

**May 1, 2009**  
**Joint NPA 289/905 Industry Stakeholder, NPA 705 Relief Planning Committee,**  
**NPA 819 Industry Stakeholder Conference Call**

**Participants:**

- Doug Birdwise – Bell Canada
- Laurie Bowie – Bell Canada
- Jeanne Lacombe – CRTC
- Bill Mason – CRTC
- Kim Wardle – CRTC
- Kevin McGouran – MTS Allstream
- Anne Gertzbein – MTS Allstream
- Eric Berger – O.N. Tel
- Jean-Marc D'Aoust – Cogeco
- Tracy Cant – Ontera
- Sam Yung - TELUS
- Peter Lang – Rogers Communications Inc.
- Gerry Thompson – Rogers Communications Inc.
- Olena Bilozerska – TELUS
- Deirdre Massiah-Gomes - TELUS
- Diane Dolan – Distributel
- Frank Norman – Interested Party
- Glenn Pilley – SAIC Canada (CNA)
- Suresh Khare – SAIC Canada (CNA)
- Fiona Clegg – SAIC Canada (CNA)

**Welcome:**

The Director, Canadian Numbering Administrator (CNA), welcomed the attendees and the participants introduced themselves. It was noted that Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2009-179 established a CISC Ad Hoc Committee (Relief Planning Committee) for area code relief planning for area code 705; however, no Relief Planning Committees have been created for NPAs 289/905 and 819 and, therefore, only industry stakeholders have been invited to participate in this conference call.

**Agenda:**

It was noted that no formal agenda had been provided for today's conference call, but that this conference call has been convened to discuss Bell Canada's contributions related to NPA relief planning in NPAs 289/905, 705 and 819.

**April 15, 2009 Conference Call & Action Items:**

It was noted that the April 15, 2009 Joint NPA 289/905 Industry Stakeholder, NPA 705 Relief Planning Committee, NPA 819 Industry Stakeholder conference call minutes were distributed to participants on April 28, 2009. It was also noted that some comments concerning the minutes were received from Bell Canada.

The participants reviewed the proposed changes to the April 15, 2009 Joint NPA 289/905 Industry Stakeholder, NPA 705 Relief Planning Committee, NPA 819 Industry Stakeholder conference call minutes.

Agreement was reached to accept the April 15, 2009 Joint NPA 289/905 Industry Stakeholder, NPA 705 Relief Planning Committee, NPA 819 Industry Stakeholder conference call minutes, as modified during today's conference call.

**Action Items:**

- 1) Bell Canada submitted a contribution on April 17, 2009 containing the recommendations and reasoning that were voiced by Bell Canada during the April 15, 2009 conference call. It was later superseded, in part, by another contribution that was submitted on April 30, 2009. Copies of the contributions were sent to the NPA 289/905 Industry Stakeholder, NPA 705 Relief Planning Committee, NPA 819 Industry Stakeholder participants on April 17, 2009 and April 30, 2009, respectively.

**Bell Canada Contribution(s):**

As noted above, two Bell Canada contributions were submitted to the NPA 289/905 Industry Stakeholder, NPA 705 Relief Planning Committee, NPA 819 Industry Stakeholder participants.

The Director of the CNA requested that Doug Birdwise present the Bell Canada proposed schedule for obtaining the relief method(s) and relief NPA(s) prior to establishing Relief Dates for NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819, as well as the proposed schedule for NPA 705 relief planning.

The first contribution provides Bell Canada's proposal to address the significant advance and volatility in Projected Exhaust Dates for NPAs 705, 819 and 289/905 by accelerating relief planning activities. The rationale for Bell Canada's proposal to accelerate the relief planning process is contained in this contribution.

It was noted that meetings had taken place with some other carriers, CRTC staff and CNA staff to discuss Bell's proposal which resulted in a revised proposed schedule of relief planning activities after the initial contribution was submitted by Bell Canada.

The second contribution supplements the previous contribution and provides Bell Canada's revised proposed schedule to address the significant advance and volatility in Projected Exhaust Dates for NPAs 705, 819 and 289/905 by accelerating relief planning activities.

The Bell Canada recommendations are summarized below.

