



Telecom Decision CRTC 2017-38

PDF version

Ottawa, 3 February 2017

File number: 8621-C12-01/08

CISC Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering – Consensus report CNRE119A regarding setting aside numbering plan area (NPA) codes to be used for relief of existing Canadian NPAs forecast to exhaust in the next 10 years

Report

1. On 7 November 2016, the Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering (CSCN) of the CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee (CISC) submitted the following consensus report for Commission approval:
 - CSCN TIF Report 119 re: Future Canadian Geographic NPA Codes to be used for relief of existing Canadian NPAs forecast to exhaust in next ten years (CNRE119A)
2. The consensus report can be found in the “Reports” section of the CSCN page, which is available in the CISC section of the Commission’s website at www.crtc.gc.ca.
3. In the report, the CSCN proposed that the Commission set aside certain numbering plan area (NPA) codes (also known as area codes) to be used for relief of existing Canadian NPAs forecast to exhaust in the next 10 years.
4. In addition to seeking Commission approval for the proposed set-aside of NPA codes, the CSCN requested that the Commission direct the Canadian Numbering Administrator (CNA), which is the administrator of numbering resources in Canada, to set aside these NPA codes for future relief in the NPAs identified in the consensus report. The codes are provided in Table 2 of the Appendix.
5. The CSCN submitted that the Commission’s decision to set aside certain NPA codes in Telecom Decision 2010-784 proved beneficial to telecommunications service providers (TSPs). TSPs were able to pre-build the set-aside codes into their operational support and information technology systems when they modified the systems for nearer-term area code relief activities, thus resulting in cost savings.
6. The CSCN noted that almost all the NPA codes that were previously set aside have already been implemented or are in the process of being implemented. In addition, the most recent Canadian Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast indicates that the projected exhaust dates for the majority of Canadian NPAs have advanced significantly and are now within a 10-year time frame.

7. After assessing the situation, the CSCN concluded that NPA codes should be set aside for NPAs that are projected to exhaust during the next 10 years and for which no NPA Relief Planning Committee currently exists.
8. The CSCN selected its proposed NPA codes using the criteria contained in section 4.10 of the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline and the current NPA Code Selection Tool.
9. The CSCN noted that in Telecom Decision 2010-784, the Commission set aside NPA code 942 for future relief of NPA code 902. It submitted, however, that during the NPA 902 Relief Planning Committee meetings, it was argued that 942 was too similar to 902 and, therefore, the committee recommended NPA code 782 in its place.
10. The CSCN further submitted that NPA code 942 is the only future Canadian NPA code that is unassigned as a central office code in the home and neighbouring NPAs for NPA 416/437/647. It noted that NPA 782/902 is not projected to exhaust until 2033, whereas NPA 416/437/647 is projected to exhaust in 2027. The CSCN therefore recommended that NPA code 942 be set aside for the next relief of NPA 416/437/647, as it will not likely be used for NPA 782/902 relief. It also recommended that NPA code 387, which had been set aside for the relief of NPA 416/437/647 in Telecom Decision 2011-436, be retained for that NPA's subsequent relief. It submitted that no future NPA code is proposed at this time for NPA 782/902, which is not projected to exhaust within the 10-year time frame.

Commission's analysis and determinations

11. The Commission has already set aside NPA codes for future relief of existing NPAs as indicated in Table 1 of the Appendix.
12. The Commission has issued notices of consultation to establish Relief Planning Committees for NPAs 236, 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia,¹ 418 and 581 in north-eastern Quebec,² 506 in New Brunswick,³ and 709 in Newfoundland and Labrador.⁴ Relief planning for these NPAs is currently underway.
13. Setting aside NPA codes for future relief in specific regions enables TSPs and customers to benefit from significant cost savings by pre-building future NPAs at the same time as they are making other changes. Further, setting aside certain NPA codes gives the CNA some foreknowledge of the central office codes that it should not assign within each area code, which helps prevent dialing issues when the future relief NPA codes are put into service.

