

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

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IN RE:  QWEST CORPORATION	DOCKET NO. WRU-02-11-272
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**ORDER GRANTING WAIVER**

(Issued April 8, 2002)

On March 26, 2002, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for a waiver of certain unspecified rules of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Qwest requests a waiver of utilization threshold requirements outlined in some FCC orders relating to optimization of telephone numbering resources. Qwest states it received a customer request for 700 numbers in sequence in the Cedar Falls wire center, which Qwest states it cannot provide without a new block of 10,000 numbers, sometimes referred to as a new NXX. Qwest submitted a request for a new NXX to NeuStar, Inc. (NeuStar), the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA), on March 25, 2002, but Qwest anticipates the request will be denied because Qwest does not meet the "months-to-exhaust" threshold for the Cedar Falls rate center.

On April 5, 2002, the Board issued an order denying Qwest's waiver request and seeking additional information that the FCC requires states consider when reviewing these waiver requests. Qwest filed the additional information on April 4, 2002.

The FCC has given states the authority to overturn the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from a carrier based on the state's determination that the carrier has demonstrated a verifiable need for numbering resources and has exhausted all other available remedies. (See 47 C.F.R. § 52.15(g)"4"). In addition, the FCC states that carriers may demonstrate the need for additional numbering resources by providing the state with documentation of a customer request and current proof of utilization in the rate center. (FCC 01-362, ¶ 64). The FCC is careful to point out, however, that states may not accommodate requests for specific numbers (i.e., vanity numbers), but may grant requests for customers seeking contiguous blocks of numbers. (Id.). Therefore, a statement by the carrier regarding the types of numbers being requested is necessary.

The additional information filed by Qwest Corporation in response to the Board's April 5, 2002, order sufficiently satisfies the requirements specified in the FCC's orders delegating waiver authority to the Board. Qwest has provided documentation of its customer's request for the additional 700 contiguous numbers as well as statements regarding number utilization in the Cedar Falls wire center. Qwest also states that for technical reasons, Qwest cannot use the only existing prefix in Cedar Falls with 700 consecutive numbers, and that its customer is not requesting a block of vanity numbers. In addition, the Board notes that based on information contained in confidential filings by Qwest in this docket, the remaining numbers in the NXX will be used in the near future.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. The request for waiver of the FCC's utilization threshold requirements filed by Qwest Corporation on March 26, 2002, is granted as discussed in the body of this order.

2. The Executive Secretary of the Utilities Board shall mail a copy of this order to NeuStar, Inc., 1800 Sutter Street, Suite 570, Concord, CA 94520, to the attention of Ms. Genevieve Paulino, Code Administrator.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2002.