

LOCAL TRANSPORT AND TERMINATION SERVICES

9. Number Portability

9.1 Scope

The Company and the Customer ("the LECs") shall provide LNP and port Assigned Telephone Numbers on a reciprocal basis pursuant to this Tariff and in accordance with FCC Rules and Regulations as may be prescribed from time to time.

9.2 Procedures for Providing LNP

The Parties will follow the LNP provisioning process recommended by the North American Numbering Council (NANC) and adopted by the FCC. In addition, the Parties agree to follow the LNP ordering procedures established at the OBF.

9.2.1 For purposes of this Part IX, "LEC A" refers to the LEC whose end user elects to become an end user of the other LEC ("LEC B") and to utilize the original telephone number(s) corresponding to the service(s) the end user previously received from LEC A in conjunction with the service(s) it will now receive from LEC B. Upon LEC B receiving authorization from the end user in accordance with applicable law and sending an LNP order to LEC A, LECs A and B will work together to port the end user's telephone number(s) from LEC A's network to LEC B's network.

9.2.2 When a telephone number is ported out of LEC A's network, LEC A will remove all line-based features and calling card(s) associated with the ported number(s) from its Line Information Database (LIDB). Reactivation of the line-based calling card in another LIDB, if applicable, is the responsibility of LEC B or the end user.

9.2.3 When an end user's number is ported between the LECs, the LECs will follow the 911 Guidelines recommended by the National Emergency Number Association ("NENA") with regard to emergency services databases.

9.2.4 When LEC A ports telephone numbers of its end user to LEC B and the end user has previously secured a reservation of line numbers from LEC A for possible activation at a future point, these reserved but inactive numbers may be ported along with the active numbers to be ported provided the numbers have been reserved for the end user. LEC B may request that LEC A port all reserved numbers assigned to the end user or that LEC A port only those numbers listed by LEC B. As long as LEC B maintains reserved but inactive numbers

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9. Number Portability (Cont'd)

9.2 Procedures for Providing LNP (Cont'd)

9.2.4 (Cont'd)

ported for the end user, LEC A shall not reassign those numbers. LEC B shall not reassign the reserved numbers to another end user.

9.2.5 Where technically feasible, the LECs shall furnish each other with the Jurisdiction Information Parameter (JIP), containing a Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG)-assigned NPA-NXX (6 digits) identifying the originating switch on calls originating from LNP-capable switches.

9.2.6 NXX codes shall be portable in accordance with FCC Rules and Regulations except those permitted to be designated non-portable by the same FCC Rules and Regulations. The LECs, moreover, shall ensure that all switches are upgraded to facilitate LNP to the extent required by FCC Rules and Regulations.

9.3 LNP Ordering Procedures

9.3.1 Numbers to be ported from the Customer to the Company

9.3.1.1 Orders for LNP shall be submitted manually by the Company to the Customer using a Local Service Request ("LSR") via fax or e-mail. The Company shall submit LSRs to port numbers only on behalf of itself and entities for which it has authority to act.

9.3.1.2 Orders for LNP shall be submitted by the Company to the Customer utilizing validation information as required by the Customer.

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9.3 LNP Ordering Procedures

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9.3.2.2 Orders for LNP shall be submitted by the Customer to the Company utilizing validation information as required by the Company.

9.4 Procedures for Providing LNP Through Full NXX Code Migration

When a LEC has activated an entire NXX code for a single end user, and such end user chooses to receive service from the other LEC, the LECs shall follow the procedures set forth in the Industry Number Committee ("INC") Guideline 95-0407-0008 Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines Section 7.

9.5 Reserved for Future Use

This section is reserved for future use.

9.6 Procedures for Requesting LNP Capability

Either LEC may submit a written request that the other LEC upgrade any of its End Offices to become LNP capable.

9.6.1 If either LEC desires to have LNP capability deployed in an End Office of the other LEC that is not currently capable, the requesting LEC shall issue a LNP request to the other LEC. The Party receiving such request will respond to the requesting LEC within ten (10) days of the requested End Office. The LEC receiving the request shall proceed to provide for LNP in compliance with the procedures and timeline set forth in FCC Rules and Regulations.

9.6.2 The LECs will each be responsible for updating the LERG and NECA Tariff No. 4 to reflect the LNP capabilities of their respective End Offices.

9.7 System Interruptions or Service Outages

Telecommunications system interruptions or service outages may occur which may delay the processing of port requests. The LECs shall use best reasonable efforts to avoid such interruptions or outages and with respect to scheduled outages or maintenance activities shall work with each other to schedule them so as to minimize disruptions to end users. Scheduled interruptions/maintenance should adhere to standard industry agreed upon maintenance windows for the NPAC.

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