



Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

News Release

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IURC to Hold Five Field Hearings on 317 Area Code Relief

Public comments from the public wanted

INDIANAPOLIS – Today the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) announced the dates of five field hearings which will give the public the opportunity to comment on proposed methods to add one or more area codes in the 317 area. The 317 area code is expected to run out of numbers or exhaust in 2017, and a petition has been filed with the IURC by Neustar, Inc., on behalf of the Indiana telecommunications industry, in Cause No. 44513, to determine the best method moving forward.

The following field hearings have been scheduled:

Sept. 26, 2014, 10:00 a.m. - PNC Center, 101 W. Washington Street, Room 224, Indianapolis, IN 46204

(This hearing is scheduled during business hours to accommodate business representatives to attend on behalf of their company. All members of the business community and general public are welcome to attend.)

Oct. 1, 2014, 6 p.m. - Carmel Clay School District Office, Board Room, 5201 E. Main Street, Carmel, IN 46033.

Oct. 14, 2014, 6 p.m. - Franklin College Student Center, Branigin Room, 101 Branigin Boulevard, Franklin, IN 46131.

Oct. 29, 2014, 6:00 p.m. - Danville High School Auditorium, 100 Warrior Way, Danville, IN 46122.

Dec. 1, 2014, 6:00 p.m. - Greenfield City Hall, Council Chambers, 10 S. State Street, Greenfield, IN 46140.

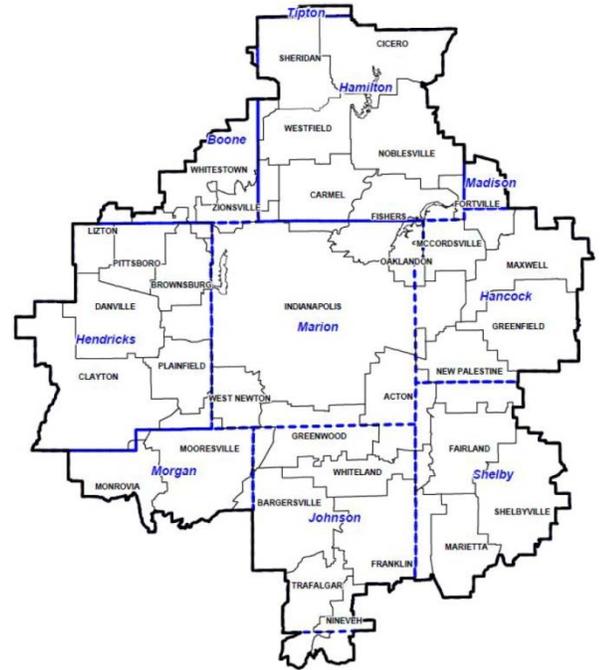
Attendees will have the opportunity to speak or provide written comments at each of the field hearings. All comments will be included in the official case record for consideration by the Commission while it collects evidence in the case. All field hearings are open to the public and are accessible to all.

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The 317 area code is one of the original two area codes which were established in Indiana in 1947, along with 812, when area codes were created. The geographic area served by 317 has been split twice. Currently, the 317 area code serves customers in the greater Indianapolis area, specifically in Marion, Hamilton, Hancock, Shelby, Johnson, Hendricks, and Morgan counties and portions of Brown, Rush, Madison, Tipton, Clinton, Boone, and Putnam counties.

The petition filed with the IURC recommends that a new area code overlay all or a portion of the current area covered by the 317 area code. The petition offers three alternatives for consideration:

1. All Services Distributed Overlay- An all-services overlay would add a new area code to the entire 317 territory, allowing existing customers to retain their current phone numbers but would require customers to use 10-digit dialing on all calls.
2. Concentrated Overlay (Indianapolis rate center)- A new area code overlay would be assigned to only the Indianapolis rate center (central portion of Marion County). Customers in this area would be required to use 10-digit dialing and new numbers assigned in this area would use a new area code. Customers outside of the overlay area would keep their phone numbers and would continue to use 7-digit dialing until the remaining 317 area codes exhaust. The overlay would then be extended to all rate centers in the current 317 service area. The projected time before the need for expansion of the overlay is 6.3 years. The projected life of the area code, including after the overlay is expanded to cover the 317 area, is 49 years.
3. Concentrated Overlay (Indianapolis, Carmel, Fishers, Oaklandon, Cumberland, Acton, Greenwood, West Newton, Plainfield, Brownsburg, and Zionsville rate centers- all centers in or partly in Marion County)- In this scenario, customers in the above-listed rate centers would be required to use 10-digit dialing. New phone numbers would be assigned the new area code in the concentrated overlay area. The projected time before the need for expansion of the overlay is 18.4 years. The projected life of the area code, including after the overlay is expanded to cover the entire 317 area, is also 49 years.



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The Commission is a fact-finding body that hears evidence in cases filed before it and makes decisions based on the evidence presented in those cases. An advocate of neither the public nor the utilities, the IURC is required by state statute to make decisions that balance the interests of all parties to ensure the utilities provide adequate and reliable service at reasonable prices.

For more information, please visit: www.in.gov/iurc.