# WAC 480-80-030 Definitions.

The definitions in this section apply throughout the chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

## **Qwest Comment:**

With the elimination of price lists from statute, there is no basis for a reference to price lists in the rules. This would necessarily include the definition of a price list in WAC 480-80-030.

### WAC 480-80-201

Competitive services offered by tariff.

If a company elects to offer a competitive service by tariff, the company and the service will be subject to all rules and laws applicable to fully regulated services, and any waivers of rule or law otherwise applicable to competitive services or competitive companies will not apply.

[Statutory Authority: RCW  $\underline{80.01.040}$  and  $\underline{80.04.180}$ . 02-11-081 (Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498), § 480-80-201, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02.]

## **Qwest Comment:**

The only part of WAC 480-80-201 that is still applicable after the full implementation of SSB 6473 is the provision that allows companies to file competitive services in tariffs. Because companies are not allowed to file services in price lists after June 30, 2007, that part of the rule has been deleted and the rule has been re-titled to reflect the essence of the remaining provision.

## **Owest Comment:**

Because WAC 480-80-202 deals exclusively with the interpretation and application of prices lists, it should be entirely deleted consistent with the elimination of price lists.

WAC 480-80-203

Transmittal letter.

A telecommunications company must submit a transmittal letter with all contract changes that require filing with the commission. The transmittal letter must:

- (1) Identify all contracts, or identify the or contract changes;
- (2) Specify the changes requested in clear and concise terms and define any acronyms used;
- (3) Describe which services are affected, and the dollar amount and percentage of increase or decrease if the filing is a rate change; and
- (4) Describe the general effect of, and reasons for, contract filings involving only text changes.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.180 02-11-081 (Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498), § 480-80-203, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02.]

## **Owest Comment:**

All references to price lists should be deleted from WAC 480-80-203 because transmittal letters for price lists are eliminated with the elimination of price lists. Transmittal letters should only be required for contracts that are required to be filed with the commission.

## WAC 480-80-204

Prices must cover cost.

The rates, charges, and prices of services classified as competitive under RCW <u>80.36.330</u> must cover the cost of providing the service. Costs must be determined using a long-run incremental cost analysis, including as part of the incremental cost, the price charged by the offering company to other telecommunications companies for any essential function used to provide the service, or any other commission-approved cost method.

[Statutory Authority: RCW  $\underline{80.01.040}$  and  $\underline{80.04.160}$ . 05-03-031 (Docket No. UT 040015, General Order No. R-516), § 480-80-204, filed 1/10/05, effective 2/10/05. Statutory Authority: RCW  $\underline{80.01.040}$  and  $\underline{80.04.180}$ . 02-11-081 (Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498), § 480-80-204, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02.]

## **Qwest Comment:**

All references to price list format and content in WAC 480-80-204 should be eliminated, consistent with the elimination of price lists. Because the cost coverage requirement for services classified as competitive still remain in RCW 80.36.330, that portion of the rule relating to the cost coverage requirement should remain and the rule should be re-titled accordingly.

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Because WAC 480-80-205 deals exclusively with the effective date of prices list filings, it should be entirely deleted consistent with the elimination of price lists.

## **Owest Comment:**

Because WAC 480-80-206 deals exclusively with price list availability to customers, it should be entirely deleted consistent with the elimination of price lists.

## **Qwest Comment:**

WAC 480-80-241 should be eliminated in its entirety as it deals with contract filing requirements for price listed services. Because the contract filing requirements are conditioned on the existence of price list rates, terms, and conditions, such requirements are eliminated with the elimination of price lists.

## **Owest Comment:**

WAC 480-80-242 should be eliminated in its entirety as it deals with contract filing requirements for price listed services. Because the contract filing requirements are conditioned on the existence of price list rates, terms, and conditions, such requirements are eliminated with the elimination of price lists.

# **WAC 480-120-021 Definitions.**

"Order date" means the date when an applicant requests service unless a company identifies specific actions a customer must first take in order to be in compliance with tariffs or commission rules. Except as provided in WAC 480-120-061 (Refusing service) and 480-120-104 (Information to consumers), when specific actions are required of the

applicant, the order date becomes the date the actions are completed by the applicant if the company has not already installed or activated service.

When an applicant requests service that requires customer-ordered special equipment, for purposes of calculating compliance with the one hundred eighty-day requirement of WAC 480-120-112 (Company performance for orders for nonbasic service) the order date is the application date unless the applicant fails to provide the support structure or perform other requirements of the tariff. In the event the applicant fails to provide the support structure or perform the other requirements of the tariff , a new order date is established as the date when the applicant does provide the support structure or perform the other requirements of the tariff or price list.

