

NPA 250/604/778 RELIEF PLANNING COMMITTEE - TIF REPORT

Date Submitted: 18 August 2011

WORKING GROUP: NPA 250/604/778 Relief Planning Committee (Ad Hoc)

REPORT #: NPA 250/604/778 TIF Report #2

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REPORT TITLE: Relief Planning Committee (RPC) Recommendation for the
NPA 250/604/778 Relief Implementation Plan

OUTCOME: Consensus

RELATED TASK(s) #: None

BACKGROUND:

On 3 November 2010 the CRTC issued Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2010-815, *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for area code relief planning for area codes 250, 604 and 778 in British Columbia*, by which it established a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc relief planning committee (RPC) to examine options for providing numbering relief to the area served by area codes 250/604 and 778 in British Columbia. The Notice of Consultation directed the RPC to set aside, at a minimum, 7 Central Office (CO) Codes from area code 778 for Carriers already providing service in the areas served by area codes 250, 604, and 778, and 10 CO Codes from area code 778 for initial code assignments exclusively for new entrants.

The January 2011 NPA 250/604/778 R-NRUF results, when adjusted for the CO Codes set aside per Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2010-815, indicated that NPA 250/604/778 would exhaust in November 2014.

In the NPA 250/604/778 Planning Document which was submitted on 30 May 2011 to Commission staff via the CISC process.

On 28 July 2011 the Commission released Telecom Decision CRTC 2011-451, *Area code relief for area codes 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia*, which approved the following:

- 1) The Relief Method will be a distributed overlay of the NPA 250/604/778 area (i.e., a province-wide overlay).
- 2) The Relief Date will be 1 June 2013.
- 3) NPA Code 236 should be used for the initial relief of NPA 250/604/778 and NPA Code 672 will be set aside for subsequent relief of NPA 236/250/604/778.
- 4) The RPC file for Commission approval a Relief Implementation Plan that reflects the determinations contained in the Decision.

RECOMMENDATION:

The NPA 250/604/778 RPC hereby submits the attached NPA 250/604/778 RIP. The RPC recommends that this RIP be approved by the CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee (CISC) and by the Commission.

ATTACHMENT:

NPA 250/604/778 Relief Implementation Plan, dated 11 August 2011

NPA 250/604/778 RELIEF PLANNING COMMITTEE

NPA 250/604/778 RELIEF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (RIP)

11 August 2011

DATE of RPC Consensus: 11 August 2011

**TITLE: NPA 250/604/778 Relief Implementation Plan (RIP)
(Implementation of new NPA 236 as a Distributed Overlay on
NPA 250/604/778)**

DISTRIBUTION: CRTC

ISSUED BY: NPA 250/604/778 Relief Planning Committee (RPC)

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NPA 250/604/778 Relief Implementation Plan (RIP)

(for a Distributed Overlay of a new NPA over NPA 250/604/778)

1. INTRODUCTION

This Relief Implementation Plan (RIP) was developed in accordance with the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guidelines. This RIP is a set of activities and deliverables established by the Relief Planning Committee (RPC) that are required to provide relief to the exhausting NPA. The objective of the NPA Relief Planning process is to ensure an adequate supply of Central Office (CO) Codes and telephone numbers is always available to the Canadian telecommunications industry and users.

Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2010-815

On 3 November 2010 the CRTC issued 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*). In the Notice of Consultation, the CRTC established a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc relief planning committee (RPC) and directed the RPC to examine options for providing numbering relief to the areas served by area codes 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia.

On 28 February 2011, the CNA issued the Initial Planning Document (IPD) for NPA 250/604/778, which was revised on 7 April 2011, and the RPC commenced its work to develop a Planning Document (PD).

On 30 May 2011, the RPC submitted a final version of the PD to the CRTC for approval. The RPC subsequently developed this RIP to implement relief for NPA 250/604/778.

On 28 July 2011 the Commission issued Telecom Decision CRTC 2011-451 which approved the following:

- 1) The Relief Method will be a distributed overlay of the NPA 250/604/778 area (i.e., a province-wide overlay).
- 2) The Relief Date will be 1 June 2013.
- 3) NPA Code 236 should be used for the initial relief of NPA 250/604/778 and NPA Code 672 will be set aside for subsequent relief of NPA 236/250/604/778.
- 4) The RPC file for Commission approval a Relief Implementation Plan that reflects the determinations contained in the Decision.

Projected Exhaust Dates

The Projected Exhaust Date for an NPA is the date on which it is expected that the NPA will run out of assignable CO Codes (NXXs). When an NPA is projected to exhaust within about a 6 year

period, the CNA initiates relief planning for that NPA with the objective of implementing relief 12 to 18 months in advance of the then Projected Exhaust Date. Over time, the Projected Exhaust Date may change as the forecast requirement for CO Codes and telephone numbers changes in response to customer demand for existing and new telecommunications services and the requirements of existing and new TSPs. The CNA monitors assignment data and conducts special studies called the C-NRUF in order to predict NPA exhaust.

