PUBLIC NOTICE

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45 L Street NE
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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES THE PROPOSED NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN ADMINISTRATION FUND SIZE ESTIMATE AND CONTRIBUTION FACTOR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027

CC Docket No. 92-237

In this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau announces the proposed North American Numbering Plan (NANP) administration fund size estimate and contribution factor for the fiscal year October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027 (Fiscal Year 2027). Proper funding of NANP administration ensures that consumers will continue to have access to the numbering resources essential to the provision of new services and technologies.

A. Calculating the NANP Administration Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor

Pursuant to its contract with the Commission and section 52.16(a) of the Commission's rules, the NANP Billing and Collection Agent, Welch LLP (the B&C Agent), is responsible for calculating, assessing, billing, and collecting payments for numbering administration functions, and for distributing funds to the entities that support these functions (for example, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA)).[1] Consistent with this function, the B&C Agent annually develops the projected numbering administration costs and fund size estimate for the upcoming fiscal year.

The B&C Agent allocates a portion of the funding requirement to all NANP member countries[2] for overall administration of the NANP, and also accounts for additional numbering administration services provided by the NANPA to certain member countries, such as the United States,[3] and recovers the costs for such additional services from those countries.

For the funding required from the United States, section 52.17 of the Commission's rules requires that all telecommunications carriers in the United States contribute on a competitively neutral basis to pay

[1] 47 CFR § 52.16(a).

[2] The NANP member countries are Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Sint Maarten, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, and the United States (including American Samoa, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands). 47 CFR § 52.5(d).

[3] For the United States, such additional services include administration of central office codes, thousands-block number pooling, and routing numbers (pseudo-Automatic Numbering Identification numbers). *See* 47 CFR §§ 52.15, 52.20.

such costs,[4] and the B&C Agent collects such payments directly from U.S. carriers.[5] Each year, the B&C Agent develops a contribution factor for U.S. telecommunications carriers designed to collect the projected United States contribution for the upcoming fiscal year. The Commission's rules provide that contributions shall be the product of the carriers' end-user telecommunications revenues for the prior calendar year and the contribution factor, and such contributions shall be no less than $25.[6]

B. Billing and Collection Agent Projection of the Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor

The B&C Agent has provided to the Commission a proposed a fund size estimate and contribution factor for recovering the cost of NANP Administration for Fiscal Year 2027, in accordance with section 52.16(a) of the Commission's rules. The proposed budget and factor are shown in the Appendix to this Public Notice.[7] The proposed budget includes a funding requirement of $9,378,414 for Fiscal Year 2027, and a contribution factor of 0.0001134 for collection from U.S. carriers.[8] As detailed in the proposed budget, the proposed contribution factor is slightly higher than the contribution factor for the prior fiscal year (0.0001091) due to a lower projected revenue contribution base and higher cost, but offset somewhat by a surplus carried over from the prior year.[9] This year's contingency allowance is $1,250,000, the same amount as last year.[10] The funding requirement contemplates a contribution from U.S. carriers totaling $7,642,653, a contribution from Canada of $161,850, contributions from the other member countries totaling $31,541, and application of a $1,542,370 accumulated surplus anticipated based on last year's surplus.[11] Additional detail about the B&C Agent's considerations in establishing the fund size estimate, contribution factor, and contingency allowance may be found in the B&C Agent's publicly-available monthly fund reports.[12]

C. Effective Date of the Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor

Consistent with the Commission's annual review process, if the Commission takes no action regarding the proposed fund size estimate and contribution factor by August 28, 2026, the fund size estimate and the contribution factor are considered approved by the Commission and become effective for Fiscal Year 2027.[13]

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[4] 47 CFR § 52.17. For purposes of this rule, the term "telecommunications carrier" or "carrier" includes interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) providers as that term is defined in section 52.5 of the Commission's rules. 47 CFR § 52.5(b), (i).

[5] 47 CFR §§ 52.16(a), 52.17.

[6] 47 CFR § 52.17(a).

[7] Appendix.

[8] *Id*., Exhibit 1.

[9] *Id*.

