



Telecom Public Notice CRTC 2007-7

Ottawa, 8 May 2007

Review of local number portability for voice over Internet Protocol services

Reference: 8663-C12-200707052

In this Public Notice, the Commission initiates a proceeding to address matters regarding the extent to which local number portability functionality must be supported for access-dependent local voice over Internet Protocol services.

Introduction

1. In *Regulatory framework for voice communication services using Internet Protocol*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2005-28, 12 May 2005, as amended by Telecom Decision CRTC 2005-28-1, 30 June 2005 (Decision 2005-28), the Commission set out its requirements regarding local number portability (LNP) functionality in relation to local voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services.
2. In *Reconsideration of Regulatory framework for voice communication services using Internet Protocol*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2006-53, 1 September 2006 (Decision 2006-53), the Commission reaffirmed the regulatory regime for local VoIP services established in Decision 2005-28.¹ In Decision 2006-53, the Commission denied a request made by Bell Canada for the removal of LNP requirements for secondary numbers.²
3. In *Bell Digital Voice Service*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2007-21, 5 April 2007 (Decision 2007-21), the Commission noted that Bell Canada's proposal related to its Bell Digital Voice service³ included provisions with respect to LNP that would allow customers to migrate their current telephone number to use as a primary telephone number for Bell Digital Voice service, and vice versa, where suitable facilities existed. Bell Canada did not, however, include provisions related to porting telephone numbers used as secondary numbers. In that regard, the Commission also noted that no evidence was filed in that proceeding concerning customer demand and the cost-effectiveness of implementing full LNP capabilities related to Bell Digital Voice service.

¹ In Order in Council P.C. 2006-1314, dated 9 November 2006, the Governor in Council varied Decisions 2005-28 and 2006-53 in relation to the regulatory regime for retail local access-independent VoIP services.

² Bell Canada's General Tariff Item 7026 – Business IP Voice Standard and Item 7031 – Bell Digital Voice define a secondary number as a number which can receive calls but cannot originate calls.

³ The Commission notes that Bell Digital Voice service is not an access-independent service.

4. In *Bell Canada and Bell Aliant Regional Communications, Limited Partnership – Business IP Voice Standard service*, Telecom Order CRTC 2007-109, 5 April 2007 (Order 2007-109), the Commission noted that Bell Canada's and Bell Aliant Regional Communications, Limited Partnership's (Bell Aliant) proposals included provisions with respect to LNP for telephone numbers used as primary or secondary telephone numbers for Business IP [Internet Protocol] Voice Standard service,⁴ where suitable facilities existed within each company's respective footprint. Bell Canada and Bell Aliant did not, however, include provisions related to LNP for out-of-territory numbers. In that regard, the Commission noted that there was no evidence in that proceeding concerning customer demand and the cost-effectiveness of implementing full LNP capabilities related to Business IP Voice Standard service.
5. In both Decision 2007-21 and Order 2007-109, the Commission considered that further process was required to address matters regarding the extent to which LNP functionality must be supported for VoIP services.

Issues to be addressed in this proceeding

6. The Commission invites comments regarding the extent to which LNP functionality must be supported for local VoIP services, with supporting rationale. In their comments, parties should address implementation constraints, technical issues, customer demand, and cost-effectiveness related to the support of LNP
 - a) for secondary numbers assigned from within the company's operating territory;
 - b) for secondary numbers assigned from outside the company's operating territory;
 - c) for primary numbers assigned from outside the company's operating territory; and
 - d) with respect to the porting-in of telephone numbers.
7. The Commission notes that matters related to the recovery of costs associated with implementing LNP are excluded from the scope of this Public Notice. This matter has been dealt with in *Local competition start-up and LNP costs established*, Order CRTC 2000-143, 23 February 2000.

Procedure

8. Bell Aliant, Bell Canada, MTS Allstream Inc., Saskatchewan Telecommunications, and TELUS Communications Company (the major ILECs) are made parties to this proceeding.
9. Other persons interested in participating in this proceeding (including receiving copies of all submissions) must notify the Commission of their intention to do so by filling out the online form, or by writing to the Secretary General, CRTC, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N2, or by faxing at: 819-994-0218 by **22 May 2007** (the registration date). Parties are to provide their email address, where available. If parties do not have access to the Internet, they are to indicate in their notice whether they wish to receive disk versions of hard-copy filings.

⁴ The Commission notes that Business IP Voice Standard service is not an access-independent service.

10. The Commission will issue on its website, as soon as possible after the registration date, a complete list of interested parties and their mailing addresses (including their email addresses, if available) identifying those parties who wish to receive disk versions.
11. The major ILECs are to file, and other parties may file, with the Commission, comments and the evidence that they consider necessary to support their arguments, serving a copy on all other parties, by **9 July 2007**. Evidence should be related to customer demand for, implementation constraints on, technical issues associated with, and the cost-effectiveness of implementing full LNP capabilities related to VoIP services as well as any other material that parties may wish to refer to in this proceeding.
12. All parties may file reply comments with the Commission, serving a copy on all other parties, by **6 August 2007**.
13. The Commission expects to issue a decision on the issues raised in this Public Notice within 90 days after the record closes.
14. The Commission will not formally acknowledge comments. It will, however, fully consider all comments and they will form part of the public record of the proceeding.
15. Where a document is to be filed or served by a specific date, the document must be actually received, not merely sent, by that date.
16. Parties may file their submissions electronically or on paper. Submissions longer than five pages should include a summary.
17. Electronic submissions should be in HTML format. As an alternative, those making submissions may use "Microsoft Word" for text and "Microsoft Excel" for spreadsheets.
18. Each paragraph of all submissions should be numbered. In addition, the line *****End of document***** should be entered following the last paragraph. This will help the Commission verify that the document has not been damaged during electronic transmission.
19. The Commission also encourages parties to monitor the record of this proceeding (and/or the Commission's website) for additional information that they may find useful when preparing their submissions.

Important notice

20. Note that all information that you provide as part of this public process, except information granted confidentiality, whether sent by postal mail, facsimile, email or through the Commission's website at www.crtc.gc.ca, becomes part of a publicly accessible file and will be posted on the Commission's website. This information includes your personal information, such as your full name, email address, postal/street address, telephone and facsimile number(s), and any other personal information you provide.
21. The personal information you provide will be used and may be disclosed for the purpose for which the information was obtained or compiled by the Commission, or for a use consistent with that purpose.

22. Documents received electronically or otherwise will be posted on the Commission's website in their entirety exactly as you send them, including any personal information contained therein, in the official language and format in which they are received. Documents not received electronically will be available in PDF format.
23. Please note that the information you provide to the Commission as part of this public process is entered into an unsearchable database dedicated to this specific public process. This database is accessible only from the webpage of this particular public process. As a result, a general search of our website with the help of either our own search engine or a third-party search engine will not provide access to the information which was provided as part of this public process.

Location of CRTC offices

24. Submissions may be examined or will be made available promptly upon request at the Commission offices during normal business hours:

Toll-free telephone: 1-877-249-2782

Toll-free TDD: 1-877-909-2782

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Secretary General

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