**CRTC INTERCONNECTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

**TIF REPORT**

**Date Submitted:                9 May 2019**

**WORKING GROUP: NPA 450/579 RPC**

**REPORT #:     NPA 450-579 TIF Report #2                                    File ID: 450\_579RE02A**

**REPORT TITLE**: Deferral of relief date for NPA 450/579

**OUTCOME: CONSENSUS**

**RELATED TASK(s) #: 450-579RE01**

**BACKGROUND:**

In Telecom Decision CRTC 2019-13 dated 2 February 2019, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) directed that relief for area codes 450/579 for the area surrounding Montréal, Québec, Canada be provided through a distributed overlay of new area code 354 starting 24 October 2020.

This Relief Date was recommended by the Relief Planning Committee in its consensus report 450\_579RE01A, dated 31 October 2018. The Relief Date was based on the July 2018 R-NRUF result which indicated that NPA 450/579 was projected to exhaust in March 2021.

On 26 March 2019, the CNA released the results of the January 2019 R-NRUF, which indicated that the Projected Exhaust Date for NPA 450/579 had been delayed by 39 months to June 2024.

Due to the delayed Projected Exhaust Date, Bell Canada submitted a contribution on 9 April 2019 which proposed deferring the Relief Date indefinitely.

**FACTORS:**

**Excerpt from the January 2019 NRUF results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **2018 NRUF** | **Most recent 2018 NRUF following 2018 G-NRUF** | **2019 NRUF** | **Change in PED between 2019 NRUF and most recent 2018 NRUF** |   |
| **NPA** | **Forecasted Growth** | **PED** | **PED** | **Date of NRUF** | **PED** | **Advance** | **Delay** | **Remarks** |
| 450-579 | Historical Average | Jun-2021 | Mar-2021 | R-NRUF July | Jun-2024 |   | 39 Months | Relief Date October 24, 2020 iaw Telecom Decision CRTC 2019-13. |
| Jan-2036 | Jun-2035 | Jul-2038 |   | 37 Months |   |

**ALTERNATIVES:**

**N/A**

**ANALYSIS:**

The CRTC-approved Relief Date of 24 October 2020 is 3 years and 7 months in advance of the Projected Exhaust Date. The RPC proposes to defer the relief implementation date and halt NPA Relief activity in the NPA.

This deferral is a significant change over the previous forecast and, as a result, there is some question as to the validity of both the current and previous forecast. The RPC therefore proposes that the industry have the opportunity to review the results of the NPA 450/579 July 2019 R-NRUF and the NPA 450/579 January 2020 R-NRUF prior to making a recommendation on the Relief Date. The RPC proposes that the RPC will reconvene in the event that the Projected Exhaust Date, based on the July 2019 R-NRUF results, advances 12 months or more. Otherwise, the RPC will reconvene after the January 2020 R-NRUF results are released.

The CNA will continue to monitor the NXX assignments in this NPA and reconvene an RPC conference call if warranted.

Per the approved Relief Implementation Plan, TSPs were tasked to complete initial communications to customers by 24 October 2019. The RPC notes that no subscriber communications have taken place and therefore recommends that subscriber communications and other relief implementation activities be suspended, pending a CRTC determination on the matter.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

**The Relief Implementation Plan needs to be revised based on the preceding analysis.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The RPC recommends that:**

1. the Relief Date for NPA 450/579 be deferred indefinitely at this time;
2. the RPC will reconvene in the event that the Projected Exhaust Date, based on the July 2019 R-NRUF results, advances 12 months or more. Otherwise, the RPC will reconvene after the January 2020 R-NRUF results are released;
3. the CNA will continue to monitor the NXX assignments in this NPA and reconvene an RPC conference call if warranted; and
4. these recommendations be moved through the CISC process in an expedited manner to minimize impacts on customers.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A