### **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the definition for 'order date' must also be eliminated.

# WAC 480-120-026 Tariffs.

Companies must file tariffs in accordance with chapter 480-80 WAC, Utilities general-Tariffsand contracts.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.160 and 80.01.040. 01-15-022 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-480), § 480-120-026, filed 7/11/01, effective 8/11/01; Order R-25, § 480-120-026, filed 5/5/71. Formerly WAC 480-120-040.]

## **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

# WAC 480-120-028 Registration.

Companies must file registration applications as required by RCW 80.36.350 and in accordance with chapter 480-121 WAC, Registration, competitive classification of telecommunications companies.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.160 and 80.01.040. 01-15-022 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-480), § 480-120-028, filed 7/11/01, effective 8/11/01.]

## **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

# WAC 480-120-061 Refusing service.

- (1) A company may refuse to connect with, or provide service to, an applicant under the following conditions:
- (a) When service will adversely affect the service to existing customers.
- (b) When the installation is considered hazardous.
- (c) When the applicant has not complied with commission rules, company tariff or service agreement, and state, county, or municipal codes concerning the provision of telecommunications service such as building and electrical codes.
- (d) When the company is unable to substantiate the identity of the individual requesting service.
- (i) Companies must allow the applicant to substantiate identity with one piece of identification chosen from a list, provided by the company, of at least four sources of identification. The list must include a current driver's license or other picture identification.
- (ii) Company business offices and payment agencies, required under WAC <u>480-120-132</u> and <u>480-120-162</u>, must provide a means for applicants to provide identification at no charge to the applicant.
- (e) When the applicant has previously received service from the company by providing false information, including false statements of credit references or employment, false statement of premises address, or use of an alias or false name with intent to deceive, until the applicant corrects the false information to the satisfaction of the company.
- (f) When the applicant owes an overdue, unpaid prior obligation to the company for the same class of service, until the obligation is paid or satisfactory arrangements are made.
- (g) When the applicant requests service at an address where a former customer is known to reside with an overdue, unpaid prior obligation to the same company for the same class of service at that address and the company determines, based on objective evidence, that the applicant has cooperated with the prior customer with the intent to avoid payment. However, a company may not deny service if a former customer with an overdue, unpaid prior obligation has permanently vacated the address.
- (h) When all necessary rights of way, easements, and permits have not been secured. The company is responsible for securing all necessary public rights of way, easements, and permits, including rights of way on every highway as defined in RCW 36.75.010(11) or

created under RCW <u>36.75.070</u> or <u>36.75.080</u>. The applicant is responsible for securing all necessary rights of way or easements on private property, including private roads or driveways as defined in RCW <u>36.75.010(10)</u>. A private road or driveway is one that has been ascertained by the company not to be public.

- (2) A company may not withhold or refuse to release a telephone number to a customer who is transferring service to another telecommunications company within the same rate center where local number portability has been implemented.
- (3) A telecommunications company must deny service to a nonregistered telecommunications company that intends to use the service requested to provide telecommunications for hire, sale, or resale to the general public within the state of Washington. Any telecommunications company requesting service from another telecommunications company must state in writing whether the service is intended to be used for intrastate telecommunications for hire, sale, or resale to the general public. If the service is intended for hire, sale, or resale on an intrastate basis, the company must certify in writing, in the same manner as required by RCW <u>9A.72.085</u>, that it is properly registered with the commission to provide the service.

[Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.01.040</u> and <u>80.04.160</u>. 03-01-065 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507), § 480-120-061, filed 12/12/02, effective 7/1/03. Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.01.040</u>. 94-20-010 (Order R-422, Docket No. UT-940049), § 480-120-061, filed 9/22/94, effective 10/23/94; 92-01-115 (Order R-353, Docket No. UT-910788), § 480-120-061, filed 12/18/91, effective 1/18/92; 85-18-011 (Order R-233, Cause No. U-85-35), § 480-120-061, filed 8/23/85. Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.04.060</u>. 80-09-049 (Order R-147, Cause No. U-80-05), § 480-120-061, filed 7/14/80; Order R-25, § 480-120-061, filed 5/5/71.]

## **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated. Qwest recommends replacing the term 'price list' with the term 'service agreement' because building and electrical codes, as reference in 1(c) will be reflected in service agreements pursuant to product catalogs that will replace price lists.

# WAC 480-120-102 Service offered.

- (1) Classes of service. The classes of service are business and residential. Each local exchange company (LEC) must file with the commission, as part of its tariff, a description of the classes and types of service available to customers in each class. LECs must record for each access line whether local exchange service is residential or business class.
- (2) Types of service. LECs must offer, at a minimum, flat-rate local exchange service. In addition, companies may offer service alternatives, such as measured service.
- (3) Grade of service. Local exchange service offered by companies must be only one-party service.

