

Resolution Concerning a Minimum Standard Dialing Plan

WHEREAS, The Bell Communications Research Corporation (Bellcore) was created as a result of the Modified Final Judgement between AT&T and the United States Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, The Plan of Reorganization stipulated that Bellcore should be the administrator of the North American Numbering Plan for the telephone industry; and

WHEREAS, Due to the rapid exhaust of the supply of Number Plan Area (NPA) codes, Bellcore is planning to implement, on January 1, 1995, an interchangeable Number Plan Area (INPA) code format, i.e., allowing the use of any number between 0 and 9 as the middle digit of an area code; and

WHEREAS, When interchangeable NPAs are introduced, switching systems will not be able to distinguish between 7- and 10-digit addresses by examining the first three digits of the telephone number dialed; and

WHEREAS, The Bellcore recommended dialing plan under INPA for those locations without Step-by-Step equipment is that all calls within the Home Numbering Plan Area (HNPA), whether local or toll, be dialed on a 7-digit basis, and some States are considering a HNPA 11-digit toll call dialing requirement; and

WHEREAS, On May 26, 1993, the Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users Committee (Ad Hoc) filed a request for a rulemaking to adopt an alternative dialing plan to the Bellcore proposal to eliminate the use of the prefix '1' as a toll call identifier as part of its implementation of INPA; and

WHEREAS, The Ad Hoc Committee recommended a dialing plan shown below:

Local call, Home NPA	7-digits	NXX-XXXX
Local call, Foreign NPA	10-digits	FNPA-NXX-XXXX
Toll call, Home NPA	11-digits	1+HNPA-NXX-XXXX
Toll call, Foreign NPA	11-digits	1+FNPA-NXX-XXXX

retains the prefix '1' as a toll call identifier, which gives the consumer a clear indication when a call will be billed as a toll call; and

WHEREAS, States have historically been involved in the implementation of local dialing plans; and

WHEREAS, A uniform nationwide dialing plan will assist States in dealing with the shortage of available numbering resources and the impending implementation of INPA codes; and

WHEREAS, Uniformity of dialing plans across jurisdictions is desirable given the

increasing mobile nature of our society; and

WHEREAS, On July 27, 1993, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Committee on Communications adopted a Communications Subcommittee proposal to establish a work group of interested staff to review existing and proposed dialing plans to determine their workability and to develop a draft position on the feasibility of adopting a uniform nationwide dialing plan; and

WHEREAS, The work group has developed a draft position supporting adoption of a **minimum standard dialing plan** of Prefix '1' + Area Code + Central Office Code that should be established on a permissive basis in each State as an 'overlay' to existing dialing plans; and

WHEREAS, The draft position recommends that the local exchange company should route the call to an explanatory announcement about the applicable dialing procedures for a particular location, if the minimum standard dialing plan cannot be used in that location; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its 1994 Winter Meetings in Washington, D.C., endorses the **minimum standard dialing plan** of Prefix '1' + Area Code + Central Office Code on a permissive basis, as an 'overlay' to existing State dialing plans; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, if the minimum standard dialing plan is not workable in a particular location, the local exchange company should route the call to an explanatory announcement about the applicable dialing procedures for that location; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all NARUC members are encouraged to adopt Prefix '1' + Area Code + Central Office Code as the minimum standard dialing plan within their State jurisdictions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, in addition to the **minimum standard dialing plan**, all NARUC members are strongly urged to adopt a dialing plan, such as using the Prefix '1' as a toll indicator, within their State jurisdictions that gives the consumer the information to easily determine when a call will be billed as a toll call; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the NARUC General Counsel shall file papers and other documents supporting the policies of this resolution in the appropriate forums to further this recommendation.

Sponsored by the Committee on Communications
 Adopted March 2, 1994
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