August 30, 1996

Regina Keeney, Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 500
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In The Matter of Telephone Number Portability, CC Docket
No. 95-116, RM 8535

Dear Ms. Keeney:

Pursuant to paragraph 198 of the First Report And Order And
Further Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking released on July 2, 1996
in the above-referenced proceeding, this letter is to advise you
that the Industry Numbering Committee ("INC") of the Alliance
For Telecommunications Industry Solutions ("ATIS")
acknowledges the Federal Communications Commission's
("FCC" or "Commission") directive to the INC to examine "the
technical feasibility of requiring the LECs to make their assigned
500 and 900 numbers portable, whether it be through modifying
the existing toll free database or through another system" and
respond back to the FCC within twelve months from the effective
date of the above-referenced order.

INC has initiated several activities to begin its work in response
to this directive. At its most recent meeting (held July 29-August
2, 1996), the INC prepared and accepted three new issues (Issues
090, 091, and 092 as attached). The process which INC uses to
reach consensus on such matters as that directed by the
Commission requires that an issue be introduced and accepted by
the consensus of the participants. An issue, once accepted, will
initiate the work effort and deliberations by the INC. Such
deliberations have now begun on the work requested by the
Commission. It should be noted, however, that INC's mission
statement is "to address and resolve industry-wide issues
associated with the planning, administration, allocation,
assignment and use of numbering resources and related dialing
considerations for public telecommunications within the North
American Numbering Plan ("NANP") area." As a result, there
are certain aspects of this technical feasibility report for 500 and
900 portability, specifically those related to the architectural and
interconnection aspects, which are more appropriately addressed
by the Industry Carriers Compatibility Forum ("ICCF"), largely
because the subject matter expertise resides in the ICCF. For this
reason, INC Issue 092 has been referred to and accepted by the ICCF (ICCF Issue 293).

The ICCF, also an ATIS-sponsored committee, has as its mission to resolve national technical issues associated with telecommunications network interconnection, and the issues associated with the assignment and use of numbering resources utilized within the area served by the NANP. INC subsumes the ICCF, and thus, the mission statement of the ICCF incorporates those areas which INC works on. Even though there are collaborative efforts by two different industry fora, INC will ultimately provide the report to the FCC as directed. The INC is co-chaired by Robert Hirsch (AT&T) and Dennis Byrne (The United States Telephone Association). The ICCF Moderator is Ron Havens (Sprint) and the Assistant Moderator is Mary Ann Weldon (National Exchange Carrier Association).

We hope that you find this information useful and these efforts responsive to your directive. The INC and the ICCF are continuing to plan activities (both conference calls and meetings) which will move this work forward. If you have any questions regarding these activities or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (202) 434-8828, and I will facilitate your contacts with the committees.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Miller  
ATIS Vice President & General Counsel

Attachments

cc: William F. Caton, Acting Secretary