The following table summarizes the various Projected Exhaust Dates forecast by the CNA:

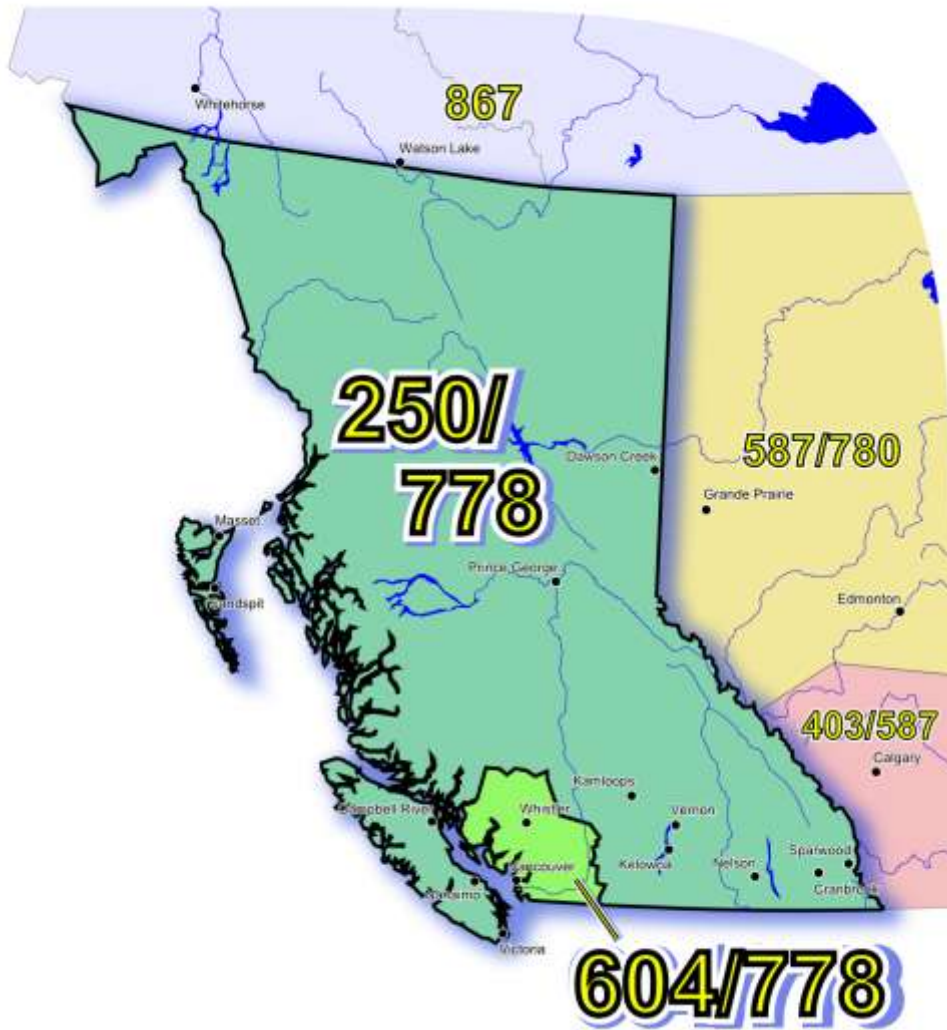
Summary of Projected Exhaust Dates

NPA 250/604/778 Summary of Projected Exhaust Dates			
NPA	Type of C-NRUF	Date of Publication	Projected Exhaust Date
250/604/778	January 2010 G – NRUF	1 April 2010	July 2016
250/604/778	July 2010 R – NRUF	13 September 2010	August 2016
250/604/778	January 2011 R – NRUF	5 April 2011	November 2014

This RIP contains a Relief Implementation Schedule, Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) (see Attachment 1) and Network Implementation Plan (NIP) (see Attachment 2).

Map of NPA 250/604/778

A map showing NPA 250/604/778 is on the following page. The NPA 250/604/778 Numbering Plan Area (NPA) covers the entire province of British Columbia.



Dial Plan Impacts

Currently 10-digit dialling is mandatory for all local calls originating within area code 250/604/778. Local dialling plans will not change when NPA 250/604/778 relief is implemented.

NPA relief will not affect the dialling plan for long-distance calls originating in NPA 250/604/778.

No local calling will become long-distance and no long-distance calling will become local as a result of NPA relief.

The dial plans for calls originating in NPA 250/604/778 and the new overlay NPA 236 will be as follows:

NPA	Local Dial Plan	Local Dial Plan	Toll Dial Plan	Toll Dial Plan
	Current	Future	Current	Future
250/604/778	10 digits	10 digits	1 + 10 digits	1 + 10 digits

Purpose of RIP

The purpose of this RIP is to establish a plan and timeframe for implementing relief for the Numbering Plan Area (NPA) currently served by NPA Codes 250/604/778.

This RIP addresses the activities, deliverables, and issues impacting all Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs) operating in NPA 250/604/778. It does not cover activities internal to each TSP; however Attachment 3, Individual Telecommunications Service Provider Responsibilities, provides a list of activities that each TSP will need to address in its own network, systems and business operations. In addition, this RIP does not cover activities for which there is already an established process for coordination between TSPs to establish service (e.g., interconnection agreements between Carriers).

In the event that circumstances change after the date when the Commission approves this RIP, the RPC may propose modifications to this RIP as necessary.

2. NPA RELIEF PLANNING PROCESS

NPA Relief Planning is conducted under the regulatory oversight of the Commission in accordance with the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guidelines. Those Guidelines were developed by the Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering (CSCN), accepted by the CISC and approved by the Commission.

The Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guidelines and related information on relief planning may be obtained from the www.cnac.ca web site. The CISC operates under the CISC Administrative Guidelines that may be obtained from the Commission web site (see www.crtc.gc.ca).

