

**Joint NPA 204, 250/604/778, 289/905, 416/647 & 819 Relief Planning Committee  
Conference Call  
April 7, 2011**

**Participants:** Doug Birdwise – Bell Canada  
Laurie Bowie – Bell Canada  
Mark Cuccia – Interested Party  
Dulari Harrichand – MTS Allstream  
Lucie Pugliese – Telecommunications Alliance  
David McKeown – Westman Telecommunications  
Stephen Lau – MTS Allstream  
Peter Lang – Rogers Partnership  
Bill Barsley – TELUS  
Gloria Edgar - SaskTel  
Kim Brown - Eastlink  
Anh Nguyen - Videotron  
Ron Fleming – MTS Allstream  
Azhar Laldin – MTS Allstream  
Olena Bilozerska – TELUS  
Don Ruchkall - Province of Manitoba  
Fiona Clegg – SAIC Canada (CNA)  
Suresh Khare – SAIC Canada (CNA)  
Glenn Pilley – SAIC Canada (CNA)

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Glenn Pilley, Chair of the Relief Planning Committees (RPCs), 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. In response, it was noted that this is a not a regular Relief Planning Committee conference call and, therefore, there are no Action Items or minutes to be reviewed.

**Agenda:**

It was noted that, while no agenda has been set for today's conference call, the objective of the call will be to discuss January 2011 R-NRUF results.

**NPA 250/604/778:**

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.

It was noted that in many cases the CNA has taken a five year average growth rate for many of the R-NRUF forecasts, since the first year forecasts seem to be quite high. It was also noted that an elastic forecast curve had been recommended by CRTC staff

some time ago, since in many cases it seemed that the first year forecast was too high and was skewing the results.

It was noted that the CNA was requested to revise the NPA 250/604/778 Initial Planning Document and associated Annexes to include the impacts of the January 2011 R-NRUF results. In response, it was noted that the appropriate modifications have been made and the documents were posted to the CNA website this morning. It was also noted that a notice had been sent out to NPA 250/604/778 RPC participants this morning alerting them to the presence of an updated version of the IPD and associated Annexes.

It was noted that the Initial Planning meeting has been scheduled for April 19-20, 2011 in the TELUS building located at 3777 Kingsway in Burnaby, BC.

**NPA 289/905:**

The NPA 289/905 Projected Exhaust Date is now forecast for April 2015, which moves the Projected Exhaust Date out by one month from the July 2010 R-NRUF result of March 2015.

It was noted that NPA 289/905 relief planning is underway and that the minimal change in the Projected Exhaust Date will have little impact on the process.

It was noted that Telecom Decision CRTC 2010-481, dated 15 July 2010, had set the relief implementation date for NPA 289/905 at 25 March 2013, at which time the new overlay NPA 365 will be introduced.

It was noted that during an RPC conference call held on September 8, 2010 it was suggested that it may be possible to delay implementation of relief since the Projected Exhaust Date had moved out by close to a year. In response, it was suggested that the RPC should monitor the January 2011 R-NRUF results closely, and if the delay is confirmed by that NRUF, the RPC should consider proposing to the Commission that the Relief Date be moved out.

It was noted by Doug Birdwise, Bell Canada, that the April 2015 Projected Exhaust Date indicates that things in NPA 289/905 appear to be stable. It was also noted that Bell Canada would like to see the Relief Date moved out by one year since 12 months before the Projected Exhaust Date would be April 2014. It was noted that the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline indicates that the Relief Date should be at least 12 months in advance of the Projected Exhaust Date.

In response, a representative from the CNA advised caution based on the volatility of demand which has occurred in other NPAs over the past few years.

Agreement was reached to schedule a conference call to discuss whether the Relief Planning Committee should recommend to the Commission that the Relief Date be delayed until April 2014.

It was noted that a draft Planning Letter for NPA 289/905 is posted on the CNA website at: [http://www.cnac.ca/npa\\_codes/relief/289-905/relief\\_289-905.htm](http://www.cnac.ca/npa_codes/relief/289-905/relief_289-905.htm).

Doug Birdwise volunteered to create a schedule for a revised NPA 289/905 Relief Implementation Plan, using the proposed April 2014 Relief Date, as well as a draft TIF Report to act as a transmittal document if the revised RIP is approved by the RPC.

A conference call to discuss the revised RIP, draft TIF Report and Planning Letter will be held as follows:

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2011  
Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Eastern Time  
Call In#: 1-800-366-7242  
Access#: 7091039#

**NPA 416/647:**

The NPA 416/647 Projected Exhaust Date is now forecast for May 2015, which moves the Projected Exhaust Date in by five months from the July 2010 R-NRUF result of October 2015.

