

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02)

WAC 480-80-010 Application of rules. (1) The rules in this chapter apply to any public service company that is subject to the jurisdiction of the commission as to rates and services under the provisions of Title 80 RCW.

(2) The tariffs, price lists, and contracts filed by public service companies must conform with these rules. If the commission accepts a tariff, price list, or contract that conflicts with these rules, the acceptance does not constitute a waiver of these rules unless the commission specifically approves the variation consistent with WAC 480-80-015 (Exemptions from rules in chapter 480-80 WAC). Tariffs, price lists, or contracts that conflict with these rules without approval are superseded by these rules.

(3) Any affected person may ask the commission to review the interpretation of these rules by a public service company or customer by posing an informal complaint under WAC (~~480-09-150~~) 480-07-910 (Informal complaints), or by filing a formal complaint under WAC (~~480-09-420 (Pleadings and briefs Applications for authority Protests)~~) 480-07-370 (Pleadings--General).

(4) No deviation from these rules is permitted without written authorization by the commission. Violations will be subject to penalties as provided by law.

(5) Any tariff, price list, or contract on file and in effect or pending on the effective date of these rules is not required to be refiled to comply with these rules.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02)

WAC 480-80-015 Exemptions from rules in chapter 480-80 WAC. (1) The commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in this chapter, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes.

(2) To request a rule exemption, a person must file with the commission a written request identifying the rule for which an exemption is sought, giving a full explanation of the reason

for requesting the exemption.

(3) The commission will assign the request a docket number, if it does not arise in an existing docket, and will schedule the request for consideration at one of its regularly scheduled open meetings or, if appropriate under chapter 34.05 RCW, in an adjudication. The commission will notify the person requesting the exemption, and other affected persons, of the date of the hearing or open meeting when the commission will consider the request.

(4) In determining whether to grant the request, the commission may consider whether application of the rule would impose undue hardship on the petitioner, of a degree or a kind different from hardship imposed on other similarly situated persons, and whether the effect of applying the rule would be contrary to the purposes of the rule.

(5) The commission will enter an order granting or denying the request or setting it for hearing, pursuant to chapter ((480-09)) 480-07 WAC.

(6) Competitive telecommunications companies previously granted exemptions from chapter 480-80 WAC Utilities general--Tariffs, price lists, and contracts, are not exempt from Part I and Part III of this chapter. Exemptions from the provisions of chapter 480-80 WAC include only the provisions in effect at the time the exemption was granted. This subsection confirms that there is no change in exemptions previously granted to telecommunications companies that have been classified as competitive as a result of:

(a) Moving rules between chapters 480-80 and 480-120 WAC; and

(b) Renumbering sections within chapters 480-80 and 480-120 WAC.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02)

WAC 480-80-105 Tariff filing instructions. (1) A tariff filing must:

(a) Comply with statutory notice requirements;

(b) Specify the requested effective date of the tariff sheet;

(c) Include an original and two copies of each tariff sheet unless it is filed electronically; and

(d) Be accompanied by a transmittal letter as set forth in WAC 480-80-104.

(2) Tariff filings must comply with the requirements set

forth in chapter ((480-09)) 480-07 WAC, where applicable.

(3) The tariff filing must include information sufficient to determine that the proposed tariff is fair, just, and reasonable.

(4) **Tariff symbols.** Each time a tariff sheet(s) is revised, a utility must code all changes with the tariff symbol that best reflects the purpose and effect of the change. A utility:

(a) Must locate the symbols on the right hand side of the changed text directly across from the change;

(b) Must use the following list of symbols to signify:

D - discontinued rate, service, regulation, or condition;

N - new rate, service, regulation, condition, or sheet;

I - a rate increase;

R - a rate reduction;

C - changed condition or regulation;

K - that material has been transferred **to** another sheet in the tariff. (A footnote is required on the tariff sheet to identify the material's new sheet number);

M - that material has been transferred **from** another sheet in the tariff. (A footnote is required on the tariff sheet to identify the material's former sheet number);

T - a change in text for clarification;

O - no change. (This symbol is discretionary unless specifically requested by the commission); and

(c) May use additional symbols for other purposes when it has identified the symbols in its tariff as provided for in WAC 480-80-102(3).

(5) A utility must not give effect to revised tariff sheets until the commission approves the tariff filing by issuing an order or the new or changed provisions become effective by operation of law.

(6) When a tariff sheet(s) becomes effective, the commission will return one copy of the transmittal letter and one copy of each tariff sheet to the utility marked with the receipt date.