For each NPA projected to exhaust within a 72-month time period, the Commission informs the public that an RPC, chaired by the CNA, will be formed as an Ad Hoc Working Group of the CISC to do relief planning for the exhausting NPA. Any interested party may participate in the relief planning process. Each RPC operates as an open public forum. Any party wanting to participate in this process is encouraged to visit the above web sites to obtain information on the process and schedule of events and activities. Any questions regarding the relief planning process may be directed to the CNA as follows:

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Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 5Y7

Individual TSPs are responsible for their own activities to implement relief (see Attachment 3). Each TSP employs a variety of information and operation support systems for the operation, maintenance, control, and administration of its network and to serve its customers. Each TSP is responsible to make the necessary changes in its systems in order to operate in the new environment and specifically to process the full 10-digit telephone number of each subscriber. Each TSP is responsible to ensure its customers are informed and implement the changes necessary to support the relief activity. Also, each TSP is responsible to ensure its own suppliers of products and services (e.g., Operator Services) implement the changes necessary to support the relief activity. Accordingly, no activities have been identified for the coordination of these functions between different TSPs, except as otherwise provided for in this RIP (e.g., Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) and Network Implementation Plan (NIP)).

Individual TSPs and industry database owners/operators shall advise Commission staff of any concerns or problems as they arise with respect to modifying their systems and databases in time to implement relief in accordance with this RIP.

3. NPA RELIEF IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE(S)

The RPC developed this RIP with the assistance and input of two Task Forces created by the RPC:

- 1) Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF), and
- 2) Network Implementation Task Force (NITF).

The CNA sent an e-mail to all current and prospective Code Holders in the affected NPA requesting those entities to provide a contact name to the Co-chairs of the two Task Forces (with a courtesy copy to Commission staff). Independent telephone companies may choose to be represented by their associations. In addition, the CNA communicated with municipalities in NPA 250/604/778 to provide them with the opportunity to join the CATF.

Each Task Force has at least one voluntary Co-chair. The Co-chairs of the CATF and NITF act as the single point of contact and spokespersons for their respective Task Forces. The Co-chairs maintain the list of participants on their Task Forces as confidential. All Carriers operating in the affected NPA should have a participant on each of the Task Forces.

The two Task Forces have developed and submitted separate but coordinated plans for their respective activities:

- 1) Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) (see Attachment 1), and
- 2) Network Implementation Plan (NIP) (see Attachment 2).

Individual Carriers are expected to develop individual consumer awareness programs and network implementation plans within the parameters of the CAP and NIP contained in this RIP. The CATF and NITF will meet periodically to perform their industry level functions identified in this RIP. The RPC will provide oversight and coordination of the CATF and NITF in accordance with the RIP.

Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF)

The purpose of the CATF is to develop a comprehensive and consistent consumer awareness program for relief activities in the NPA 250/604/778 region, and to forward it to the CISC by the due date in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

To develop a CAP, the RPC created a CATF. Each Carrier operating in the exhausting NPA was requested to provide the name of a representative to serve on the CATF. The CATF is Co-chaired by volunteer participants of the CATF. The Co-chairs of the CATF compile, maintain and distribute the list of all representatives on the CATF to the CATF distribution list (i.e., contact name, title, telephone number, fax number, street address, e-mail address), including the CNA.

Purpose and Mandate

The responsibilities of the CATF include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Develop and agree on a CAP and schedule;
- 2) Develop and submit progress reports;
- 3) Identify and address CAP issues;

- 4) Act as single point of contact on CAP issues; and,
- 5) Identify any consumer concerns or issues regarding the implementation of relief and advise the RPC, the Commission or Commission staff as appropriate.

The role of the individual CATF representative of each Carrier is to ensure that its organization develops, submits and implements its individual consumer awareness program in accordance with the CAP and associated schedule. Each representative acts as the single point of contact with respect to implementation of the CAP and activities for its organization. Each Carrier is responsible for developing, submitting and implementing its individual consumer awareness program in accordance with the industry level CAP.

All Carriers shall provide progress reports to the CATF for submission to the RPC in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Individual Carriers should notify the CATF, or Commission staff, or the Commission, as appropriate, if there are any problems or concerns with respect to their individual consumer awareness program activities to implement relief in accordance with this RIP.

The recommended CAP is attached to this RIP (see Attachment 1).

Network Implementation Task Force (NITF)

The purpose of the NITF is to develop a Network Implementation Plan (NIP) for relief activities in the NPA 250/604/778 region to be submitted to the CISC. This complies with the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline.

Each Carrier operating in the exhausting NPA was requested to provide the name of a representative to serve on the NITF. The NITF is Co-chaired by volunteer participants of the NITF. The Co-chairs of the NITF compile, maintain and distribute the list of all representatives on the NITF to the NITF distribution list (i.e., contact name, title, telephone number, fax number, street address, e-mail address), including the CNA.

Purpose and Mandate

The role of the NITF is to identify and address network implementation issues that affect all Carriers. The responsibilities of the NITF include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Develop and agree on a NIP and schedule;
- 2) Develop and submit progress reports;
- 3) Identify and address NIP issues;
- 4) Act as single point of contact on NIP issues;
- 5) Identify any network concerns or issues regarding the implementation of relief and advise the RPC, the Commission or Commission staff as appropriate; and,
- 6) Develop inter-network test plans, as necessary.

The role of the individual NITF representative of each Carrier is to ensure that its organization develops, submits and implements its individual network implementation plan in accordance with the NIP and associated schedule. Each representative acts as the single point of contact for implementation of the NIP and activities for its organization. Each Carrier is responsible to develop, submit and implement its individual network implementation plan in accordance with the industry level NIP.