It was noted that during the November 9-10, 2010 face-to-face meeting, an agreement was reached not to release the NPA 416/647 Planning Document until after the January 2011 NPA 416/647 R-NRUF results have been approved by the CSCN and discussed by the Relief Planning Committee since the results could have an impact on the timelines included in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

It was noted that earlier in the day Bell Canada had sent out a revised Relief Implementation Schedule which should be used as a contribution for discussion during the next conference call. The revised Relief Implementation Schedule accommodates the 5 month advance in the Projected Exhaust Date.

A copy of the Bell Canada contribution, dated April 7, 2011, is available from the CNA website at: [http://www.cnac.ca/npa\\_codes/relief/416-647/relief\\_416-647.htm](http://www.cnac.ca/npa_codes/relief/416-647/relief_416-647.htm).

It was noted that, if the revised Relief Implementation Schedule is accepted, then some of the text in the draft Relief Implementation Plan will have to be adjusted.

A conference call to discuss the revised Relief Implementation Schedule will be held as follows:

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2011  
Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Eastern Time  
Call In#: 1-800-366-7242  
Access#: 7091039#

**Post Meeting Note:** *The date of the conference call was changed from Wednesday, April 13, 2011 to Thursday, April 14, 2011.*

**NPA 819:**

The NPA 819 Projected Exhaust Date is now forecast for September 2012, which moves the Projected Exhaust Date in by one year and one month from the July 2010 R-NRUF result of October 2013.

It was noted that the implementation date for the new overlay NPA 873 specified by the Commission in Telecom Decision CRTC 2010-94-1, dated 18 February 2010, is June 1, 2013 which indicates that the current Projected Exhaust Date is nine months prior to the Relief Date.

It was also noted that on March 29, 2011 the CNA had declared a Jeopardy Condition in NPA 819 and had requested a J-NRUF, with a due date of April 28, 2011.

It was noted that the telecommunications industry needs to consider whether the Relief Date can be advanced to September 2012. It was requested that all Carriers discuss internally whether the Relief Date can be advanced and if so by how much. It was noted that advancing the Relief Date will have an impact on Carriers' budgets and project teams.

In response to a question, it was noted that a Consumer Awareness Task Force (Telecommunications Alliance) has been planned for NPA 819 relief, but it was not anticipated that any activity would have to take place in 2011.

It was also noted that the consumer awareness activities do not need to address 10-digit local dialling as it has already been implemented in NPA 819. Consumer awareness activities would concentrate on socializing the new 873 area code.

It was noted that the existence of an extreme Jeopardy Condition in NPA 819 would not affect the Relief Method but that contributions for creating a revised Relief Implementation Schedule are required.

Doug Birdwise, Bell Canada, volunteered to submit an updated NPA 819 Relief Implementation Schedule and a draft TIF Report. It was noted that some text in the Relief Implementation Plan would also have to be modified.

A conference call to discuss the updated Relief Implementation Schedule, Relief Implementation Plan and draft TIF Report will be held as follows:

Date:	Tuesday, May 10, 2011
Time:	14:00 – 16:00 Eastern Time
Call In#:	1-800-366-7242
Access#:	7091039#

**NPA 204:**

The NPA 204 Projected Exhaust Date with CO Code assignment restrictions included, as directed by the CRTC, is now September 2012 which is an advance of two months. The October 2010 J-NRUF results had indicated that the Projected Exhaust Date was November 2012.

The NPA 204 Projected Exhaust Date without inclusion of the CRTC-directed assignment restrictions for CO Codes is December 2011.

It was noted that the NPA 204 Projected Exhaust Date has advanced by two months, and certain participants suggested that the industry needs to consider whether the Relief

Date can be advanced accordingly, particularly given the fact that CO Code rationing also is in effect. In response it was noted that MTS Allstream cannot advance the Relief Date by two months.

It was noted that the situation in NPA 204 is extreme and that the number of CO Codes available for assignment to other Carriers should not be limited due to MTS Allstream's inability to advance the Relief Date. In response, it was noted that, when the RPC was discussing the Relief Date, a concession had been made to establish a Relief Date almost six months closer to the Projected Exhaust Date than is allowed by the Guideline and that advancement of the 3 November 2012 Relief Date cannot be accommodated.

It was suggested that the industry is still in a position where the forecast could be met as there is a minimum 66 day period before a CO Code can be placed In-service. This means that CO Codes from the new overlay NPA 431 can be assigned starting on August 29, 2012.

Some concern was expressed regarding the impact of an advanced Relief Date on alarm company activities. It was noted that, previously, AAA Alarms had stated that their activities are constrained by the length of time it takes to make switches in Manitoba 10-digit local dialling capable. It was suggested that if MTS Allstream could advance their implementation activities, then the alarm companies may be able to move faster.

