



916 Area Code



August 15 – 16, 2016

California Public Utilities Commission

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)'s Role

- a) FCC holds full jurisdiction over telephone numbering system.
- b) FCC has delegated area code relief responsibilities to each state.
- c) The CPUC conducts area code relief and determines method to introduce a new area code.
 - Public Utilities Code Section 7930-7943 directs the CPUC to conduct public meetings.
- d) Area code administration is in accordance with FCC policy. Area codes are managed and assigned by the North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA).

History

- a) 916 area code was created in 1947 as one of the original three area codes in California.
- b) Over the years, the 916 has diminished in size as a result of two area code splits.
- c) The 916 was split in 1958 to create the 209 area code, and in 1997, to create the 530 area code.
- d) The 916 now has a limited number of prefixes remaining.
- e) NANPA forecasted the 916 area code to use up all prefixes in the 1st quarter or by March of 2018.

NANPA

- FCC contracted with Neustar, a public company, to serve as the NANPA
- NANPA's responsibilities:
 - Assigns area codes and prefixes,
 - Tracks number usage, receives numbering reports from the service providers,
 - Forecasts when area codes will run out of prefixes, or “exhaust”, and
 - Coordinates planning to introduce new area code, or *Area Code Relief Planning*, which starts 36 months before the forecasted exhaust

Factors to Consider in Area Code Exhaust Forecast

- a) History of prefix code assignments
- b) Current growth in the telecommunications industry
- c) Annual increase in the demand for prefixes in the area code

Number Limitations

- a) Area codes are geographically specific.
- b) Each area code is divided into local serving areas called rate centers.
- c) There are 16 rate centers in the 916 area code. They are:
 - Courtland, Elk Grove, Fair Oaks (Sacramento), Folsom, Isleton, Lincoln, Meadowview, Michigan Bar, Pleasant Grove, Rio Linda, Roseville: Citrus Heights DA, Roseville: Main DA, Sacramento: Main DA, Sacramento: North DA, South Placer, and Walnut Grove.
- d) Every prefix is assigned to a specific rate center and may only be used for telephone services in that rate center.

916 Area Code Background

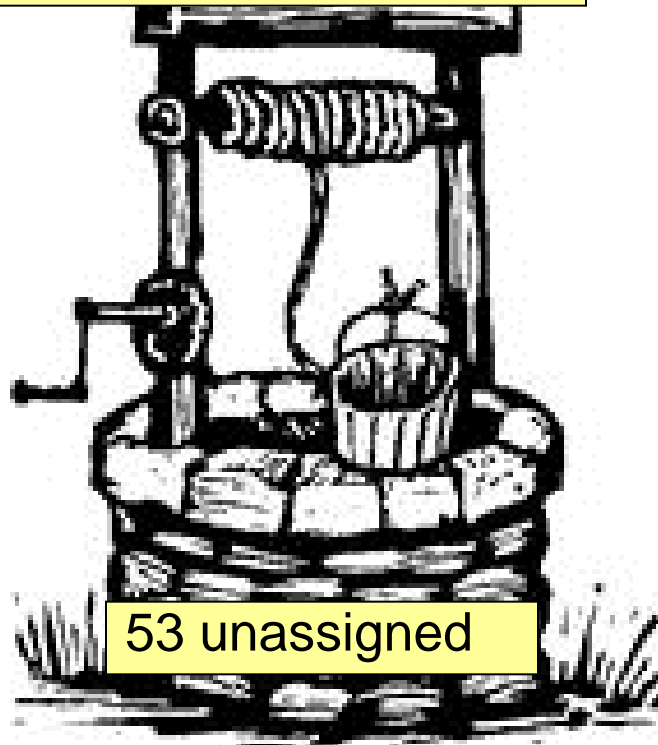
- a) The 916 area code has 16 rate centers, serving the greater Sacramento area, which includes small portions of El Dorado, Solano, Sutter, and Yolo Counties and much of Placer and Sacramento Counties.
- b) The 916 area code is divided into 16 rate areas over 49 service providers, including local, wireless and paging companies, and serves the following cities:
 - Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Isleton, Lincoln, Loomis, Rancho Cordova, Rocklin, Roseville, Sacramento, and West Sacramento.

Number of Prefixes Remaining

- a) The 916 area code has 53 useable prefixes or 7% remaining at this time. They are expected to run out in the 1st quarter of 2018.
- b) A new area code is needed to replenish the supply of prefixes.