All Carriers shall provide progress reports to the NITF for submission to the RPC in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Test plans and tests shall be arranged on a bilateral basis between interconnecting Carriers in accordance with bilateral agreements and the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Individual Carriers and industry database owners/operators (e.g., Canadian Local Number Portability Consortium) should notify the NITF, or Commission staff, or the Commission, as appropriate, if there are any problems or concerns with modifying their systems and databases in time to implement relief in accordance with this RIP.

The recommended NIP is attached to this RIP (see Attachment 2).

4. NPA RELIEF IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The following table identifies the major implementation activities, deliverables and associated dates based upon the tasks identified in the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Timeline as well as major events in both the CAP and NIP. All TSPs and telecommunications service users should plan their internal relief activities in accordance with the following Relief Implementation Schedule.

RELIEF IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE For a Distributed Overlay of new NPA over NPAs 250/604/778

Item	Task or Event	PRIME	START	END
1	CNA identifies NPA exhaust and notifies by e-mail CRTC staff, CSCN, NANPA & CISC that the NPA will exhaust within the future six year time period	CNA		25-Mar-10
2	CNA conducts first R-NRUF (June 2010 R-NRUF)		15-Jun-10	13-Sep-10
3	CRTC issues Telecom Notice of Consultation regarding RPC Ad Hoc CISC and Interested Parties list	CRTC		03-Nov-10
4	CNA develops and distributes IPD to RPC		13-Sep-10	28-Feb-11
5	RPC participants review IPD & submit contributions to RPC	RPC	28-Feb-11	16-Apr-11
6	CNA chairs initial RPC meeting to start development of PD, RIP & PL, & schedules future meetings/conference calls including creation & consultation with CATF and NITF	CNA RPC	19-Apr-11	20-Apr-11
7	CNA chairs subsequent RPC meetings/conference calls to finalize PD & RIP	CNA RPC	20-Apr-11	11-Aug-11
8	Special Types of Telecommunications Service Users (911 PSAPs, alarm companies, ISPs, paging companies, etc.) to identify any concerns to RPC & CRTC	Special Users		11-Aug-11
9	CNA forwards the Relief Implementation Plan (RIP) to the CISC and CRTC for approval	CNA		18-Aug-11
10	CRTC issues Telecom Decision approving the RIP	CRTC		17-Oct-11
11	Task Forces, TSPs and users implement relief (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on Relief Date)	TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
12	All Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to develop and file individual consumer awareness programs with the CRTC (may be done collectively by Telecommunications Alliance) (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and should be completed at least 18 months prior to the Relief Date)	TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Dec-11
13	CNA issues media release (in coordination with CATF media release) (may start upon CRTC approval of RIP and should be issued at least 18 months prior to the Relief Date)	CNA		01-Dec-11
14	CNA submits PL and RIP to NANPA (should be submitted at least 18 months prior to the Relief Date)	CNA		17-Oct-11
15	NANPA receives and posts Planning Letter to NANPA website (within 2 weeks of receipt from the CNA)	NANPA	17-Oct-11	31-Oct-11

Item	Task or Event	PRIME	START	END
16	Task Forces, TSPs and users implement relief (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	Task Forces, TSPs & Users	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
17	All TSPs implement consumer awareness activities (starts upon filing of Consumer Awareness Programs with the CRTC and is completed on the Relief Date)	TSPs	01-Dec-11	01-Jun-13
18	All TSPs to notify all customers (including residence, business & special customers) of the new overlay NPA (may start upon the filing of Consumer Awareness Programs with the CRTC and all customers should be notified by at least 15 months prior to the Relief Date)	TSPs	01-Dec-11	30-Jan-12
19	TSPs to submit Progress Report #1 to NITF and CATF (starts after completion date for all TSPs to notify their customers and requires 2 weeks)	TSPs	30-Jan-12	13-Feb-12
20	NITF and CATF develop & submit Progress Report #1 to RPC (linked to TSP reports to NITF and CATF)	NITF & CATF	13-Feb-12	27-Feb-12
21	RPC submits Progress Report #1 to CISC/CRTC (linked to NITF and CATF reports)	RPC	27-Feb-12	12-Mar-12
22	Telcordia TRA database updates to add Exchanges to new overlay NPA (starts on the date that the PL is posted to the NANPA web site and must be completed by 6 months prior to the Relief Date)	Telcordia TRA	31-Oct-11	30-Nov-12
23	All Telecommunications Service Users (including Special Users 911 PSAPs, alarm companies, ISPs, paging companies, etc.) to implement changes to their telecom equipment & systems to accommodate the new NPA (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	Telecom Service Users	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
24	Payphone Providers Reprogram Payphones (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	Payphone Providers	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
25	TSPs and database owners/operators to modify systems and industry databases (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	TSPs & Database Owners	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
26	Operator Services & Directory Assistance Readiness (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
27	Directory Publisher Readiness for overlays (ability to identify the NPA in telephone numbers in the directory published after the Overlay NPA is activated) (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	Directory Publishers	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
28	9-1-1 PSAP Systems and Databases Readiness (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	PSAPs & TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
29	9-1-1 TSP Readiness (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
30	ISCP & Service Order Systems Readiness (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
31	International Gateway Switch Translations Readiness for new NPA (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	Int'l TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
32	Canadian Local Number Portability Consortium (CLNPC) Database Readiness for new NPA (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	CLNPC & NPAC	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13

