



California Public Utilities Commission

505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PUC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS ON 760 AREA CODE CHANGE

SAN FRANCISCO, January 26, 2007 -- The California Public Utilities Commission (PUC), recognizing that there may soon be a shortage of available telephone numbers in the 760 area code, will hold public meetings to inform the public and to hear comments about area code change alternatives. The 760 area code is used by cities such as Barstow, Indio, Lee Vining, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, and Twentynine Palms. The scheduled public meetings are:

Monday, February 5, 2007

1:30 p.m.: Local Jurisdiction Meeting for elected and appointed officials

7 p.m.: Public Participation Meeting

Apple Valley Town Hall Council Chambers

14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

7 p.m. Public Participation Meeting

City of Palm Springs City Council Chambers

3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

11 a.m.: Local Jurisdiction Meeting for elected and appointed officials

7 p.m.: Public Participation Meeting

City of Carlsbad - Faraday Building

1635 Faraday Ave., Carlsbad

Thursday, February 22, 2007

7 p.m.: Public Participation Meeting

El Centro City Council Chambers

1275 Main St., El Centro

The North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA), which holds overall responsibility for the neutral administration of numbering resources, has determined that whole prefixes are running out in the existing 760 area code. The prefix is the first three digits of the seven digit number and they are assigned to telecommunications exchanges. Exchanges are replenished

with more prefixes as the supply of phone numbers decrease. However, once an area code runs low on its supply of whole unused prefixes, a new area code must be added to increase the supply of numbers. The new 442 area code will be added to the 760 area code to provide more telephone numbers.

PUC staff and NANPA are holding public meetings to explain the area code change options that the telecommunications industry selected for the 760 area code (Split Alternative #1, Split Alternative #4, and Overlay: see maps at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/760areacode>). They will also ask for the public's preference as to which area code option should be implemented. Lastly, they will discuss the status of numbering resources in the 760 area code.

The PUC welcomes consumer participation and comments, which will help the PUC determine the area code change option to implement for the 760 area code. If consumers cannot attend the public meetings, preferences on the area code change option and comments can be made on the Commission's website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/760areacode>. Written comments can also be submitted to the Commission's Public Advisor's Office at 320 W. 4th Street, Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90013 or via e-mail to public.advisor.la@cpuc.ca.gov.

If specialized accommodations are needed in order to attend the meetings, such as sign language interpreters, please contact the Commission's Public Advisor's Office five business days in advance of the meeting toll free at 866-849-8390 or toll free TTY at 866-836-7825.

Area Code Split and Overlay

Traditionally, area codes have been split to provide more prefixes for the telecommunications industry and its customers, creating smaller geographic areas. Area code splits create new area codes by splitting a geographical region in multiple ways. Only one area code is assigned to a particular geographical region.

An area code overlay is a form of area code change that adds an area code(s) to the same geographic region as the existing area code. Therefore, multiple area codes co-exist within the same geographic region. If an area code overlay is chosen for the 760 region, consumers with 760 telephone numbers will retain their current telephone number(s) and area code. Consumers who would like new or additional telephone numbers or telecommunications services may be given telephone numbers with the new 442 area code.

More information about the 760 area code change is available at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/760areacode>.

For more information on the PUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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