**NPA 705:**

#	Task	Start	End
1	CRTC issues Public Notice	-	6 April 2009

#	Task	Start	End
2	CNA conducts R-NRUF & develops/issues IPD	-	8 April 2009
3	RPC meetings/conference calls to develop/submit PD recommendations to CRTC	8 April 2009	31 July 2009
4	CRTC Decision on relief method, relief date & new NPA Code	31 July 2009	30 Sept 2009

It was noted that a Public Notice for NPAs 289/905 and 819 has not yet been released. It was also noted that the CNA has not yet conducted an R-NRUF for these two NPAs either.

***NPAs 289/905 & 819:***

#	Task	Start	End
1	CRTC issues Public Notice	1 May 2009	29 May 2009
2	CNA conducts R-NRUF & develops/issues IPD	1 May 2009	31 Aug 2009
3	RPC meetings/conference calls to develop/submit PD recommendations to CRTC	31 Aug 2009	16 Oct 2009
4	CRTC Decision on relief method & new NPA Code (not relief date)	16 Oct 2009	16 Dec 2009

It was noted that Bell Canada's key issues are that the relief method and new NPA be known as soon as possible, preferably before the end of October 2009. Bell Canada notes that knowing the relief method and new NPA Code by that date would allow industry participants to make changes to their IT systems on a more cost-effective basis at the same time as implementing IT changes for NPA 450 relief.

It was noted that relief of NPA 204 is not included in the Bell Canada contribution. In response, it was noted that NPA 204 will be addressed separately. It was noted that Bell Canada is a CLEC in Manitoba and the timelines are not as critical for Bell Canada as they are for MTS Allstream. Additionally, it was noted that the relief planning process in NPA 204 will be concurrent with the other three relief planning activities, but will be conducted separately.

It was noted that the CNA has already requested CRTC staff to develop Public Notices for NPAs 289/905 and 819. It was noted that an R-NRUF has been conducted for NPA 705, and an R-NRUF request for NPAs 289/905 and 819 can be released shortly.

It was noted that the Canadian C-NRUF Guideline states that July is the usual timeframe for requesting an R-NRUF. It was suggested by Bell Canada that it would streamline the process if an R-NRUF could be released as soon as possible, as opposed to waiting until July to make the request for an R-NRUF.

It was noted that developing the IPD is time consuming since the CNA needs to assess all potential relief options for an NPA. In response, it was noted that every option should be contemplated, but may not have to be considered in detail. It was suggested that only the viable options would require a detailed assessment, while some of the less viable options could be assessed collectively with a general description as to why the relief options were not considered in detail by the RPC. This would make it possible for the CNA, when developing the IPD, to reduce the amount of detail contained in some of the relief options.

It was noted that acceleration of the process may be beneficial for some carriers, but may not be a benefit for other carriers. It was asked whether deviating from the timeframes contained in the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline was agreeable.

**NPA 705:**

It was noted that Ontera has no specific objections to accelerating the timelines for NPA relief planning in area code 705, although constraints and impacts would need to be considered before a commitment could be made.

Agreement was reached in principle that participants on the conference call do not object to accelerating the timelines for NPA relief planning in NPAs 289/905, 705 and 819.

It was noted that since the R-NRUF results for area code NPA 705 were aggregated, additional forecasts have been received by the CNA which have advanced the Projected Exhaust Date in NPA 705 slightly.

The participants discussed the timeframes proposed for NPA 705 in the second Bell Canada contribution. It was asked whether there were any objections to the timeframes proposed in the Bell Canada contribution. It was also asked whether Commission staff believes sufficient time has been allowed in the Bell Canada contribution to ensure that the public process does not get circumvented. In response, CRTC staff noted that provided the public is notified and included in the process, the RPC can determine the duration required to develop the Planning Document.

It was noted that the timeframes proposed for NPA 705 are targeted timeframes that the RPC will endeavour to meet. It was noted that if a participant were a proponent of a split and no consensus could be reached, the NPA 705 RPC could send forward two relief options for NPA 705, as happened in NPA 450.

Agreement was reached that the timeframes proposed in the second contribution from Bell Canada for NPA 705 are targeted timeframes that the RPC will endeavour to meet.