¹ Telecom Notice of Consultation 2016-208

² Telecom Notice of Consultation 2016-207

³ Telecom Notice of Consultation 2016-206

⁴ Telecom Notice of Consultation 2016-205

14. In Telecom Decision 2012-528, the Commission determined that NPA code 782 be used for relief of NPA 902 in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and that NPA code 942, for planning purposes, be set aside as the most suitable area code for future relief of that NPA. Given that NPA 782/902 is now forecast to exhaust only in 2033, the Commission considers reasonable the proposal to set aside NPA code 942 for the future relief of NPA 416/437/647 (Toronto) instead, which continues to grow in terms of population.
15. Accordingly, the Commission **approves** the CSCN's consensus report and **directs** the CNA to set aside NPA codes as shown in Table 2 of the Appendix.

Secretary General

Related documents

- *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area codes 236, 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia*, Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2016-208, 31 May 2016
- *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area codes 418 and 581 in eastern Quebec*, Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2016-207, 31 May 2016
- *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area code 506 in New Brunswick*, Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2016-206, 31 May 2016
- *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area code 709 in Newfoundland and Labrador*, Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2016-205, 31 May 2016
- *Area code relief for area codes 226 and 519 in southwestern Ontario*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2013-575, 30 October 2013
- *Area code relief for area codes 403, 587, and 780 in Alberta*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2013-574, 30 October 2013
- *Area code relief for area code 902 in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2012-528, 1 October 2012
- *Area code relief for area codes 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2011-451, 28 July 2011
- *Area code relief for area codes 416 and 647 in Toronto, Ontario*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2011-436, 22 July 2011
- *CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee consensus item – Reservation of area codes for future area code relief*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2010-784, 22 October 2010
- *Code relief for area codes 289 and 905 in southern Ontario*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2010-213, 13 April 2010

Appendix to Telecom Decision CRTC 2017-38

1. In the tables below, italics are used to identify NPAs that are forecast to exhaust within the next 10 years, but for which no future NPA codes have been reserved or set aside, or for which Relief Planning Committees have not yet been established.

Table 1. Existing NPAs and the NPA codes that were set aside for their relief

Existing NPA	Description of NPA	Current projected exhaust date (PED)	Set-aside NPA codes	Telecom Decision	Notes
<i>204/431</i>	<i>Manitoba</i>	<i>2027</i>			
226/519/548	Southern Ontario	2027	382	2013-575	
236/250/604/778	British Columbia	2021	672	2011-451	In relief planning window
<i>249/705</i>	<i>North-Eastern Ontario</i>	<i>2025</i>			
289/365/905	Surrounds of Toronto, Ontario	2023	742	2010-213	
306/639	Saskatchewan	2027	474	2010-784	
<i>343/613</i>	<i>Eastern Ontario</i>	<i>2025</i>			
403/587/780/825	Alberta	2023	368	2013-574	
416/437/647	Toronto, Ontario	2027	387	2011-436	
418/581	North-Eastern Quebec	2019			In relief planning window
<i>438/514</i>	<i>Montreal, Quebec</i>	<i>2027</i>			
<i>450/579</i>	<i>Surrounds of Montreal, Quebec</i>	<i>2023</i>			
506	New Brunswick	2021	428	2010-784	In relief planning window
709	Newfoundland and Labrador	2019	879	2010-784	In relief planning window
782/902	Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island	2033	942	2010-784	Beyond 10 years
807	Western Ontario	2038+			Beyond 10 years

819/873	Quebec West	2025			
867	Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut	2038+			Beyond 10 years

2. The CSCN's proposal is summarized in Table 2, including the proposal to set aside NPA code 942 for relief of NPA 416/437/647.

Table 2. Current NPAs and the NPA codes proposed to be set aside for future relief

Current NPA	Description of NPA	Proposed relief NPA code	PED
204/431	Manitoba	584	2027
249/705	North-Eastern Ontario	683	2025
343/613	Eastern Ontario	753	2025
416/437/647	Toronto, Ontario	942 387	2027
438/514	Montreal, Quebec	263	2027
450/579	Surrounds of Montreal, Quebec	354	2023
819/873	Quebec West	468	2025