### **Qwest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

## WAC 480-120-103 Application for service.

- (1) When contacted by an applicant, or when a company contacts a person, a company must:
- (a) Accept and process applications when an applicant for service for a particular location has met all tariff requirements and applicable commission rules;
- (b) Establish the due date as the date requested by the applicant but is not required to establish a due date that is fewer than seven business days after the order date. If the company establishes a due date other than the date requested by the applicant, it must inform the applicant of the specific date when service will be provided or state that an estimated due date will be provided within seven business days as required by subsection (2) of this section; and
- (c) Maintain a record in writing, or in electronic format, of each application for service, including requests for a change of service.
- (2) If the company does not provide the applicant with a due date for installation or activation at the time of application as required in subsection (1)(b) of this section, the company must state the reason for the delay. Within seven business days of the date of the application, the company must provide the applicant with an estimated due date for installation or activation. The standards imposed by WAC <u>480-120-105</u> and <u>480-120-112</u> are not altered by this subsection.
- (3) When the company informs the customer that installation of new service orders requires on-premises access by the company, the company must offer the customer an opportunity for an installation appointment that falls within a four-hour period.
- (4) When the application for service requires a service extension as defined in WAC <u>480-120-071</u>, the requirement of subsection (1)(b) of this section does not apply and, for the purpose of determining when an extension must be completed, the order date is the application date or six weeks prior to the date the customer makes the required initial payment, whichever is later.

When a service extension is required, the company must inform the customer within six

weeks of a request for service that it will construct the extension and also request payment from the customer according to WAC  $\underline{480-120-071}$ , or inform the customer in writing that it will request an exemption from the commission pursuant to WAC  $\underline{480-120-071}$ (7).

In the event a company informs the customer it will request an exemption, the company must submit the request to the commission within four weeks of informing the customer of its decision. A copy of the exemption request must be mailed to the customer not later than the date the request is filed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW  $\underline{80.01.040}$  and  $\underline{80.04.160}$ . 03-01-065 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507), § 480-120-103, filed  $\underline{12/12/02}$ , effective  $\underline{7/1/03}$ .]

## **Qwest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

### WAC 480-120-122

Establishing credit -- Residential services.

This section applies only to the provision of residential services.

- (1) For a local exchange company (LEC) that offers basic service as part of any bundled package of services, the requirements of this subsection apply only to its lowest-priced, flat-rated residential basic service offering. The LEC may require an applicant or customer of residential basic service to pay a local service deposit only if:
- (a) The applicant or customer has received two or more delinquency notices for basic service during the last twelve month period with that company or another company;
- (b) The applicant or customer has had basic service discontinued by any telecommunications company;
- (c) The applicant or customer has an unpaid, overdue basic service balance owing to any telecommunications company;
- (d) The applicant's or customer's service is being restored following a discontinuation for nonpayment or acquiring service through deceptive means under WAC  $\underline{480-120-172}(1)$ ; or
- (e) The applicant or customer has been disconnected for taking service under deceptive means as described in WAC 480-120-172(1).
- (2) A LEC may, if provided for in its tariff or service agreement, require an applicant or

customer of ancillary services to demonstrate satisfactory credit by reasonable means, pay a deposit, or make advanced payments consistent with subsections (4) and (5) of this section.

The company must inform applicants that local service cannot be withheld pending payment of a deposit or advanced payments for ancillary services.

(3) An interexchange company may, if provided for in its tariff or service agreement, require an applicant or customer of interexchange services to demonstrate satisfactory credit by reasonable means or pay a deposit consistent with subsections (4) and (5) of this section.

The company must inform applicants that local service cannot be withheld pending payment of a deposit for interexchange services.

- (4) When a company requests a deposit from an applicant or customer, the amount of the deposit may not exceed two months' customary use for an applicant or customer with previous verifiable service of the same class, or two months' estimated use for an applicant or customer without previous verifiable service. Customary use is calculated using charges for the previous three months' service.
- (5) When an applicant or customer is required to pay a basic service deposit or an interexchange deposit, but is unable to pay the entire amount in advance of connection or continuation of service, the company must offer the applicant or customer the following options:
- (a) Pay no more than fifty percent of the requested deposit amount before installation or continuation of service, with the remaining amount payable in equal amounts over the following two months; or
- (b) Where technology permits, the applicant or customer must have the option of accepting toll-restricted basic service in lieu of payment of the deposit. A company must not charge for toll restriction when it is used as an alternative to a deposit.

A company must remove toll restriction unless the customer requests to retain it when the customer makes full payment of the requested interexchange company deposit or pays fifty percent of the requested deposit and enters into payment arrangements as provided for in (a) of this subsection.