It was noted that the Telecom Notice of Consultation issued on April 6, 2009 solicits interested parties and outlines a process whereby an online form or a written request to the Secretary General are the recommended vehicles for requesting inclusion on the Commission's "NPA 705 Interested Parties List". It was noted that Frank Norman is not on the NPA 705 distribution list. A member of the CNA staff explained how the distribution list process is undertaken – i.e., the CNA looks at the Commission's "Interested Parties List" and adds those people to the existing CNA distribution list.

**Post Meeting Note:** *At the time these minutes were released the Commission had not yet posted an "Interested Parties List" for NPA 705 on its website.*

**NPAs 289/905 & NPA 819:**

It was asked whether May 29, 2009 seemed like a reasonable date to issue a Telecom Notice of Consultation for these two NPAs. In response, it was noted that the timeline is tight and that a Telecom Notice of Consultation may not be issued by the end of May due to the time required for translation and the meeting dates of the Commissioners.

It was noted that a little more forecast demand has been received by the CNA for NPA 289/905 which has advanced the Projected Exhaust Date slightly.

Agreement was reached by the stakeholders in NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 that the CNA will issue a request for R-NRUFs in NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 in May of 2009, instead of waiting for the mid-year NRUF cycle.

It was noted that some stakeholders have not submitted NRUFs in accordance with the CNA's previous requests, and it was cautioned that any industry agreed-to accelerated timeline for submitting R-NRUFs should be adhered to.

It was noted that the R-NRUF will be requested by Exchange Area for NPAs 289/905 and 819. In response to a question, it was noted that even if a split option is not considered by the industry stakeholders a concentrated overlay could be considered as a relief option and would require analysis down to the Exchange Area level of detail.

It was noted by Bell Canada that submission of the Planning Documents for NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 should not go beyond October 2009.

It was suggested that the R-NRUF requests for NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 go out in mid-May 2009, possibly between the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup>. It was also suggested that input could be required back to the CNA in early June, which does not agree with the Canadian C-NRUF Guideline.

Agreement was reached by the NPA 289/905 and NPA 819 stakeholders to shorten the reporting time for the NPA 289/905 and NPA 819 R-NRUFs to two weeks, so that stakeholders would submit their data to the CNA by June 1, 2009, assuming that the CNA makes its request no later than May 15, 2009.

It was suggested that the reporting format for the NPA 289/905 and NPA 819 R-NRUFs should require May 1, 2009 actuals, as opposed to June 1, 2009 actuals.

It was asked whether the CNA could send out an e-mail message to current and potential CO Code Holders in NPA 289/905 and NPA 819 alerting the industry that an R-NRUF request will be made by the CNA by May 15, 2009. It was noted that distribution lists need to be developed by the CNA in order to make such a request.

CNA staff noted that producing IPDs by August 31, 2009 for both NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 is an aggressive timeframe and they would need more time to produce the

IPDs. It was suggested that the IPDs be released in mid-September (i.e., September 15, 2009).

It was suggested that item #3 in the Bell Canada contribution be pushed back to October 30, 2009. It was noted that this timeframe would only allow the Commission less than two months to release a Decision. It was suggested that the timeframe for the release of a Decision could be pushed back to December 24, 2009 if necessary.

It was noted that the process involved with an R-NRUF also includes the development of a CSCN conference call/meeting review of R-NRUFs and production of an R-NRUF report. It was suggested that a proposal be sent to the CSCN recommending that the CSCN conference call/meeting review of R-NRUFs and production of R-NRUF reports for the NPAs that require R-NRUFs between May and July, 2009 be waived.

Agreement was reached that the Director of the CNA will contact the Chair of the CSCN requesting that the requirement to hold a CSCN conference call/meeting to discuss the J- and R-NRUF results for NPAs 204, 289/905, 450, 613, 705 and 819 and the requirement for the CNA to complete J- and R-NRUF reports for these NPAs be waived.

