

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of MCImetro Access )  
Transmission Services LLC d/b/a Verizon Access )  
Transmission Services for Review and Reversal of ) **File No. CO-2024-0342**  
North American Number Plan Thousands-Block )  
Pooling Administrator’s Decision to Withhold )  
Numbering Resources )

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), through the undersigned counsel, and hereby respectfully submits this *Staff Recommendation*.

1. On May 21, 2024, the above-referenced MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services (“Verizon” or “Company”) filed an application and Motion for Expedited Treatment requesting that the Commission reverse a decision of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator (“NANPA”) to withhold certain numbering resources in the Cape Girardeau rate center. After discussion with Staff, Verizon filed a revised application on May 24, 2024. According to Verizon, Mercy Medical Group is in need of 1,000 contiguous numbers in the 573 Numbering Plan Area (“NPA”), in the Cape Girardeau rate center, and the 573-XXX-8XXX range.

2. Rule 20 CSR 4240-28.016 requires a carrier that requests the Commission to overturn a decision of NANPA to deny a carrier’s request for additional numbering resources to file an application with the Commission to meet certain criteria.

3. As explained in Staff's Memorandum, attached hereto as Appendix A, Staff conducted an investigation into Verizon's application for compliance with the Commission's rules and federal requirements. Based on its review, Staff recommends the Commission approve Verizon's application and order a reversal of the NANPA decision to deny the additional numbers for Mercy.

**WHEREFORE**, Staff recommends that the Commission grant MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services request for 1,000 consecutive numbers within the 573 NPA, the Cape Girardeau rate center, and the XXXX of 8000; grant the Motion for Expedited Treatment; and grant such other and further relief as it finds just in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Ron Irving**

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024, to all counsel of record.

**/s/ Ron Irving**

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File  
Case No. CO-2024-0342

**From:** Kari Salsman, Senior Research/Data Analyst  
John VanEschen, Regulatory Compliance Manager  
Telecommunications Department

**Subject:** Staff's Recommendation to Approve MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services Request for Additional Numbering Resources to accommodate the needs of Mercy Medical Group in the Cape Girardeau rate center.

**Date:** May 28, 2024

On May 21<sup>st</sup>, MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services (Verizon) filed a request for the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) to reverse a decision by the North American Numbering Plan Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator (NANPA) to withhold and deny the request of Verizon for additional telephone numbering resources in the Cape Girardeau rate center. On May 24<sup>th</sup> the company filed a revised application. According to Verizon, Mercy Medical Group is improving its provider and patient medical services with new technology to improve safe, accurate information sharing and HIPAA compliant communication between hospital employees and departments and is in need of 1,000 contiguous numbers in the 573 Numbering Plan Area (NPA). Specifically, to not interfere with the already set dialing plan at this location, Mercy is in need of 1,000 consecutive numbers within the 573 NPA, in the Cape Girardeau rate center, and the 573 XXX-8XXX range.

According to its Application, Verizon states that it does not have the numbers available for assignment in the Cape Girardeau rate center to meet the needs of Mercy and requests the Commission to override the NANPA's denial of Verizon's request for the additional telephone numbers. Denial was based on Verizon's inability to meet the guidelines pertaining to current telephone number utilization. In other words, Verizon may very well have available telephone numbers to assign Mercy; however, said numbers are not in sequential order, which is necessary to work with Mercy's communications plan.

In support of its Application, Verizon provided copies of its request to the NANPA and subsequent denial by the NANPA. Additionally, Verizon provided Staff confidential copies of its telephone number utilization for the Cape Girardeau rate center. The Staff has examined the request and supporting documentation and in the Staff's opinion, Verizon's application complies with the requirements of 20 CSR 4240-28.016 and Verizon has demonstrated a verifiable need for the additional telephone numbers. Staff also notes the current forecasted exhaust date for the 573 area code is

beyond 40 years.<sup>1</sup> Staff recommends the Commission approve Verizon's request and order a reversal of the NANPA decision to deny the additional numbers for Mercy.

Specifically, the Staff recommends the Commission's order include statements substantially similar to the following:

Grant Verizon's request for 1,000 consecutive numbers within the 573 NPA, the Cape Girardeau rate center, and the XXXX of 8000. This decision reverses a recent decision by the North American Numbering Plan Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator denying Verizon's original request.

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<sup>1</sup> The new 235 area code was recently introduced in the 573 area code. NANPA no longer conducts a forecast solely for the 573 area code but rather combines the 573 and 235 area codes.