It was noted that the increase in demand for NPA 204 CO Codes has nearly doubled for 2011 and 2012. In response, it was noted that there is now at least one additional company in Manitoba and that that company is still within its first year of entering the Manitoba market which, provided they have been forecast, entitles that company to the assignment of up to 20 CO Codes.

It was noted that NPA 204 CO Code restrictions are based on companies' 30 April 2009 J-NRUF forecast. It was noted that since that time all current and prospective Code Holders have increased their forecasts and have requested more CO Codes than were forecast in the 2009 J-NRUF.

It was noted that the CO Code Inventory Chart in the NPA 204 Jeopardy Contingency Plan identifies 6 CO Codes that could be assigned in a Jeopardy Condition. It was also noted that if the Jeopardy Contingency Plan were changed to allow the assignment of CO Codes that correspond to Future Canadian Geographic NPA Codes, and the Commission were to approve this change, a total of 10 CO Codes would be available for assignment.

It was noted that the RPC would have to resubmit the Jeopardy Contingency Plan to the CRTC, and that there is no guarantee that the Commission would approve the inclusion of four of the Future Canadian Geographic NPA Codes.

It was noted that if MTS Allstream could advance their completion date, then the Jeopardy Condition could be alleviated.

It was noted that the dates for permissive and mandatory 10-digit local dialling in Manitoba have already been publicized. As a result, from a communications perspective, it would be very difficult to make a change to the implementation date(s) and would be confusing to the public.

It was noted that the underlying problem in NPA 204 is that relief cannot be implemented prior to the Relief Date. Glenn Pilley indicated that he would discuss the advance in the Projected Exhaust Date and the situation in NPA 204 with CRTC staff.

It was suggested that an entity might have problems completing all the modifications in its IT systems required to route the new NPA but that other Carriers that have completed their modifications could request CO Codes from the new NPA. In response, it was noted that there are still downstream issues such as billing to be considered. It was also noted that such an arrangement could be perceived as being anti-competitive.

All Carriers must consider the options that have been raised during today's call (i.e., advance the Relief Date, change the JCP, request CRTC staff intervention) and come to the next conference call prepared to identify what action(s) should be taken to alleviate the Jeopardy Condition in NPA 204.

It was noted that regardless of the action taken, Commission approval will be required.

It was noted that the NPA 204 Planning Letter is due to NANPA on May 5, 2011. It was noted that a CNA contribution for the Planning Letter is on the CNA website at: [http://www.cnac.ca/npa\\_codes/relief/204/relief\\_204.htm](http://www.cnac.ca/npa_codes/relief/204/relief_204.htm).

A conference call to discuss the options for dealing with the NPA 204 Jeopardy Condition and the Planning Letter will be held as follows:

Date:	Thursday, April 28, 2011
Time:	14:30 – 17:30 Eastern Time / 13:30 – 16:30 Central Time
Call In#:	1-800-366-7242
Access#:	7091039#

### **NPA 306:**

It was noted that discussion of NPA 306 was not intended to take place during today's conference call.

It was noted that the Projected Exhaust Date has advanced to May 2013.

It was noted that the CNA declared a Jeopardy Condition in NPA 306 on March 29, 2011 and requested a J-NRUF with a due date of no later than April 15, 2011. It was requested that all participants on today's conference call submit their inputs to the CNA as soon as possible.

It was noted that an NPA 306 Industry Stakeholders' conference call will be held on April 12, 2011.

**General:**

A member of the CNA staff mentioned the CNA's schedule and workload, and asked if the CNA could forego submission of the January 2011 G-NRUF and April 2011 J-NRUF reports. It was noted that this request comes under the purview of the CSCN, and that the CNA should submit a contribution to the CSCN and request a conference call.

The Chair of the Relief Planning Committees thanked the participants for attending today's conference call.

**Summary of Agreements Reached:**

- 1) Agreement was reached to schedule a conference call to discuss whether the Relief Planning Committee should recommend to the Commission that the Relief Date be delayed until April 2014.

**Summary of Action Items:**

- 1) Doug Birdwise volunteered to create a schedule for a revised NPA 289/905 Relief Implementation Plan, using the proposed April 2014 Relief Date, as well as a draft TIF Report to act as a transmittal document if the revised RIP is approved by the RPC.
- 2) Doug Birdwise, Bell Canada, volunteered to submit an updated NPA 819 Relief Implementation Schedule and a draft TIF Report. It was noted that some text in the Relief Implementation Plan would also have to be modified.
- 3) All Carriers must consider the options that have been raised during today's call (i.e., advance the Relief Date, change the JCP, request CRTC staff intervention) and come to the next conference call prepared to identify what action(s) should be taken to alleviate the Jeopardy Condition in NPA 204.