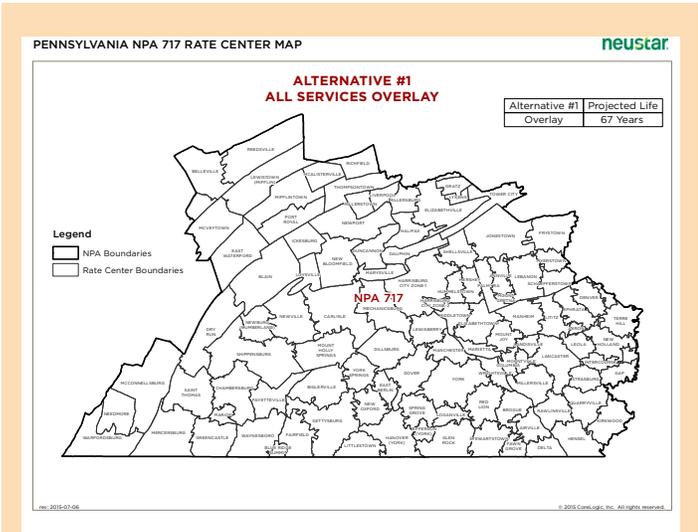




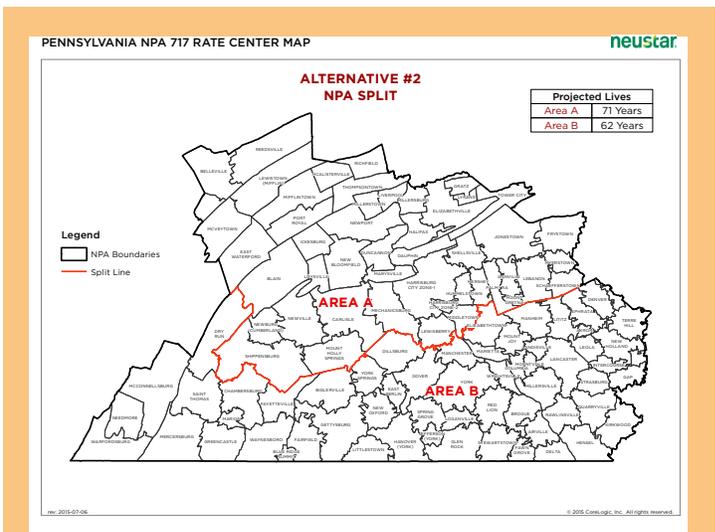
The 717 area code is projected to run out of telephone numbers in the third quarter of 2018. New area codes are needed when existing area codes exhaust their supply of “NXX” codes, which is the second set of three digits in a 10-digit telephone number (NPA-NXX-XXXX).

The North American Numbering Plan Administrator, Neustar Inc. (Neustar), is the neutral third-party Number Planning Area (NPA) relief planner for Pennsylvania. Neustar, acting on behalf of the Pennsylvania telecommunications industry, petitioned the PUC to institute one of two relief options, favoring an “overlay” plan. An overlay plan means that once the existing telephone numbers in the 717 area code are exhausted, new telephone services in that geographic region would be assigned telephone numbers from the new area code. Ten-digit local dialing would then apply to all telephone calls.

Two relief alternatives are proposed by the telecommunications industry for ensuring adequate number resources. In addition to an overlay, the industry proposed the option of a geographic split of the existing area code, as depicted below. More specifics on the plan can be found the PUC’s website by searching the docket number P-2015-2510230. While it is not guaranteed that numbers will run out by 2018, the Commission must adopt one of the following alternatives to provide relief for the 717 area code.



**Alternative #1 – All Services Distributed Overlay:** A new NPA code would be assigned to the same geographic area as the existing 717 NPA. Only new phone numbers would be assigned a new area code, while existing numbers would not be changed. All consumers would be required to dial 10-digit numbers for every call.



**Alternative #2 – Two-Way Geographic Split:** In a two-way geographic split, the exhausting NPA is split into two geographic areas. For Alternative #2, the proposed split boundary line runs west to east, along the boundary shown in red above. One of the areas formed by the split would keep the 717 area code, while the other would be assigned a new one.

**For Further Information, Contact the Public Utility Commission:**

<p><b>Write</b></p> <p>PA Public Utility Commission Bureau of Consumer Services P.O. Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265</p>	<p><b>Call</b></p> <p>1-800-692-7380 For people with speech or hearing loss, dial 7-1-1 (Telecommunications Relay Service)</p>	<p><b>Find Us Online</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.puc.pa.gov">www.puc.pa.gov</a></p> <p> Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission</p> <p> @PA_PUC</p>	
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