- (6) A company may require an applicant or customer to pay a deposit or make advanced payments equal to two months' charges for ancillary service before providing or continuing ancillary services.
- (7) A company may require an applicant or customer to pay a deposit if it finds that service was provided initially without a deposit based on incorrect information and the customer otherwise would have been required to pay a deposit.

- (a) When a company requests a new deposit or a larger deposit amount after service has been established, the company must provide a written notice to the customer listing the reason(s) for the request, the date the deposit must be paid, and the actions the company may take if the deposit is not paid.
- (b) Except for circumstances described in subsection (8) of this section, the deposit or additional deposit amount may not be due and payable before 5:00 p.m. of the sixth business day after notice of the deposit requirement is mailed or 5:00 p.m. of the second business day following delivery, if the notice is delivered in person to the customer.
- (8)(a) A company authorized by the commission to collect deposits or advanced payments may require a customer to pay unbilled toll charges or pay a new or additional deposit amount when the customer's toll charges exceed thirty dollars, or exceed customary use over the previous six months by twenty dollars or by twenty percent, whichever is greater. A company may toll-restrict a customer's services if the customer is unable pay the toll or deposit amount.
- (b) When a customer has exceeded the toll levels in (a) of this subsection, the company may require payment before the close of the next business day following delivery of either written or oral notice to the customer indicating that failure to pay one of the following may result in toll restriction of the customer's service. The company must give the customer the option to pay one of the following:
- (i) All outstanding toll charges specified in the notice; or
- (ii) All toll charges accrued to the time of payment providing the customer was notified the customer would be liable for all unbilled toll charges that accrued between the time of the notice and time of the payment; or
- (iii) Payment of a new or additional deposit in light of the customer's actual use based upon two months' customary use.
- (c) When an applicant does not have a customary utilization amount from a previous service, the company may request that the applicant estimate the greatest monthly toll amount the applicant expects to use. If the company asks for an estimate, it must explain that if the customer's toll charges exceed the amounts in (a) of this subsection, the company may toll restrict or require a deposit as permitted in this subsection.

[Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.01.040</u> and <u>80.04.160</u>. 05-03-031 (Docket No. UT 040015, General Order No. R-516), § 480-120-122, filed 1/10/05, effective 2/10/05; 03-01-065 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507), § 480-120-122, filed 12/12/02, effective 7/1/03.]

## **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated. Qwest recommends replacing the term 'price list' with 'service

agreement' because credit requirements will be included in service agreements pursuant to product catalogs that will replace price lists.

# WAC 480-120-161 Form of bills.

- (1) **Bill frequency.** Companies must offer customers, at a minimum, the opportunity to receive billings on a monthly interval, unless subsection (11) of this section applies.
- (2) **Length of time for payment of a bill.** Bill due dates must reflect a date which at a minimum allows a customer fifteen days from the date of mailing for payment.
- (a) Upon showing of good cause, a customer may request and the company must allow the customer to pay by a date that is not the normally designated payment date on their bill. Good cause may include, but not be limited to, adjustment of the billing cycle to parallel receipt of income.
- (i) A company may not assess late payment fees for the period between the regularly scheduled due date and the customer-chosen due date so long as the customer makes payment in full by the customer-chosen due date.
- (ii) A company may refuse to establish a preferred payment date that would extend the payment date beyond the next normally scheduled payment or due date.
- (b) If a company is delayed in billing a customer, the company must offer arrangements upon customer request or upon indication that a payment arrangement is necessary, that are equal to the length of time the bill is delayed beyond the regularly scheduled billing interval (e.g., if the bill includes two months delayed charges, the customer must be allowed to pay the charges over two months).

Companies may not charge a customer late payment fees on the delayed charges during the extended payment period.

- (3) **Form of bill.** With the consent of the customer, a company may provide regular billings in electronic form if the bill meets all the requirements of this rule. The company must maintain a record of the customer's request, and the customer may change from electronic to printed billing upon request.
- (4) **Bill organization.** Telephone bills must be clearly organized, and must comply with the following requirements:
- (a) Bills may only include charges for services that have been requested by the customer or other individuals authorized to request such services on behalf of the customer, and that have been provided by the company;

- (b) The name of the service provider associated with each charge must be clearly and conspicuously identified on the telephone bill;
- (c) Where charges for two or more companies appear on the same telephone bill, the charges must be separated by service provider;
- (d) The telephone bill must clearly and conspicuously identify any change in service provider, including identification of charges from any new service provider; and
- (e) The telephone bill must include the internet address (uniform resource locator) of the web site containing the service provider's tariff, if the service provider is a telecommunications company required to publish its tariff or on a web site pursuant to WAC <u>480-120-193</u> (Posting of tariffs for public inspection and review). This requirement may be satisfied by including the address of a web site other than that of the telecommunications company itself, if the web site provides access to the tariff or price list that applies to the service being billed.