[10] *Compare id.* with Letter from Mark Jackson, Partner, Welch LLP, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, CC Docket No. 92-237 (filed June 26, 2025).

[11] Appendix at 2.

[12] *See* North American Numbering Plan Fund, Monthly Fund Reports, https://nanpfund.com/monthly-fund-reports/ (last visited June 24, 2026).

[13] *See, e.g.*, *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Proposed North American Numbering Plan Administration Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor for October 2025 Through September 2026*, CC Docket No. 92-237, Public Notice, 40 FCC Rcd 5099, 5100 (WCB 2025); *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Proposed North American Numbering Plan Administration Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor for October 2024 Through September 2025*, CC Docket No. 92-237, Public Notice, 39 FCC Rcd 9675, 9676 (WCB 2024).

For further information, contact William Andrle, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at william.andrle@fcc.gov.

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NANP Fund Size Estimate and Contribution Factor
For October 2026 through September 2027 (FY 2027)
Proposed by the NANP Billing & Collection Agent
July 13, 2026

I. Background of the Plan

The numbering resources of the United States are part of the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) - the basic numbering scheme for the public switched telecommunications networks (PSTN) within the member countries of the NANP.[1] The NANP Fund was established to cover the costs of the NANP which include the costs of the NANP administrator and other administration costs. These costs are funded by the NANP member countries, and for the United States are funded directly from U.S. telecommunications service providers along with the cost of U.S. central office (CO) code administration services provided by the NANP administrator.

II. NANP Billing & Collection Agent

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) selected Welch LLP (Welch) to serve as the NANP Billing & Collection Agent (B&C Agent) pursuant to Sections 52.12, 52.16 and 52.17 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The B&C Agent is responsible for the collection of funds from U.S. telecommunication service providers and from non-U.S. NANP member countries, and for the disbursement of funds to support the administration of the NANP. One function of the B&C Agent is to estimate the funds required for NANP administration for each funding period, the allocation of such costs among NANP member countries, and to propose a contribution factor used for allocating United States costs to U.S. carriers.

III. Budget and Contribution Factor for 2026/27 (FY 2027)

The budget for the Plan for the upcoming 12-month period is set out in Exhibit 1. The total projected costs for the fiscal year (FY) 2027 funding period are $9,378,414 which includes a contingency allowance of $1,250,000. A detailed discussion as to the determination of the costs can be found under the heading "Anticipated Disbursements". The international member countries contribute $193,391 towards the NANP costs (see detailed discussion on this point under the heading "Contribution Factor Components – International Members"). The projected surplus of $1,542,370 based on the April 2026 monthly NANP Fund report[2] will be used to offset the remaining cost of $9,185,023 which will result in the remaining $7,642,653 of costs to be borne by the U.S. carriers by way of direct contributions. Based on preliminary industry revenue figures of $67 billion and the required contribution to be borne by the U.S. carriers, a contribution factor of 0.0001134 is required.

This proposed contribution factor of 0.0001134 is higher than last fiscal year (2025/26 – 0.0001091) for two reasons. First, the NANP administrator is entering the second option period of its contract which includes an increase in its monthly fees. Second, the proposed contribution factor is higher due to a lower projected revenue contribution base (2026/27- $67B compared to 2025/26 - $70B).

[1] The NANP member countries are Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Sint Maarten, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, and the United States (including American Samoa, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands). 47 CFR § 52.5(d). Congress vested exclusive jurisdiction in the Commission in section 251(e)(1) of the Act to regulate and administer numbering resources in the United States. 47 U.S.C. § 251(e)(1).
[2] https://nanpfund.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/April-2026-NANP-report-revised.pdf.

IV. <u>Contribution Factor Components</u>

<u>U.S. Telecommunications Service Providers</u>

U.S. carriers are required to fund the numbering administration costs (in excess of funding received from the non-U.S. NANP member countries) and Commission numbering audits. As per 47 CFR § 52.17, all U.S. telecommunications carriers are required to fund NANP on a competitively neutral basis. The contribution base used to determine the carriers' NANP contribution is based on billed end-user telecommunication revenues as reported on FCC Form 499A. The revenue base is determined by the following formula using information from the specific lines on Form 499A: Line 420A + Line 412 – Line 511A. Telecommunication carriers that have no end-user telecommunications revenue must contribute a minimum of $25.

