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Task Title: Recommendation on improving Numbering Efficiencies using Consecutive Block Assignment

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Subject: Recommendation on improving Numbering Efficiencies using Consecutive Block Assignment

## **Recommendation on improving Numbering Efficiencies using Consecutive Block Assignment**

This submission presents a proposal for sequential number assignment to improve Canadian numbering efficiencies and utilization by carriers.

### **HIGH LEVEL analysis**

This contribution suggests that there is an enhanced level of efficiency in opening the thousand blocks from their assigned NPA NXX in the sequential order (ie...block 0000-0999, 1000-1999 etc.)

The process of opening one sequential block at a time into SP’s inventory/number management systems, helps to meet their external/internal customer potential requirements for sequential numbers and it support the return of blocks with zero and/or minimizes quantity of contamination blocks, simply by strategically utilizing each block prior to opening the next block. It also provides “friendly hand-off” to the receiving SP of those returned blocks, so they too have sequential blocks for their customers.

Section 4.2 of Guidelines for the Administration of Telephone Numbers From ATIS-0300070

*Sequential Number Assignment is an FCC mandate which requires all SPs to first assign all available telephone numbers within an opened thousands-block before opening another thousands-block, unless the available numbers in the opened thousands-block are not sufficient to meet a customer request. This requirement shall apply to SPs’ existing numbering resources as well as any new numbering resources obtained in the future.*

*It follows from this definition that, under this requirement, an SP that opens a uncontaminated thousands-block prior to utilizing in its entirety a previously-opened thousands-block should be prepared to demonstrate the following exceptions to the state commission: (1) a genuine request from a customer detailing the specific need for telephone numbers; (2) The SP’s inability to meet the specific customer request for telephone numbers from the available numbers within the service provider's opened thousands-blocks. The above exceptions do not apply to individual vanity number requests.*

*Upon a finding by a state commission that an SP inappropriately assigned telephone numbers from an uncontaminated thousands-block, the NANPA or the PA shall suspend assignment or allocation of any additional numbering resources to that SP in the applicable NPA until the SP demonstrates that it does not have sufficient numbering resources to meet a specific customer request.*

**Advantage of an early implementation of new numbering efficiencies.**

The early implementation of numbering efficiencies, may produce a larger yield of reclaimed unutilized/underutilized blocks, thus “padding” CNA’s available numbering resources in preparation of the TBP.

A suggested further advantage of an early implementation of sequential block assignments, is that it lends itself to a softer transition into post-launch activities.

**Conclusion:**

Implementing or adopting the process of sequential block assignments (regardless if done pre or post

launch) is recommended to improve the utilization of numbering resources by a service provider and reduce the complexity that may be associated with the ability of returning blocks.

It is also recommended that by adding such numbering efficiencies, would also assist in the potential receipt of a larger quantity of returned uncontaminated blocks and a lesser quantity of contaminated blocks by the PA.

Last but not least, a reduced cost for SP in doing inter-service provider ports at the time of block return.

**Recommendation:**

The contribution recommends that all service providers should open the thousand blocks for assignment in the sequential order. It is recommended that the service provider allocate substantially all of the available numbers from the thousand-block prior to opening another thousands-block for assignment.

This applies to SPs' current numbering resources from the allocated NPA NXX, as well as any additional numbering resources acquired in the future.