For purposes of this subsection, "new service provider" means a service provider that did not bill the customer for service during the service provider's last billing cycle. This definition includes only providers that have continuing relationships with the customer that will result in periodic charges on the customer's bill, unless the service is subsequently canceled.

For purposes of this subsection, "clearly and conspicuously" means notice that would be apparent to a reasonable customer.

## (5) Descriptions of billed charges.

- (a) The bill must include a brief, clear, nonmisleading, plain language description of each service for which a charge is included. The bill must be sufficiently clear in presentation and specific enough in content so that the customer can determine that the billed charges accurately reflect the service actually requested and received, including individual toll calls and services charged on a per-occurrence basis.
- (b) The bill must identify and set out separately, as a component of the charges for the specific service, any access or other charges imposed by order of or at the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
- (c) The bill must clearly delineate the amount or the percentage rate and basis of any tax assessed by a local jurisdiction.
- (6) **Charges for which service can be discontinued.** Where a bill contains charges for basic service, in addition to other charges, the bill must distinguish between charges for which nonpayment will result in loss of basic service. The bill must include telephone numbers by which customers may inquire or dispute any charges on the bill. A company may list a toll-free number for a billing agent, clearinghouse, or other third party,

provided such party possesses sufficient information to answer questions concerning the customer's account and is fully authorized to resolve the customer's complaints on the company's behalf. Where the customer does not receive a paper copy of the telephone bill, but instead accesses that bill only by e-mail or internet, the company may comply with this requirement by providing on the bill an e-mail or web site address. Each company must make a business address available upon request from a customer.

- (7) **Itemized statement.** A company must provide an itemized statement of all charges when requested by a customer, including, but not limited to:
  - (a) Rates for individual services;
- (b) Calculations of time or distance charges for calls, and calculations of any credit or other account adjustment; and
- (c) When itemizing the charges of information providers, the name, address, telephone number, and toll-free number, if any, of the providers.

## (8) Methods of payment.

- (a) Companies must, at a minimum, allow the following methods of payment: Cash, certified funds (e.g., cashier check or money order), and personal checks.
- (b) Upon written notice to a customer, companies may refuse to accept personal checks when that customer has tendered two or more nonsufficient-funds checks within the last twelve months.
- (9) **Billing companies.** A company may bill regulated telecommunications charges only for companies properly registered to provide service within the state of Washington or for billing agents. The company must, in its contractual relationship with the billing agent, require the billing agent to certify that it will submit charges only on behalf of properly registered companies; and that it will, upon request of the company, provide a current list of all companies for which it bills, including the name and telephone number of each company. The company must provide a copy of this list to the commission for its review upon request.
- (10) **Crediting customer payments.** Unless otherwise specified by the customer, payments that are less than the total bill balance must be credited first to basic service, with any remainder credited to any other charges on the bill.

For purposes of this subsection, basic service includes associated fees and surcharges such as FCC access charges. Basic service does not include ancillary services such as caller identification and custom calling features.

(11) **Exemptions from this rule.** Prepaid calling card services (PPCS) are exempt from subsections (1) through (10) of this section.

### **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

### WAC 480-120-171

**Discontinuing service -- Customer requested.** 

- (1) This section applies to residential, business, and resale services discontinued at the customer's request. The customer must notify the company of the date the customer wishes to discontinue service. If the customer moves from the service address and fails to request discontinuation of service, the customer must pay for service taken at the service address until the company can confirm that the customer has vacated the premises or a new party has taken responsibility for the service.
- (2) A company must stop a customer's monthly recurring or minimum charges effective on the requested discontinuation date. The customer may be held responsible for use charges incurred after the requested discontinuation date when the company can prove that the calls were made or authorized by the customer of record. This section does not preclude a company from collecting minimum service commitment penalties when a customer disconnects service prior to fulfilling the tariff, service agreement, or contract commitment.
- (3) The company must discontinue service as follows:
- (a) For services that do not require a field visit, the company must discontinue service not later than one business day from the date requested by the customer; and
- (b) For services that require a premises visit to complete the request, the company must disconnect service no later than two business days from the date requested by the customer.
- (4) When a customer directs the local exchange company (LEC) to discontinue service, the LEC must either notify the customer's presubscribed interLATA and intraLATA toll carriers of the discontinuation or inform the customer that it is the customer's obligation to contact those carriers directly.