Each prefix is assigned to a rate center from the available inventory. Once assigned, numbers from that prefix are not available for assignment to end users in another rate center.

Available 916 prefixes
as of 8/2/2016



916 rate centers and assigned prefixes

Courtland 3	Elk Grove 38	Fair Oaks (Sacramento) 41	Folsom 52
Isleton 2	Lincoln 15	Meadowview 3	Michigan Bar 9
Pleasant Grove 7	Rio Linda 12	Roseville: Citrus Heights DA 17	Roseville: Main DA 62
Sacramento: Main DA 336	Sacramento: North DA 104	South Placer 24	Walnut Grove 5

Relief Methods

Geographic Splits	All-Services Overlays
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Splits maintain a single area code for each geographic area. This may minimize confusion for customers outside the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With an overlay there will be more than one area code in a geographic area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Splits require an area code change for approximately one-half of customers in a two-way split, and two-thirds of customers in a three-way split. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overlay will not require existing customers to change their area code.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geographic splits permit 7-digit dialing within an area code. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overlay requires customers to dial 10 digits (or 1 + 10 digits) for all calls.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stationery, business cards and advertising, as well as non-telephony databases, containing a ten-digit phone number will need to be revised by customers receiving the new area code. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no need to revise stationery, business cards and advertising, as well as non-telephony databases, unless they contain only seven digit phone numbers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future splits will reduce the geographic size of the area code. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overlay will end further shrinking of the geographic size of the area code because subsequent relief will likely be another overlay.

Relief Methods

- a) There has not been an area code split in the nation in the last nine years.
- b) The last split in California was twelve years ago.
- c) California has introduced six new area codes using the overlay method and a seventh overlay was recently ordered in Los Angeles.
- d) The overlay has become the preferred form of area code relief.

Limitations of Area Code Split for 916

- a) Assigned prefixes in the 916 are concentrated in two rate centers in the City of Sacramento - *Sacramento: Main DA* and *Sacramento: North DA*
- b) The imbalance in prefix assignments results in a projected life of 55 years on one side of the split line, and a projected life of 23 years on the other side of the line.
- c) Due to the 32-year difference in the two projected lives, a split alternative would not meet the industry criteria.
- d) A split alternative would also split portions of the Cities of Sacramento, Rancho Cordova, Elk Grove and Citrus Heights.

916 Area Code Proposed Relief Method

- Telecommunications industry proposed an overlay over the 916 area code
- Projected life of the overlay is about 36 years

Impacts of the Overlay

- a) All current customers will keep their existing area code and telephone number
- b) Must dial 1 + ten digits to complete all calls, including local calls
- c) Ten digit dialing is a FCC requirement so that all customers in the two area codes are treated alike
- d) Dialing '1+ an area code' does not change what a call costs and does not mean that a call is a toll or long distance call
- e) Calling areas and rates will not change
- f) What is a local call now will remain a local call
- g) Calls to 911, as well as 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 and 811 will not be affected, and will continue to be dialed with 3 digits

Implementation Periods of the Overlay

- Permissive 1 + 10-digit dialing period
 - Customers may dial numbers from the 916 area code to other 916 numbers using 7 digits or 1+10 digits, but are encouraged to use the new 1 + 10-digit procedure.
 - Permissive period usually lasts several months
- Mandatory 1 + 10-digit dialing period
 - All calls must be dialed using 1 + 10 digits
 - Customers who dial 7 digits will reach a recording stating the call must be redialed using 1 + 10 digits
- Introduction of the new area code
 - One month after mandatory dialing period

Implementation Timeline of the Overlay

Implementation Intervals:

- NANPA files application with CPUC
 - *Fall 2016*
- CPUC Decision
 - *Spring 2017*
- Permissive 1 + ten digit dialing period
 - *Summer 2017*
- Mandatory 1 + ten digit dialing period
 - *Winter 2017*
- Introduction of the new area code
 - *One month after mandatory dialing period*

Questions & Comments?

- a) Sign up with the CPUC Public Advisors to speak
- b) Fill out the comment form in the handout packet, and
 - Give the completed form to a CPUC representative,
 - Mail the form to the CPUC Public Advisors' Office at 320 W. 4th St., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90013, or
 - Email the form to the Public Advisors' Office at public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov
- c) Call the CPUC Area Code Hotline (866) 340-6147