**Post Meeting Note:** *On May 4, 2009 the CSCN considered this request and agreement was reached to suspend the requirement for a CSCN review and the formal written report for the May 2009 R-NRUFs for NPAs 819 and 289/905 and for the 2009 mid-year R/J-NRUFs for NPAs 204, 450, 613 and 705. It was further agreed to suspend the requirement for a CSCN review and a formal written report for the October 2009 R/J-NRUFs for NPAs 204, 289/905, 450, 613, 705, and 819.*

Agreement was reached by the industry stakeholders to set target dates identifying the milestones for NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 as follows:

#	Task	Start	End
1	CRTC issues Public Notice(s)	1 May 2009	29 May 2009
2a	CNA conducts Initial R-NRUFs	15 May 2009	1 June 2009
2b	CNA develops and issues the IPDs	8 June 2009	18 Sep 2009
3	RPC meetings/conference calls to develop/submit Planning Documents and recommendations to CRTC	18 Sep 2009	30 Oct 2009
4	CRTC Decision(s) on relief method(s) & new NPA Code(s)	30 Oct 2009	24 Dec 2009

It was noted, in response to a question, that the NPA 450 decision concerning the relief method, date and relief NPA Code should be forthcoming from the Commission very soon.

**Next Steps:**

A conference call will be convened when appropriate to discuss the R-NRUF results.

It was noted that an NPA 705 Relief Planning Committee meeting has been scheduled for May 13 and 14, 2009 in North Bay, Ontario.

The Director of the CNA thanked the attendees for their participation on today's conference call.

**Summary of Agreements Reached:**

- 1) Agreement was reached to accept the April 15, 2009 Joint NPA 289/905 Industry Stakeholder, NPA 705 Relief Planning Committee, NPA 819 Industry Stakeholder conference call minutes, as modified during today's conference call.
- 2) Agreement was reached in principle that participants on the conference call do not object to accelerating the timelines for NPA relief planning in NPAs 289/905, 705 and 819.
- 3) Agreement was reached that the timeframes proposed in the second contribution from Bell Canada for NPA 705 are targeted timeframes that the RPC will endeavour to meet.
- 4) Agreement was reached by the stakeholders in NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 that the CNA will issue a request for R-NRUFs in NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 in May of 2009, instead of waiting for the mid-year NRUF cycle.
- 5) Agreement was reached by the NPA 289/905 and NPA 819 stakeholders to shorten the reporting time for the NPA 289/905 and NPA 819 R-NRUFs to two weeks, so that stakeholders would submit their data to the CNA by June 1, 2009, assuming that the CNA makes its request no later than May 15, 2009.
- 6) Agreement was reached that the Director of the CNA will contact the Chair of the CSCN requesting that the requirement to hold a CSCN conference call/meeting to discuss the J- and R-NRUF results for NPAs 204, 289/905, 450, 613, 705 and 819 and the requirement for the CNA to complete J- and R-NRUF reports for these NPAs be waived.
- 7) Agreement was reached by the industry stakeholders to set target dates identifying the milestones for NPAs 289/905 and NPA 819 as follows:

#	Task	Start	End
1	CRTC issues Public Notice(s)	1 May 2009	29 May 2009
2a	CNA conducts Initial R-NRUFs	15 May 2009	1 June 2009
2b	CNA develops and issues the IPDs	8 June 2009	18 Sep 2009
3	RPC meetings/conference calls to develop/submit Planning Documents and recommendations to CRTC	18 Sep 2009	30 Oct 2009
4	CRTC Decision(s) on relief method(s) & new NPA Code(s)	30 Oct 2009	24 Dec 2009

**Summary of Action Items:**

- 1) The CNA will request NPA 289/905 and NPA 819 R-NRUFs no later than May 15, 2009 and will ask that current and prospective CO Code Holders submit the completed forecasts to the CNA no later than June 1, 2009.
- 2) The CNA will send out an e-mail message to current and potential CO Code Holders in NPA 289/905 and NPA 819 alerting the industry that an R-NRUF request will be made by the CNA by May 15, 2009. Distribution lists need to be developed by the CNA in order to make such a request.
- 3) The Director of the CNA will contact the Chair of the CSCN requesting that the requirement to hold a CSCN conference call/meeting to discuss the J- and R-NRUF results for NPAs 204, 289/905, 450, 613, 705 and 819 and the requirement for the CNA to complete J- and R-NRUF reports for these NPAs be waived.