(7) The commission may require a utility to refile the tariff in its entirety should circumstances warrant it.

(8) If the commission issues an order directing a utility to refile all or a portion of its tariff, the utility must refile, marking each affected sheet with the docket number.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02)

WAC 480-80-142 Special contracts for telecommunications companies not classified as competitive. (1) Contracts to be filed. Telecommunications companies not classified as competitive must file with the commission:

(a) All contracts for retail sale to end-use customers of intrastate telecommunications services not classified as competitive that:

(i) State rates, charges, prices, terms, or conditions that are not consistent with any existing tariff; or

(ii) Provide for telecommunications services not specifically addressed in the existing tariffs.

(b) Any significant modification of a previously executed contract will be treated as a new contract.

(c) A service order made pursuant to a filed contract is not itself a contract or contract amendment and need not be filed with the commission.

(2) Duration. All contracts must be for a stated time period.

(3) Ratemaking disclaimer. Unless otherwise provided by the commission, approval of contracts will not be determinative with respect to the expenses and revenues of the company for subsequent ratemaking considerations.

(4) Types of telecommunications contracts. The following types of telecommunications contracts have special or unique features, effective dates, and requirements:

(a) Federal, state, and local government "firm bid" contracts are governed under subsection (5) of this section.

(b) School, library, and rural health care (RHC) provider contracts entered into pursuant to 47 CFR, Part 54, are governed under subsection (6) of this section.

(c) All other retail contracts are governed under subsection (7) of this section.

SUMMARY COMPARISON OF THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF RETAIL CONTRACTS			
Subsection	Contract Type	When to File	Effective Date
(5)	Federal, State, and Local Firm Bid	no later than fifteen days after acceptance	when filed or later as specified
(6)	47 CFR Part 54; Schools, Libraries, and RHCs	no later than fifteen days after acceptance	when filed or later as specified

(7)	All other retail contracts	no later than thirty days prior to the proposed effective date	at least thirty days after filing
-----	----------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

(5) Federal, state, and local government "firm bid" contracts - filing requirements and effective dates. Where a government agency asserts its authority to solicit a firm offer of services, and a contract subject to this section is submitted in response to that solicitation, the noncompetitive telecommunications company must file the contract with the commission no later than fifteen days after acceptance. The filing must include the same documentation as required for approval by subsection (7)(b) of this section and, if applicable, subsection (8) of this section. The contract will become effective at the time specified in the contract, but not earlier than when filed with the commission.

(6) School, library, and RHC provider contracts - filing requirements and effective dates. A telecommunications company that enters into a contract to provide service to a school, library, or RHC provider, as part of the federal universal service program, must file the contract with the commission no later than fifteen days after acceptance by the administrator of the federal universal service program. The filing must include the same documentation as required for approval by subsection (7)(b) of this section and, if applicable, subsection (8) of this section. The contract will become effective at the time specified in the contract, but not earlier than when filed with the commission.

(7) All other retail contracts - standard filing requirements and effective dates.

(a) Contracts must be filed with the commission not less than thirty days before the proposed effective date of the contract.

(b) Each application filed for commission approval of a contract must:

(i) Include a complete copy of the proposed contract;

(ii) Show that the contract meets the requirements of RCW 80.36.170 (Prohibiting unreasonable preference) and RCW 80.36.180 (Prohibiting rate discrimination);

(iii) Demonstrate, at a minimum, that the contract charges cover the company's cost of providing the service. Costs will be determined under 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.

(iv) Summarize the basis of the charge(s) proposed in the contract and explain the derivation of the proposed charge(s) including all cost computations involved; and

(v) Indicate the basis for using a contract rather than a filed tariff for the specific service involved.

(c) Contracts will become effective on the effective date stated on the contract or thirty days after the filing date, whichever occurs later, unless suspended or rejected by the commission. The commission may approve an earlier effective date if requested by the company, in which event the contract shall not become effective on a date that precedes commission approval. A request for an earlier effective date must include a complete explanation of why an earlier effective date is appropriate.

(8) Confidentiality. Filings under this section may be submitted with portions designated "confidential" pursuant to WAC ((480-09-015)) 480-07-160. However, any filing that designates as "confidential" the essential terms and conditions will be rejected by the commission as not in compliance with the public inspection requirement of RCW 80.36.150(1). Essential terms and conditions are:

(a) Nature, characteristics, and quantity of the service provided;

(b) Duration of the contract, including the stated effective date, ending date, and any options to renew;

(c) Charge(s) for service, including minimum charge provisions; and

(d) Geographic location(s), such as exchange or city, where service will be provided.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02)

WAC 480-80-143 Special contracts for gas, electric, and water companies. (1) Contracts to be filed. Gas, electric, and water companies must file with the commission all contracts for the retail sale of regulated utility services to end-use customers that:

(a) State charges or conditions that do not conform to the company's existing tariff; or

(b) Provide for utility services not specifically addressed in the gas, electric, or water company's existing tariffs.