[Statutory Authority: RCW  $\underline{80.01.040}$  and  $\underline{80.04.160}$ . 03-01-065 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507), § 480-120-171, filed  $\underline{12/12/02}$ , effective  $\underline{7/1/03}$ .]

## **Qwest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated. Qwest recommends replacing the term 'price list' with 'service agreement' because minimum service commitments will be required in service agreements pursuant to product catalogs that will replace price lists.

## WAC 480-120-172

Discontinuing service -- Company initiated.

- 3) A company may discontinue service after providing proper notice, or may issue a discontinuation notice, if, and only if:
- (a) The company determines the customer has violated a rule, statute, service agreement, or filed tariff:
- (b) The company determines the customer has used customer-owned equipment that adversely affects the company's service to its other customers;
- (c) The company determines the customer has not paid regulated charges or has not paid a deposit as provided in the tariff of the company or another company with which it has a billing and collection agreement, except for nonpayment of charges incurred from information delivery services as provided for in WAC <u>480-120-254</u> (Telephone solicitation) or disputed third party-billed charges;

## **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

## **Owest Comment:**

WAC 480-120-196 should be eliminated in its entirety as it deals with customer notice requirements for price listed services. Because these customer notice requirements are conditioned on the existence of price lists, such requirements are eliminated with the elimination of price lists.

WAC 480-120-264 Prepaid calling services.

- (1) For the purposes of this section, prepaid calling services (PPCS) means any transaction in which a customer pays for service prior to use and applies only to those services where the number of available minutes decreases as the customer uses the service. Prepaid calling services do not include flat-rated basic local service that is billed in advance of use.
- (a) PPCS may require the use of an access number or authorization code.
- (b) This section excludes credit cards and cash equivalent cards. Services provided at pay telephones using these cards are regulated under the provisions of WAC <u>480-120-263</u> (Pay phone service providers (PSPs)).
- (2) PPCS providers must provide customers a without-charge telephone number staffed by personnel capable of:
- (a) Responding to technical problems or questions related to their service twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week;
- (b) Responding to general account-related questions during regular business hours; and
- (c) Providing the commission's toll-free number and address to dissatisfied customers as required by WAC <u>480-120-165</u> (Customer complaints).
- (3) Billing requirements for PPCS.
- (a) A PPCS provider may charge only for the actual time a circuit is open for conversation. The tariff and presale document must define billing increments. The provider must not round up the length of conversation time for less than a full billing increment beyond that full increment.
- (i) If a PPCS provider uses an increment based on a time measurement, the increment must not exceed one minute.
- (ii) If a PPCS provider bills usage in "unit" measurements, it must clearly define units using both equivalent dollar amounts and time measurement. Unit billing increments cannot exceed the equivalent one minute rate.
- (b) At the customer's request, a PPCS provider may add additional time to an existing account in exchange for an additional payment at a rate not to exceed those on file with the commission. The PPCS provider must inform the customer of the new rates at the time of the recharge request.
- (4) PPCS providers must maintain the following call-data for a minimum of twenty-four months:

- (a) Dialing and signaling information that identifies the inbound access number called or the access identifier:
- (b) The number of the originating phone when the information is passed to the PPCS provider;
- (c) The date and time the call was originated;
- (d) The duration or termination time of the call;
- (e) The called number; and
- (f) The personal identification number (PIN), or account number.
- (5) Disclosure requirements Prepaid calling services.
- (a) A PPCS provider must disclose, prior to the sale, the following information:
- (i) The PPCS provider's name as registered with the commission;
- (ii) The "doing business as" name as registered with the commission, if applicable;
- (iii) The maximum charge per billing increment. A PPCS provider charging varying rates for intrastate and interstate calls must provide all applicable rates. The rates disclosed must be no more than those in its tariff on file with the commission at the time of purchase;
- (iv) Charges for all services, including any applicable surcharges, fees, or taxes, and the method of application;
- (v) Expiration date, if applicable. If a card expires after a set period of time from activation, the PPCS provider must specify the expiration date on the card. If an expiration date is not disclosed on the card it will be considered unexpired indefinitely; and
- (vi) Recharge policy, if applicable. If a PPCS provider does not disclose the expiration date at the time service is recharged, the service will be considered unexpired indefinitely.
- (b) A PPCS provider must disclose, at the time of purchase, the following information:
- (i) The without-charge telephone number(s) a customer may use to resolve technical problems, service-related questions, and general account-related questions; and
- (ii) Authorization code, if required, to access the service or, if applicable, the without-charge telephone number used to establish access capability.

