

DT 10-211

From: Tom Li [mailto:cashflow808@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, December 18, 2010 4:31 AM
To: PUC
Subject: Docket 10-211 - 603 Area Code

To whom it may concern:

I am a recent graduate of Carnegie Mellon University living just outside New York City. My philosophy regarding area code relief depends on the dialing habits of the residents of the area codes in question.

In the case of area code 603, because this is currently the only area code serving the entire state of New Hampshire, most of its residents live and do business in only one area code and are probably not accustomed to the "multiple area code lifestyle" of dialing 10 or 11 digits on a regular basis that is typical of major cities like New York or Los Angeles. As such, I would recommend a geographic split so that residents can continue to maintain the current single area code lifestyle until such time more significant growth and development occurs.

As for the specific split options identified by the relief plan, only option #3 is still viable due to the NANPA's 10-year projected lives balance requirement of its relief planning guidelines. I would personally prefer that major cities like Concord and Manchester retain area code 603, but it seems that option #3 will most likely result in the section containing these cities changing to the new area code due to that section having the longer projected life. If option #2 is to be considered, it should be modified such that Belknap County and/or Strafford County is grouped with Area A instead of Area B so that the difference in projected lives is reduced.

There have been instances where the general public does not share the telecommunication industry's preference for overlays instead of geographic splits. This most recently occurred the other day in Pennsylvania, where the Pennsylvania PUC decided to split the 814 area code instead of adopting the industry-recommended overlay based on substantial public feedback supporting the former over the latter. As such, to get a better idea of where the general public stands on adding a new area code in New Hampshire, I also recommend that public hearings be scheduled in various cities across New Hampshire to solicit public input regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Tom Li