(2) Any significant modification of a previously executed contract will be treated as a new contract for purposes of this section.

(3) Essential terms and conditions of all contracts filed pursuant to this section are considered a part of the gas, electric, or water company's filed tariffs and are subject to

enforcement, supervision, regulation, control, and public inspection as such.

(4) Filing and effective dates. The contract will become effective on the effective date stated in the contract or thirty days after the filing date, whichever occurs later, unless suspended or rejected by the commission. The commission may approve an earlier effective date if requested by the company, in which event the contract shall not become effective on a date that precedes commission approval. A request for an earlier effective date must include a complete explanation of why an earlier effective date is appropriate.

(5) Each application filed for commission approval of a contract must:

(a) Include a complete copy of the proposed contract;

(b) Show that the contract meets the requirements of RCW 80.28.090 (Prohibiting unreasonable preference) and RCW 80.28.100 (Prohibiting rate discrimination);

(c) Demonstrate, at a minimum, that the contract charges recover all costs resulting from providing the service during its term, and, in addition, provide a contribution to the gas, electric, or water company's fixed costs;

(d) Summarize the basis of the charge(s) proposed in the contract and explain the derivation of the proposed charge(s) including all cost computations involved; and

(e) Indicate the basis for using a contract rather than a filed tariff for the specific service involved. If the basis for using a contract is the availability of an alternative service provider, identify that provider.

(6) All contracts must be for a stated time period, except for contracts for water line extensions. The commission may approve terms and conditions that prescribe the charge(s) to be applied during the time period, if such charge(s) are found to be appropriate. Unless otherwise provided by the commission, such approval will not be determinative with respect to the expenses and revenues of the utility for subsequent ratemaking considerations.

(7) Filings under this section may be submitted with portions designated "confidential" pursuant to WAC (~~480-09-015~~) 480-07-160. However, any filing that designates the essential terms and conditions of the contract as "confidential" shall be rejected by the commission as not in compliance with the public inspection requirement of RCW 80.28.050. Essential terms and conditions are:

(a) Identity of the customer;

(b) Nature and characteristics of the service provided, including interruptible, firm, or peak delivery;

(c) Duration of the contract, including any options to renew;

(d) Charge(s) for service, including minimum charge

provisions;

(e) Geographic location where service will be provided; and

(f) Additional obligations specified in the contract, if any.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Docket No. U-991301, General Order No. R-498, filed 5/14/02, effective 6/17/02)

WAC 480-80-241 Filing contracts for services classified as competitive. (1) This section applies to services offered by competitive telecommunications companies and to any service classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.330. However, if a telecommunications company has elected, pursuant to WAC 480-80-201(2), to offer a competitive service by tariff, the contract rules in WAC 480-80-142 applicable to tariffed services apply instead.

(2) A telecommunications company must file with the commission any contract with an end-user for retail intrastate telecommunications service if the service is not included in its price list or the contract contains prices, terms, or conditions other than those in its price list. A telecommunications company is not required to file a contract with prices below the maximum prices in the price list, as provided for in WAC 480-80-204(3), or within the maximum and minimum prices in the price list, as provided for in WAC 480-80-204(4), if the contract is otherwise consistent with the price list.

(3) Any significant modification to a previously executed contract is a new contract and must be filed as required by this section.

(4) Unless the contract includes a provision allowing the commission to reject it during the first fifteen days after it is filed, any contract required by subsection (2) of this section to be filed with the commission will become effective on the later of (a) its stated effective date or (b) ten days after it is filed with the commission. The deadline for filing a contract that provides for commission rejection within fifteen days of filing is fifteen days after its stated effective date.

(5) A telecommunications company may submit filings under this section with portions designated "confidential" pursuant to WAC (~~(480-09-015)~~) 480-07-160. However, the commission will reject any filing that designates as "confidential" the essential terms and conditions of a contract as defined in WAC 480-80-142(8).

(6) A telecommunications company filing a contract for a service classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.330 must

provide information demonstrating that the contract prices comply with the cost requirement in WAC 480-80-204(6).