Item	Task or Event	PRIME	START	END
33	Toll Free SMS Database Readiness for new NPA (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	Toll TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
34	ISCP & Service Order Systems Readiness (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date)	TSPs	17-Oct-11	01-Jun-13
35	TSPs apply for Test CO Codes in new NPA (applications may be submitted no more than 6 months and no less than 66 days prior to the start date for the Inter-Carrier Testing Period) (Section 7.16.4 Canadian RP GL)	TSPs	01-Sep-12	27-Dec-12
36	Develop Inter-Carrier Network Test Plans and prepare for testing (individual TSPs to make arrangements in accordance with interconnection agreements) (may start upon CRTC approval of RIP and must be completed by start date for the Inter-Carrier Testing Period)	NITF & TSPs	17-Oct-11	03-Mar-13
37	All international and domestic Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs) must activate the new NPA in their networks by the start date for the Inter-Carrier Testing Period	TSPs		03-Mar-13
38	Activation date for Overlay NPA Test CO Codes and Test Numbers in network (should be completed by the start date for the Inter-Carrier Testing Period)	TSPs		03-Mar-13
39	Inter-Carrier Testing Period (subject to Inter-Carrier Network Test Plans) (starts about 3 months prior to the Relief Date, and ends about 1 month after the Relief Date)	NITF & TSPs	03-Mar-13	01-Jul-13
40	TSPs to submit Progress Report #2 to NITF and CATF (starts on commencement of Inter-Carrier Testing Period)	TSPs	03-Mar-13	17-Mar-13
41	NITF and CATF develop & submit Progress Report #2 to RPC (linked to TSP reports to NITF and CATF)	NITF & CATF	17-Mar-13	31-Mar-13
42	RPC submits Progress Report #2 to CISC/CRTC (linked to NITF and CATF reports)	RPC	31-Mar-13	14-Apr-13
43	Relief Date (earliest date when CO Codes in new NPA may be activated)			01-Jun-13
44	TSPs submit Final Report to CATF and NITF (starts on Relief Date and provides 2 weeks for preparation & submission)	TSPs	01-Jun-13	15-Jun-13
45	NITF and CATF develop & submit Final Progress Report to RPC (linked to TSP reports to NITF and CATF)	NITF & CATF	15-Jun-13	29-Jun-13
46	RPC submits Final Progress Report to CISC/CRTC (linked to NITF and CATF reports)	RPC	29-Jun-13	13-Jul-13
47	TSPs disconnect Test Codes & Numbers, and submit Part 1 form to return Test Codes (starts 1 month after Relief Date and allows 1 month for completion)	TSPs	01-Jul-13	31-Jul-13

5. OTHER ISSUES

Payphone Service Providers

All Payphone Service Providers are required to comply with the requirements contained in this RIP.

It is the responsibility of each Payphone Service Provider to update any system or process associated with the operation of their payphones in order to accommodate this relief project.

Telecommunication Service Users

All users are required to comply with the requirements contained in this RIP and any Telecom Decisions issued by the CRTC.

Users of telecommunications services are required to make the necessary changes to their telecommunications systems and equipment to accommodate the new overlay NPA code. Users include, but are not limited to, 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), N11 Service Providers, alarm companies, internet service providers, paging companies, owners of Customer Premises Equipment, unified messaging service companies, governments, apartment building owners, hydro meter readers, residential customers and the general public.

Special types of Telecommunication Service Users (e.g., 9-1-1 PSAPs, N11 Service Providers (i.e., the entities that provides the services that are accessed via dialling the N11 Codes), alarm companies, internet service providers, paging companies, owners of Customer Premises Equipment requiring modification, unified messaging service companies, governments, apartment building owners, hydro meter readers) must take special measures to ensure that their services continue to function properly. All special types of Telecommunication Service Users are requested to co-ordinate their equipment and system modifications with their Carriers to implement the new overlay NPA. This is necessary to ensure a smooth and timely transition.

Users of telecommunications services should notify their Carrier and the Commission or Commission staff, as appropriate, if they have any problems or concerns with modifying their systems and databases in time to implement relief in accordance with this RIP. It is important that service users, in particular alarm service providers, make the required or necessary modifications to their systems, databases and terminal equipment.

9-1-1 PSAPs must make any required changes to their systems and databases to accommodate the new overlay NPA. Individual 9-1-1 PSAP system operators shall identify specific problems or concerns to the Commission or Commission staff, as appropriate. It is critically important that 9-1-1 PSAPs make the required or necessary modifications to their systems, databases and terminal equipment prior to the Relief Date.

Directories

All Directory Service Providers are required to comply with the requirements contained in this RIP and any Telecom Decisions issued by the CRTC.

It is the responsibility of Directory Service Providers to make the necessary changes to their systems and directories to facilitate the introduction of the new overlay NPA. All directory publishers should modify their systems to accept telephone numbers in the 10-digit format.

To facilitate the implementation of the new overlay NPA, directories must contain appropriate dialling instructions and information.

After the implementation of the new overlay NPA, all future directories in this NPA and affected Exchange Areas in neighbouring NPAs should identify the NPA Code associated with the telephone number so that customers can obtain the appropriate 10 digit number.

6. RECOMMENDATION

The RPC recommends that the CISC and CRTC approve this RIP.

Attachments:

- 1) Consumer Awareness Program (CAP)
- 2) Network Implementation Plan (NIP)
- 3) Individual Telecommunications Service Provider Responsibilities

ATTACHMENT 1

Consumer Awareness Program (CAP)

Background

On 3 November 2010 the CRTC issued 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*). In the Notice of Consultation, , the CRTC established a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc relief planning committee (RPC) and directed the RPC to examine options for providing numbering relief to the areas served by area codes 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia.

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- 4) The RPC file for Commission approval a Relief Implementation Plan that reflects the determinations contained in the Decision.

