

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NMPRC's Telecommunications Bureau staff members appointed to North American Numbering Council

**SANTA FE** – Today, the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) announced that two staff members on the agency's Telecommunucations Bureau were appointed to serve two-year terms on the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) North American Numbering Council (NANC). Public utilities economist Brady Tolleson will serve as a primary representative member, while Telecommunications Bureau Chief Mike Ripperger will serve as an alternate representative member. Both will begin their terms at the NANC's next meeting on October 25.

"I'm honored to be appointed to the North American Numbering Council," said Tolleson. "I am committed to working with the NANC to ensure that the North American Numbering Plan continues to meet the needs of our growing and evolving communications industry. I am also committed to advocating for the interests of New Mexico and its residents in the NANC decision making process."

"I am happy and honored to assist on the North American Numbering Council," said Ripperger. "It is important that states have a voice in the management of numbering resources that are vital to the technology transition we are currently undergoing."

The NANC's mission is to provide the FCC with recommendations on numbering policy and technical issues in support of the <u>North American Numbering Plan</u>. NANC members serve at the discretion of the Chair of the FCC, and are required to participate in deliberations of at least one subcommittee or other subgroup, if any are established.

In its upcoming term, the NANC will be tasked with providing guidance on numbering matters of importance to both consumers and the industry, with a focus on examining numbering in the evolving world of communications. Membership on the NANC will provide stakeholders interested in number administration an opportunity to help transform existing numbering systems to meet the pending needs of telecommunications providers and consumers.

The next term of the NANC will include 34 members, not including alternates for each membership organization. NANC membership is composed of representatives of telecommunications carriers, regulators, cable providers, VoIP providers, industry associations, vendors, and consumer advocates.

The <u>Telecommunications Bureau</u> was instrumental in helping the NMPRC this year in the selection of projects for eligible telecommunications carriers to construct and maintain facilities capable of providing high-quality broadband internet access to unserved and underserved communities across New Mexico, and will distribute nearly \$12 million for these much-needed infrastructure projects.

For more information about the FCC's North American Numbering Council, click here.

An online copy of this media advisory can be found here.

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The **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission** (**PRC**) regulates the utilities, telecommunications, and motor carrier industries to ensure fair and reasonable rates, and to assure reasonable and adequate services to the public as provided by law. The PRC also promotes public safety through the Pipeline Safety Bureau and Transportation Division.

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