

area code are assigned to those entities requesting assignment on a first-come, first-serve basis, regardless of the identity of, technology used by, or type of service provided by that entity, except to the extent that a technology- or service-specific overlay is authorized by the Commission. No group of telecommunications carriers shall be excluded from assignment of numbering resources in the existing area code, or be assigned such resources only from the all services overlay area code, based solely on that group's provision of a specific type of telecommunications service or use of a particular technology; and

(ii) No area code overlay may be implemented unless there exists, at the time of implementation, mandatory ten-digit dialing for every telephone call within and between all area codes in the geographic area covered by the overlay area code.

(4) A technology-specific or service-specific overlay, which occurs when a new area code is introduced to serve the same geographic area as one or more existing area code(s) and numbering resources in the new area code overlay are assigned to a specific technology(ies) or service(s). State commissions may not implement a technology-specific or service-specific overlay without express authority from the Commission.

[61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 63617, Nov. 16, 1998; 64 FR 62984, Nov. 18, 1999; 67 FR 6434, Feb. 12, 2002]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 67 FR 6434, Feb. 12, 2002, § 52.19 was amended by revising paragraph (c)(3)(i) and adding paragraph (c)(4). These paragraphs contain information collection requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

### Subpart C—Number Portability

SOURCE: 61 FR 38637, July 25, 1996, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996.

#### § 52.20 Thousands-block number pooling.

(a) *Definition.* Thousands-block number pooling is a process by which the 10,000 numbers in a central office code (NXX) are separated into ten sequen-

tial blocks of 1,000 numbers each (thousands-blocks), and allocated separately within a rate center.

(b) *General requirements.* Pursuant to the Commission's adoption of thousands-block number pooling as a mandatory nationwide numbering resource optimization strategy, all carriers, except those exempted by the Commission, must participate in thousands-block number pooling where it is implemented and in accordance with the national thousands-block number pooling framework and implementation schedule established by the Commission.

(c) *Donation of thousands-blocks.* (1) All service providers required to participate in thousands-block number pooling shall donate thousands-blocks with ten percent or less contamination to the thousands-block number pool for the rate center within which the numbering resources are assigned.

(2) All service providers required to participate in thousands-block number pooling shall be allowed to retain at least one thousands-block per rate center, even if the thousands-block is ten percent or less contaminated, as an initial block or footprint block.

(d) *Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator.* (1) The Pooling Administrator shall be a non-governmental entity that is impartial and not aligned with any particular telecommunication industry segment, and shall comply with the same neutrality requirements that the NANPA is subject to under this part.

(2) The Pooling Administrator shall maintain no more than a six-month inventory of telephone numbers in each thousands-block number pool.

[65 FR 37709, June 16, 2000, as amended at 66 FR 9532, Feb. 8, 2001; 68 FR 43009, July 21, 2003]

#### § 52.21 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) The term *100 largest MSAs* includes the 100 largest MSAs as identified in the 1990 U.S. Census reports, as set forth in the Appendix to this part, as well as those areas identified as one of the largest 100 MSAs on subsequent updates to the U.S. Census reports.