Introduction

The Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline requires the RPC to create a Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF) with a mandate to develop a CAP for implementing relief and to submit such CAP to the CISC.

Accordingly, the RPC has established a Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF) to develop and implement this CAP.

This CAP addresses the introduction of overlay NPA 236 in the NPA 250/604/778 area.

This CAP identifies key milestones and establishes completion dates as agreed to by the RPC and approved by the CRTC. It is the responsibility of all Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs) operating or intending to operate in NPA 250/604/778 to file their individual consumer awareness plans with the Commission in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule. Carriers must implement those programs in accordance with this industry CAP and submit progress reports to the CATF and RPC for inclusion in

the Progress and Final Reports to be filed with the Commission. The Relief Implementation Schedule contains start and end dates for industry consumer awareness activities.

In order to implement the CAP, Carriers may act individually or collectively to accomplish their objectives. However, where Carriers act collectively (e.g., create a Consumer Awareness Program Alliance), such Carriers are individually responsible to report their progress to the CATF and RPC.

All Carriers are required to report any major relief plan concerns as they are identified, along with proposed solutions, and to address consumer concerns reported directly to the Commission.

The RPC requested that the CATF develop a CAP that incorporates the following:

- 1) Develop and agree on a CAP schedule
- 2) Co-ordinate and schedule progress reports with the NITF
- 3) Identify and address CAP issues
- 4) Communications objectives
- 5) Target audiences (e.g., government, media and various business and residence market segments)
- 6) Special types of telecommunications users (e.g., alarm, apartment owners, hydro readers)
- 7) NPA-specific communications messages
- 8) Communications tactics
- 9) Communications theme
- 10) Key messages

Communications Objectives

The Communications Objectives of this CAP are as follows:

- 1) Increase consumer and user awareness of the introduction of the new area code in the 250/604/778 area.
- 2) Advise customers that local and long distance calling areas, prices and dialling plans will not change with the adoption of the new overlay area code.
- 3) Provide open communication channels to address questions and concerns from residents and businesses regarding the implementation of the new overlay NPA Code.
- 4) Continue to lay the foundation for seamless addition of new NPA Codes in the future.

Communications Tactics

Carriers should consider using the following tactics to accomplish their individual consumer awareness program activities. Carriers may opt to implement some or all of these tactics on their own or as part of an association with other Carriers. In the event that an association of Carriers is formed to coordinate consumer awareness activities, all Carriers operating in the affected area codes are strongly encouraged to participate in the association's activities.

Government Relations

Carriers should ensure that governmental authorities in the affected NPA 250/604/778 region are informed of the relief plan (federal, provincial and municipal governments, government offices, and elected representatives).

Media Relations

To introduce and raise awareness of the new area code, Carriers should conduct an ongoing media relations campaign targeting key media (including local newspapers, broadcast media, and community publications) in area code 250/604/778. Carriers should offer spokespersons for interviews that focus on how residents and businesses can prepare for the new overlay NPA and to encourage them to start getting ready now.

Carriers should determine newsworthy announcements and issue press releases accordingly. The press release program will serve to update local media on the progress of the introduction of the new overlay area code.

When required, Carriers should issue a series of media alerts and public service announcements to local radio and broadcast stations to provide updated information on the new overlay NPA code.

Each TSP shall provide the news media and general public with basic information about the new NPA, and referrals related to Commission decisions and regulations. Each Carrier should identify its own spokesperson to speak on its behalf to the media. Individual TSPs may form alliances with other TSPs for media relations purposes and such an alliance may also have its own spokesperson.

The Canadian Numbering Administration (CNA), in its role as the Chair of the RPC, shall act as a spokesperson for the RPC.

Carriers' Web Sites

Carriers should provide up-to-date information about the implementation of the new overlay NPA code on their Internet web sites.

Customer Bill Inserts & Messages

Carriers should print information on customer bills and/or distribute bill inserts to their customers advising them of the key dates for the implementation of the new overlay NPA Code and associated changes required to customer equipment and systems.

Advertising Campaign

Carriers should implement their own individual media advertising as necessary and voluntarily participate in a media advertising campaign coordinated with other Carriers' activities to increase awareness amongst consumers in the affected NPA 250/604/778 region. All media advertising campaigns, whether conducted individually or collectively, should meet the objective of providing clear and consistent messages to consumers and users as established in this CAP.

Targeted Customer Communications

Carriers should identify and communicate directly with their customers who will be required to make major changes to their telecommunications equipment and systems to accommodate the new area code. Targeted communications identifying the changes required should be sent to those customers well in advance of the Relief Date in order to provide those customers with sufficient time to make the necessary changes. Such targeted customers may include 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), N11 Service Providers, alarm companies, Internet service providers, paging companies, unified messaging service companies, apartment building owners, and hydro meter readers.

Other Means of Customer Communications

Carriers should use other means (e.g., customer messaging, direct customer contacts, Interactive Voice Response, etc.), as required, to reach their customers and provide appropriate information about the new overlay NPA code.

Communications Themes and Key Messages:

The proposed theme for the CAP should be: "Area code 236 is being added to the 250/604/778 area."

This theme should be reinforced with more detailed key messages in customer awareness activities:

- a) To meet the growing demand for telecommunications services and numbers, area code 236 will be overlaid on top of the 250/604/778 geographic area on 1 June 2013. The 236 area code will co-exist within the same geographic region as area codes 250, 604 and 778. There will be no change to customers' existing 250, 604 and 778 telephone numbers. Telephone numbers beginning with the 236 area code may be assigned for use after the Relief Date.
- b) 10-digit dialing will continue to be used for local calls within the area served by area codes 236, 250, 604 and 778.
- c) Local and long distance calling areas and prices will not change with the adoption of the new 236 overlay area code. Customers with telephone numbers in the overlay area code 236 will get the same calling areas and prices as customers with telephone numbers in area codes 250, 604 and 778.
- d) Emergency calls (9-1-1) and other N11 services will continue to be dialed using 3-digits.

