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**NPA CODE RELIEF PLANNING AND NOTIFICATION
GUIDELINES**

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For ordering information, please contact:

ATIS
1200 G Street N.W., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 628-6380
inc@atis.org

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1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for NPA code relief planning activities. This includes the relief planning process, industry notification process and NANPA's responsibilities to Affected Parties and applicable regulatory authorities within the North American Numbering Plan area. It also provides relief planning principles, administrative responsibilities and industry notification requirements. The steps of the NPA code relief planning process are listed and the alternative methods of providing relief and their various attributes are described.

2.0 Assumptions and Constraints

The development of these guidelines includes the following assumptions and constraints:

- 2.1 These guidelines were developed by the INC to apply to geographic NPA relief planning.
- 2.2 Section 14 has been added to incorporate NANPA's responsibility for Toll Free Service relief planning.
- 2.3 Relief activities will be undertaken to provide relief to an exhausting NPA. For the purpose of NPA relief planning, it is assumed that the capacity of an NPA is 792 CO codes (NXXs). However, in overlay NPA situations, the CO code exhaust capacity will be the number of NPA codes assigned to that geographic area times 792. It may not be possible to assign all 792 NXXs as CO codes for a variety of reasons.
- 2.4 The relief plan chosen will seek to minimize end user confusion while balancing multiple objectives including cost effectiveness, minimum customer impact, and long-lasting relief.
- 2.5 For each relief activity proposed in the plan, it is recommended that customers who undergo number changes shall not be required to change again for a period of 8-10 years. However, the ultimate decision as to which geographic area is assigned a new NPA in an NPA split is usually in the hands of local regulatory authorities instead of the industry. In addition, an extended permissive dialing period for certain specific NXX codes, e.g., wireless or NXX codes containing numbers utilized by alarm companies, especially where local number portability (LNP) and/or thousands-block number pooling have been implemented, shall be avoided.
- 2.6 The ATIS consensus process will be employed in selecting an industry relief recommendation.
- 2.7 NANPA will moderate industry relief planning meetings and is required to do so in a fair and impartial manner, ensuring that all participants have any opportunity to express their opinions.
- 2.8 These relief planning guidelines were developed without making any assumption as to who will fill the role of CO Code Administrator or NANP Administrator.