

April 15, 1999

Mr. Alan C. Hasselwander
Chairman, North American Numbering Council
4140 Clover Street
Honeoye Falls, NY 14472-9323

Re: COCUS Review

Dear Chairman Hasselwander:

In May, 1998 the Numbering Resource Optimization Working Group of the North American Numbering Council (NANC), in cooperation with the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA), undertook to review the Central Office Code Utilization Survey (COCUS), the reporting system used for collecting number utilization and forecast data from service providers. It is our understanding that, upon completion of its review, the Working Group will present a work plan detailing the results of its COCUS analysis to the NANC at its April 21-22, 1999 meeting. The Working Group also plans to submit a full report, including an outline for implementation of a new data collection model, to the NANC in June, 1999.

The Bureau recognizes and appreciates the time and effort that the Working Group has expended on its review of the COCUS. In recent months, forecasting central office code (NXX) and Numbering Plan Area (NPA) exhaust has proven to be unreliable in some instances, due, in part, to a lack of reliable and uniform information from the service providers. The current voluntary system of collecting utilization data needs to be overhauled to give the NANPA access to accurate and timely utilization data which, in turn, will facilitate accurate forecasting of NXX and NPA exhaust. We are confident that the review and recommendations of the Working Group, and of the NANC, will be instrumental in the Commission's final assessment of what data collection and reporting model will best facilitate accurate and timely forecasting by the NANPA.

We look forward to receiving the Working Group's preliminary work plan at the April NANC meeting. We also urge the NANC to complete its review of the Working Group's report and recommendations as soon as possible, and to provide a final report detailing its recommendations for a new data collection and reporting model to the Bureau by June 30, 1999.

Chairman Alan C. Hasselwander
April 15, 1999
Page 2

As always, we commend the tremendous work of the NANC and its members, various working groups, and others who have devoted their time and resources to assisting the Commission with these and other numbering issues. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation; we look forward to continuing our very productive relationship with the NANC.
Sincerely,

Yog R. Varma
Deputy Chief
Common Carrier Bureau