Consumer Awareness Program Timeline

All Carriers that have or plan to have customers in the affected area codes must implement their own consumer awareness program activities in accordance with this CAP and associated dates contained in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

It is the responsibility of each Carrier to submit its individual consumer awareness program to the Commission and to provide progress reports to the CATF on its own consumer awareness program activities so that the CATF can submit its required Progress Reports. In the event that a Carrier does not submit its individual progress report to the CATF, the CATF will note this discrepancy in its progress report.

ATTACHMENT 2

Network Implementation Plan (NIP)

Background

On 3 November 2010 the CRTC issued 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*). In the Notice of Consultation, , the CRTC established a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc relief planning committee (RPC) and directed the RPC to examine options for providing numbering relief to the areas served by area codes 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia.

On 28 February 2011, the CNA issued the Initial Planning Document (IPD) for NPA 250/604/778, which was revised on 7 April 2011, and the RPC commenced its work to develop a Planning Document (PD).

On 30 May 2011, the RPC submitted a final version of the PD to the CRTC for approval. The RPC subsequently developed this RIP to implement relief for NPA 250/604/778.

On 28 July 2011 the Commission issued Telecom Decision CRTC 2011-451 which approved the following:

- 1) The Relief Method will be a distributed overlay of the NPA 250/604/778 area (i.e., a province-wide overlay).
- 2) The Relief Date will be 1 June 2013.
- 3) NPA Code 236 should be used for the initial relief of NPA 250/604/778 and NPA Code 672 will be set aside for subsequent relief of NPA 236/250/604/778.
- 4) The RPC file for Commission approval a Relief Implementation Plan that reflects the determinations contained in the Decision.

Introduction

The Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline requires the RPC to create a Network Implementation Task Force (NITF) with a mandate to develop a NIP for implementing relief and to submit such NIP to the CISC.

Accordingly, the RPC has established a Network Implementation Task Force (NITF) to develop and implement this NIP.

This NIP addresses the introduction of overlay NPA 236 in the NPA 250/604/778 area.

The NIP identifies key milestones and establishes completion dates as agreed to by the RPC. It is the responsibility of all Carriers operating or intending to operate in NPA 250/604/778 to file their individual network implementation plans with the Commission in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule. Carriers must implement those programs in accordance with this industry NIP and submit progress

reports to the NITF and RPC for inclusion in the Progress and Final Reports to be filed by the RPC with the Commission.

All Carriers are required to report any major relief plan concerns as they are identified, along with proposed solutions, and to address consumer concerns reported directly to the Commission.

The RPC requested that the NITF develop a NIP in accordance the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guidelines that incorporates the following:

- 1) Develop and agree on a NIP schedule
- 2) Co-ordinate and schedule progress reports with the CATF
- 3) Identify and address NIP issues
- 4) Network implementation objectives
- 5) Co-ordinate equipment modifications with special types of telecommunications users (e.g., alarm companies, apartment building owners, hydro meter readers)
- 6) NPA-specific network changes
- 7) Inter-carrier network and technical interfaces (e.g., test plan and test numbers, 9-1-1 impacts if any)

Network Implementation Objectives

The objective of this NIP is to ensure that all necessary network and interconnections are modified to implement the overlay NPA 236 in the NPA 250/604/778 region.

All Carriers are required to implement the necessary network changes to implement relief.

Carrier Coordination with Special Types of Telecommunications Users

All Carriers are requested to co-ordinate their network and service modifications with special types of telecommunications users (e.g., 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), N11 Service Providers, alarm companies, internet service providers, paging companies, owners of Customer Premises Equipment, unified messaging service companies, governments, apartment building owners, hydro meter readers). This is necessary in order to ensure a smooth and timely introduction of the new overlay NPA.

Test Plans

All Carriers are required to modify their networks, systems databases, and operator services and directory assistance databases, to accommodate the new overlay NPA as per the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Test plans, if required, should be arranged on a bilateral basis between interconnecting Carriers in accordance with bilateral agreements.

In preparation for the start of inter-carrier testing, all Carriers are expected to complete modifications to their networks, systems databases, and Operator Services and Directory Assistance databases, as necessary to facilitate inter-carrier testing per the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Test Codes and Numbers

Test numbers in the new overlay NPA 236 will permit all Carriers and other entities to test their equipment and ensure that the proper network changes have been made to route calls to each Carrier operating in the new NPA. The test numbers shall permit Carriers and users to test their equipment with or without having to incur toll charges.

Each Carrier may establish two test numbers in a test CO Code (NXX) for the new NPA to facilitate testing of network and billing system functionality.

Routing of calls to the new NPA can be verified by dialling the new 236-XXX-8378 (TEST) numbers which shall not provide answer supervision and therefore should not result in a billed call to the “calling” party.

Billing of calls to the new NPA can be verified by dialling the new 236-NXX-2455 (BILL) numbers which shall provide answer supervision and therefore should result in a billed call to the “originating” network.