The revenue numbers used by the B&C Agent to calculate the individual fees are obtained from the Data Collection Agent, Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). USAC collates the data from the Form 499A filings of telecommunication service providers and distributes the necessary information to the B&C Agent monthly to allow the B&C Agent to perform its functions. Based on information provided by USAC in May 2026 from the 2026 Form 499As, the estimated end-user telecommunication revenues are $67 billion, which is a 5% decrease from the prior year.

<u>Non-U.S. NANP Members</u>

In addition to the United States, the other NANP member countries contribute to the funding of the NANP. They do not contribute to the U.S. CO code administration functions, as these countries perform their own CO code administration. The non-U.S. member countries' shares of the NANP administration costs are based on each country's total population in relation to the total population of all member countries. This ratio is further reduced by the percentage of numbering plan administration work performed by the member country itself. Canada performs 25% of the numbering administration itself and the non-U.S. countries perform 66.6% of the work themselves. The contribution required for the FY 2027 funding period by Canada and the other non-U.S. countries is $161,850 and $31,541 respectively.

V. <u>Anticipated Disbursements</u>

<u>Numbering Administration</u>

In 2020, NANP administration and U.S. thousands-block pooling administration were combined into one contract, along with administration of the U.S. Reassigned Numbers Database (RND). SomosGov, Inc. (Somos) was awarded the contract. The contract is for 5 years with 3 additional option periods, that covers the period from December 1, 2020 to potentially November 30, 2028. The cost for numbering administration is as per the contract.

The budget allows for carrier audits that may be performed at an amount recommended by the FCC, as required under 47 C.F.R. 52.15(k) and FCC Order FCC 00-42.

Welch LLP is the B&C Agent. The B&C Agent contract is for 3 years with two 1-year extensions, that covers the period from August 1, 2024 to potentially July 31, 2029. The cost provided for in the budget is as per the contract.

The cost for the Data Collection Agent is established based on the USAC's estimate of NANP's share of the cost of data collection and administration of Form 499A filings. The NANP is charged 8% of the monthly costs that the Data Collection Agent incurs with respect to administration and collection of data from Form 499A filings.

The cost of the annual operational audit of the NANP Fund is an estimate based on prior years' billing history by external auditor Ernst & Young LLP.

Bank fees are an expense of the NANP Fund. An estimate of the fees is estimated based on prior years' history.

Bad debts are an estimate of uncollectible accounts. This amount is based on prior years' history.

The costs have been reduced by the estimated interest income received on the funds held in the collateralized savings account and on overdue accounts, and an estimate of the late filing fees collected from carriers who file their Form 499A late, based on prior years' history.

The contingency allowance is to provide for unknown additional costs at the time of the preparation of the budget. The following list includes some examples of costs that would be covered by the contingency allowance.

- Costs related to change of scope of work of the contractors as mandated by the FCC or other changes in contracts; and
- Any other costs not provided for in the budget.

Exhibit 1

NANP FUND BUDGET AND CONTRIBUTION FACTOR
October 2026 to September 2027

NANPA and Pooling Administration	$	7,377,414
Less NANPA Administration costs funded by International Participants		
Canada		161,850
Other non U.S. member countries		31,541
Total Contributions by International Participants		193,391
Net total NANPA Administrationand Pooling Costs		7,184,023
Carrier audits		200,000
Billing & Collections Agent		392,400
Data Collection Agent		93,600
Annual operations audit		68,000
Bank charges		57,000
Bad debts		20,000
Interest income		(20,000)
Fees for filing Form 499A late		(60,000)
Total projected disbursements before contingency allowance		7,935,023
Contingency allowance		1,250,000
		9,185,023
Anticipated surplus at September 30, 2026 *(per April 2026 B&C Agent report)*		(1,542,370)
Net US Carrier Contribution	$	7,642,653
Projected revenue base	$	67,389,798,000
Contribution Factor		0.0001134