- (c) If the PPCS provider is not the entity that packages the services for sale to the public, it must require the company that does so, through a written agreement, to comply with the disclosure requirements of this section.
- (6) Time of use disclosure requirements. The PPCS provider must:
- (a) Announce at the beginning of each call the time remaining on the prepaid account or prepaid calling card; and
- (b) Announce the time remaining at least one minute before the prepaid account balance is depleted.
- (7) When a PPCS provider has failed to provide service at rates disclosed prior to the sale or quoted at the time an account is recharged, or the PPCS provider has failed to meet performance standards, it must provide refunds for any unused service or provide equivalent service credit when requested by a customer. Refunds or credits must equal the value remaining on the prepaid calling account. The customer may choose either the refund or equivalent service credit option.
- (8) Performance standards for prepaid calling services. Each PPCS provider must ensure that:
- (a) Customers can complete a minimum of ninety-eight percent of all call attempts to the called party's number. The PPCS provider will consider any busy signals or unanswered calls as completed calls.
- (b) Customers can complete a minimum of ninety-eight percent of all call attempts to the PPCS provider. The PPCS provider will not consider any busy signals or unanswered calls as completed calls.

[Statutory Authority: RCW  $\underline{80.01.040}$ ,  $\underline{80.04.160}$ ,  $\underline{81.04.160}$ , and  $\underline{34.05.353}$ . 03-22-046 (Docket No. A-030832, General Order No. R-509), § 480-120-264, filed  $\underline{10/29/03}$ , effective  $\underline{11/29/03}$ . Statutory Authority: RCW  $\underline{80.01.040}$  and  $\underline{80.04.160}$ . 02-11-080 (General Order No. R-499, Docket No. UT-991922), § 480-120-264, filed  $\underline{5/14/02}$ , effective  $\underline{6/17/02}$ .]

## **Qwest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

## WAC 480-120-263

Pay phone service providers (PSPs).

(1) A local exchange company (LEC) within the state of Washington must allow pay phone service providers (PSPs) to connect pay phones to its network, and a LEC must file

a tariff with the commission to include the rates and conditions applicable to providing service to pay phones via its network.

[note: this rule is much longer and includes a number of subcategories of payphone rules]

## **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

## WAC 480-120-540

## **Terminating access charges.**

- (1)(a) Except for any universal service rate allowed pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section, the rates charged by a local exchange company for terminating access service offered by tariff must not exceed the lowest rate charged by the local exchange company for the comparable local interconnection service (in each exchange), such as end office switching or tandem switching. If a local exchange company does not provide local interconnection service (or does so under a bill and keep arrangement), the rates charged for terminating access must not exceed the cost of the terminating access service being provided.
- (b) If a local exchange company is authorized by the commission to recover any costs for support of universal access to basic telecommunications service through access charges, it shall recover such costs as an additional, explicit universal service rate element applied to terminating access service.
- (2) The rates charged by a local exchange company for terminating access service offered must not exceed the rates charged by the incumbent local exchange company for terminating access service in the comparable geographic area. For purposes of this subsection, the rates charged by the incumbent local exchange company include any universal service rate charged pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section.
- (3) The cost of the terminating access must be determined based on the total service long-run incremental cost of terminating access service plus a reasonable contribution to common or overhead costs. Local loop costs are considered "shared" or "joint" costs and must not be included in the cost of terminating access. However, nothing in this rule prohibits recovery of local loop costs through originating access charges (including switched, special, and dedicated as defined in subsection (4)(a) of this section).

## (4) Definitions.

(a) "Access charge" means a rate charged by a local exchange company to an interexchange company for the origination, transport, or termination of a call to or from a

customer of the local exchange company. Such origination, transport, and termination may be accomplished either through switched access service or through special or dedicated access service.

- (b) "Terminating access service" includes transport only to the extent that the transport service is bundled to the end office or tandem switching service. Dedicated transport unbundled from switching services is not subject to subsection (1) of this section.
- (c) "Bill and keep" (also known as "mutual traffic exchange" or "payment in kind") is a compensation mechanism where traffic is exchanged among companies on a reciprocal basis. Each company terminates the traffic originating from other companies in exchange for the right to terminate its traffic on that company's network.
- (5) The requirement of subsection (1) of this section that any terminating rate be based on cost must not apply to any local exchange company that is a small business, or to any local exchange company that is competitively classified, if it concurs in the terminating rate of any local exchange company that has filed a terminating rate that complies with the requirements of subsection (1) of this section. For the purposes of this subsection, "small business" has the same meaning as it does in RCW 19.85.020.
- (6) Any local exchange company that is required to lower its terminating access rates to comply with this rule may increase or restructure its originating access charges. The commission will approve the revision as long as it is consistent with this rule, in the public interest and the net effect is not an increase in revenues.

[Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.01.040</u> and <u>80.04.160</u>. 05-03-031 (Docket No. UT 040015, General Order No. R-516), § 480-120-540, filed 1/10/05, effective 2/10/05. Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.01.040</u>, <u>80.04.160</u> and <u>80.36.140</u>. 98-19-147 (Order R-450, Docket No. UT-970325), § 480-120-540, filed 9/23/98, effective 12/21/98.]

### **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

# WAC 480-120-560 Collocation.

- (3) Provisioning collocation. If the ILEC notifies a CLEC that sufficient space exists to accommodate the CLEC's order for collocation, the following procedures apply:
  - (h) Upon order of the CLEC and concurrent with delivery of the collocation space and related facilities, the ILEC must provide basic telephone service to the collocation space under the rates, terms, and conditions of the ILEC's current tariff offering for the service ordered. The ILEC must also provide CLEC employees, contractors, and representatives with reasonable access to basic facilities, such as restroom facilities and parking, while at the ILEC premises.

### **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

# WAC 480-121-011 Application of rules.

- (1) The rules in this chapter apply to any telecommunications company that is subject to the jurisdiction of the commission as to rates and services under the provisions of RCW 80.01.040 and chapters 80.04 and 80.36 RCW.
- (2) Any affected person may ask the commission to review the interpretation of these rules by a telecommunications company or customer by posing an informal complaint under WAC <u>480-07-910</u> (Informal complaints) or by filing a formal complaint under WAC <u>480-07-370</u> (Pleadings -- General).
- (3) No deviation from these rules is permitted without written authorization by the commission. Violations will be subject to penalties as provided by law.

[Statutory Authority: RCW  $\underline{80.01.040}$  and  $\underline{80.04.160}$ . 03-24-028 (General Order R-510, Docket No. A-010648),  $\S$  480-121-011, filed  $\underline{11/24/03}$ , effective  $\underline{1/1/04}$ ; 02-11-080 (General Order No. R-499, Docket No. UT-991922),  $\S$  480-121-011, filed  $\underline{5/14/02}$ , effective  $\underline{6/17/02}$ .]

### **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

## WAC 480-121-018 Delivery of a filing.

- (1) The commission will accept an application and petition for competitive classification("filing") by mail, fax, or (when procedures are in place) electronic means. The commission will stamp a filing received on Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays, or after 5:00 p.m., Pacific time, as received on the next business day.
- (2) In person or by mail.
- (a) In order to be deemed received on a given day, the commission records center must receive an original and two copies of the filing by 5:00 p.m., Pacific time.

- (b) A filing delivered by mail must be free from all charges for postage. The commission records center will return any postage-due filing to the sender.
- (3) Fax filing.
- (a) The commission must receive an original and two copies of the filing the following business day.
- (b) The commission will use the date and time the fax filing is received and printed at the records center as the official file date.
- (c) The commission records center must receive a faxed filing in its entirety by 5:00 p.m., Pacific time, Monday through Friday, except on state holidays, to be considered received on that business day.
- (4) Electronic filing.
- (a) An electronic filing must conform to commission procedures for electronic filing.
- (b) After accepting an electronic filing, the commission will return an electronic mail message noting the receipt date.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. 02-11-080 (General Order No. R-499, Docket No. UT-991922), § 480-121-018, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02.]

## **Qwest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.

### WAC 480-121-020

Requirements for applications for registration and petitions for competitive classification.

- (1) Applications for registration and petitions for competitive classification must be in the form prescribed by the commission.
- (2) Applications for registration:
- (a) Must be filed with a petition for competitive classification unless applicant will not be subject to effective competition;
- (b) Must comply with the rules set forth in chapters 480-80 and 480-120 WAC;
- (c) Must be filed at the office of the commission in Olympia, Washington; and

- (d) Will be assigned a docket number. All documents subsequently filed in the matter must bear that docket number.
- (3) The commission may require, with or without hearing, that an applicant for registration clearly show:
- (a) Adequate financial resources to provide the proposed service;
- (b) Adequate technical competence to provide the proposed service; and
- (c) Compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local telecommunications technical and business regulations.
- (4) The commission may request that an applicant provide information regarding the applicant's regulatory performance in other states where it operates.

[Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.01.040</u> and <u>80.04.160</u>. 02-11-080 (General Order No. R-499, Docket No. UT-991922), § 480-121-020, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02. Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.01.040</u>. 99-13-097 (Order R-464, Docket No. UT-980083), § 480-121-020, filed 6/15/99, effective 7/16/99. Statutory Authority: RCW <u>80.01.040</u>. 85-20-002 (Order R-237, Cause No. U-85-43), § 480-121-020, filed 9/19/85.]

## **Owest Comment:**

Because price lists are eliminated the references to price lists in the rule must also be eliminated.