

STATE OF NEW YORK

# Public Service Commission

Garry A. Brown, Chairman

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223

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<http://www.dps.state.ny.us>

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

08052/07-C-1486

## PSC SEEKS COMMENT ON 315 AREA CODE RELIEF PLAN

Albany, NY—04/24/08—The New York State Public Service Commission will hold public statement hearings concerning options for area code relief in the 315 area code region. Each hearing will be preceded by an information session at which Staff of the Department of Public Service will describe the proposals and be available to respond to questions. The 315 area code relief proposals can be obtained by visiting the Commission's [www.AskPSC.com](http://www.AskPSC.com) consumer Web site.

Currently there are only 136 central office codes remaining available to assign to telecommunications carriers in the more than 100 specific geographic areas or rate centers in area code 315. These central office codes can only be used in the specific rate center they are assigned. It is expected that all the remaining unused central office codes will be assigned by late 2010. To ensure that all consumers throughout Central and Northern New York are able to obtain telecommunications service of their choice, a new area code needs to be introduced.

The Commission's goal is to develop a plan that minimizes disruption to customers while ensuring availability of telephone numbers beyond 2010 in that region.

Public statement hearings concerning 315 area code relief proposals will be held as follows:

**Thursday, May 1, 2008**

11:00 a.m. Educational Forum  
 12:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Civic Center – Community Room  
 Park St., Potsdam, NY

**Friday, May 2, 2008**

11:00 a.m. Educational Forum  
 12:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Lowville Town Hall  
 5533 Bostwick St., Lowville, NY

**Monday, May 5, 2008**

6:00 p.m. Educational Forum  
 7:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Utica City Hall  
 Common Council Chambers  
 1 Kennedy Plaza, Utica, NY

**Wednesday, May 7, 2008**

11:00 a.m. Educational Forum  
 12:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Oswego City Hall  
 Common Council Chambers  
 13 West Oneida St., Oswego, NY

**Thursday, May 8, 2008**

11:00 a.m. Educational Forum  
 12:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Seneca County Office Building  
 Supervisor's Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 1 DiPronia Dr., Waterloo, NY

**Monday, May 12, 2008**

6:00 p.m. Educational Forum  
 7:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 County Legislative Office Building  
 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Chambers  
 160 Genesee St., Auburn, NY

**Thursday, May 1, 2008**

6:00 p.m. Educational Forum  
 7:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 State Office Building  
 Auditorium  
 317 Washington St., Watertown, NY

**Monday, May 5, 2008**

11:00 a.m. Educational Forum  
 12:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Herkimer Co. Dept. of Social Services  
 Training Center  
 301 North Washington St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 Herkimer, NY

**Tuesday, May 6, 2008**

11:00 a.m. Educational Forum  
 12:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Rome City Hall  
 Common Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 198 North Washington St., Rome, NY

**Wednesday, May 7, 2008**

6:00 p.m. Educational Forum  
 7:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Old Courthouse, Supervisor's Chamber  
 26 Church St., Lyons, NY

**Thursday, May 8, 2008**

6:00 p.m. Educational Forum  
 7:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Yates County Building  
 Auditorium – Basement  
 417 Liberty St., Penn Yan, NY

**Tuesday, May 13, 2008**

11:00 a.m. Educational Forum  
 12:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 City Hall  
 Common Council Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 233 E. Washington St., Syracuse, NY

**Tuesday, May 13, 2008**

6:00 p.m. Educational Forum  
 7:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 Syracuse Library at Galleries  
 447 S. Salina St., Syracuse, NY

**Wednesday, May 14, 2008**

11:00 a.m. Educational Forum  
 12:00 p.m. Public Statement Hearing  
 The Greater Oneida Kallet Civic Center  
 159 Main St., Oneida, NY

The public will have an opportunity to present their comments at the hearings before the Administrative Law Judges assigned by the Commission to this case. A verbatim transcript of the hearings will be made for inclusion in the record of this proceeding.

It is not necessary to make an appointment in advance or to present written material in order to speak at the public statement hearings. Speakers will be called after completing a card requesting time to speak. The hearings will remain open and will continue until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements are made.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations may place a collect call to the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711 to reach the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Office at the previously mentioned number.

**Other Ways to Comment**

In addition to the formal hearings, comments (in English or Spanish) may be mailed to Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. Your comments should refer to "Case 07-C-1486 – 315 Area Code."

**Toll-free Opinion Line:** Comments may also be submitted through the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is designed to take comments about pending cases from in-state callers, 24 hours a day. Callers should select English or Spanish and press "1" to leave comments about the proposal.

**The Internet:** Comments may also be submitted via the "PSC Comment Form" in the "Consumer Assistance" file accessed through the Commission's Web site at [www.AskPSC.com](http://www.AskPSC.com). Many libraries offer free Internet access.

All statements and comments received by the Administrative Law Judge and the Commission will be placed in the public case file and made available for public inspection in the Commission's file room in its Albany offices, Central Files, 14<sup>th</sup> floor, Three Empire State Plaza.