The following Carriers have agreed to provide test numbers in the new NPA:

- TELUS
- TBD

Other Carriers may request and receive test CO Codes and numbers in accordance with the timeframe contained in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Per the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline, requests for test CO Codes must be received by the CNA no more than six months and no less than 66 days prior to the activation date on which testing to the number can begin. The CNA will reclaim test CO Codes about four weeks after the Relief Date. Test numbers shall be activated in all networks in accordance with the inter-network test plan and date in the Relief Implementation Schedule. Test numbers in a new overlay NPA should be activated at least 90 days prior to the introduction of the new NPA Code, or by the start of the inter-carrier testing period if sooner. Test numbers shall remain active until about four weeks after the Relief Date.

The test CO Codes used for the test numbers must be returned to the CNA in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule. The CNA shall initiate CO Code reclamation in accordance with the Canadian Central Office (NXX) Code Assignment Guideline for all CO Codes allocated for testing purposes in the event that such CO Codes are not returned by the above Carriers to the CNA in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule.

The standard network announcement for the test number must be as follows:

“You have successfully completed a call to the 236 Area Code Test Number at [CARRIER NAME] in British Columbia, Canada.”

Carriers may request other test CO Codes in the relief NPA for test purposes within their own networks during the relief implementation timeframe, in accordance with the Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guideline.

9-1-1 Service

The introduction of the new overlay NPA is not expected to have any impact on the dialling of the 9-1-1 abbreviated dialling number nor the routing of emergency calls to the appropriate Public Service Answering Point (PSAP).

However, the introduction of the new overlay NPA may have an impact on 9-1-1 service, trunking and systems.

Carriers who intend to provide service using CO Codes in the relief NPA or to port numbers into their switch from the relief NPA, shall establish 9-1-1 trunking and associated interconnection arrangements as per existing interconnection agreements. Carriers that provide 9-1-1 networking services to any PSAP shall establish 9-1-1 trunking and associated interconnection arrangements as per existing interconnection agreements. These arrangements shall be made prior to the Relief Date upon request of Carriers, and provided that these arrangements are in accordance with the timelines, terms and conditions set out in existing interconnection agreements.

The existing procedure for implementing new Carrier trunk groups for 9-1-1 traffic, including testing with local Carriers' 9-1-1 Control Centers and PSAPs, should be used. All related changes that impact 9-1-1 must be completed in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Other N-1-1 Services

Carriers should review routing to other N-1-1 numbers including 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 and 811 as necessary to ensure that calls will be properly routed.

Payphone Service Providers

It is the responsibility of each Payphone Service Provider to update any system associated with the operation of their payphones in order to accommodate the new overlay area code. As well, each Payphone Service Provider must update any instructions for using their payphones to advise customers regarding the new overlay area code if necessary.

International Gateway Service Providers

International Gateway Service Providers are responsible to implement changes to their network in order to accommodate the new overlay area code.

It is recommended that Commission staff notify Canadian International Gateway Service Providers of the implementation of the new overlay area code.

Intra Carrier Network and Customer Interface

All Carriers must make and test the necessary internal system, network and customer interface changes as per the Relief Implementation Schedule in order to accommodate the introduction of the new overlay area code.

All Carriers are required to implement the necessary network changes to route traffic to/from the relief area code. Switch translations must be updated and modified in all Carriers' networks in order to process calls to/from the relief area code.

By the start date of the inter-carrier testing period, Carriers must use 10-digit signalling for all local traffic they send to other Carriers, and must be able to receive 10-digit signalling on local traffic they receive from other Carriers. In the event that Carriers have network equipment limitations that cannot accommodate 10-digit signalling, alternative arrangements may be made with interconnecting Carriers to route calls using only 7-digit signalling, where feasible.

Each TSP is responsible for determining the impact of the new overlay NPA code on its operations and the products and services it provides to its own customers. Each TSP is responsible for making all necessary modifications to ensure service can be provided to its own customers who may receive, or make calls to, telephone numbers in the new overlay NPA code. Furthermore, TSPs shall notify all of their customers of the introduction of the new overlay area code in accordance with the CAP (see Attachment 2).

Network Implementation Plan Timeline

All Carriers who have or plan to have customers in the affected area codes must implement their own network implementation plan activities in accordance with this NIP and associated dates contained in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

It is the responsibility of each Carrier to provide progress reports to the NITF on its own network implementation plan activities so that the NITF can submit its required Progress Reports. In the event that a Carrier does not submit its individual progress report to the NITF, the NITF will note this discrepancy in its Progress Report.

Dial Plan

The dial plan for calls originating from NPA 250/604/778 will not change. The dial plan for NPA 250/604/778 and the new overlay NPA 236 will be as follows:

Local Dial Plan		Toll Dial Plan	
Current	Future	Current	Future
10 digits	10 digits	1 + 10 digits	1 + 10 digits

ATTACHMENT 3

Individual Telecommunications Service Provider Responsibilities

Each Telecommunications Service Provider (TSP) is responsible to make the necessary changes in their information/operation support systems for the operation, maintenance, control, and administration of its network and to serve its customers. Accordingly, no activities have been identified in the Relief Implementation Plan (RIP) for the coordination of these functions between different TSPs. Such "internal" systems include, but are not limited to, the following functions:

- Operations Support
- Products & Services
- Marketing & Sales
- Carrier Services
- Network Planning & Provisioning
- Network Operations
- Service Assurance
- Billing
- Financial Systems
- Customer Care & Customer Services (e.g., Business Offices)
- Operator Services
- Directories
- Direct Marketing Centers
- Quality Control
- Service Provisioning & Activation
- Repair Services
- Human Resources/Logistics
- Corporate Information Databases
- Customer Provided Equipment Reprogramming, Upgrades and Testing