Chapter 480-80

UTILITIES GENERAL— TARIFFS, PRICE LISTS, AND CONTRACTS

Docket No. U-991301

Stakeholder Clean Draft 1

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I. GENERAL RULES

WAC

<u>Amend</u>

- 480-80-010 Application of rules. [includes subsection (4) from Docket U-991301, effective 5/5/01]
 - (1) The rules in this chapter apply to any company that is subject to the jurisdiction of the commission as to rates and services under the provisions of RCW 80.04.010, chapter 80.28 RCW and chapter 80.36 RCW.
 - (2) The tariff, price list, and contract provisions filed by utilities 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 480-80-0X1, Exemption from rules in chapter 480-80 WAC. Tariffs, price lists, or contacts that conflict with these rules without approval are superseded by these rules.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 company or customer by posing an informal complaint under WAC 480-09-150, Informal complaints, or by filing a formal complaint under WAC 480-09-420, Pleadings and briefs--Application for authority--Protests.
 - (4) Competitively classified telecommunications companies previously granted exemptions from chapter 480-80 WAC Utilities General Tariff are not exempt from WAC 480-80-010 through 480-80-0X3, WAC 480-80-2X1 through 480-80-2X5, and WAC 480-80-3X4. Exemptions from the provisions of chapter 480-80 WAC include only the provisions in effect at the time the exemption was granted.
 - (5) No deviation from these rules is permitted without written authorization by the commission. Violations will be subject to penalties as provided by law.

Comments:

 1. Revisions reflect common language adopted in other rulemakings.

New Section

480-80-0X1 Exemptions from rules in chapter 480-80.

- (1) The commission may grant an exemption from the provision of any rule in this chapter, when doing so is 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 WAC.

Comments:

1. Reflects common language adopted in other rulemakings.

Amend

480-80-020 Additional requirements.

- (1) These rules do not relieve any company from any of its duties and obligations under the laws of the state of Washington.
- (2) The commission retains the authority to impose additional or different requirements on any company in appropriate circumstances, consistent with the requirements of law.

Comments:

1. Reflects common language adopted in other rulemakings.

New Section

480-80-0X2 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Comments:

1. Reflects common language adopted in other rulemakings.

Amend

480-80-030 Definitions.

- "Banded rate" means a tariff schedule filed by a natural gas, electric, or telecommunications company that has a rate with a minimum and maximum amount.
- "Business office" means those offices within the state of Washington that are open to the public during normal business hours.
 - "Company" means every public service gas utility, electric utility,

telecommunications company, water company, or irrigation plant that is subject to the jurisdiction of the commission as to rates and service.

"Commission" means the Washington utilities and transportation commission.

"RCW" means the Revised Code of Washington.

"**Telefacsimile**" means the transmittal of electronic signals over telephone lines for conversion into written text.

"WAC" means the Washington Administrative Code.

II. TARIFFS

Amend 480-80-040

480-80-1X1 Definition and use of tariffs.

- (1) "Tariff" means a publication containing terms and conditions of regulated service, including rates, charges, and methods that a company uses to calculate bills for goods, services and commodities provided to customers. The rules and regulations governing the service obligations of the company and its customers for each territory served are contained in the company's tariff, subject to the laws and rules of the state of Washington, and applicable commission orders. A tariff does not supersede a law or rule. A tariff (or portion of a tariff) in conflict with a law or rule is deemed void to the extent of the conflict.
- (2) Each company must file with the commission its tariff or tariffs containing schedules showing all rates, charges, tolls, rentals, rules, privileges, and facilities established by that company for goods, services or commodities provided.
- (3) Companies may not implement provisions contained in tariff filings until the commission approves the filing by issuing an order or until the provisions are allowed to become effective by operation of law. **[from -270(1)]**
- (4) If the commission issues an order, the company must refile its tariff marking each affected sheet as follows: [from -270 (2)]

- (5) Companies must file tariffs that:
- (a) Are in accordance with the statutory notice requirements in WAC 480-80-1X7 and WAC 480-80-1X9;
 - (b) Are clearly marked with the effective date on each sheet of the filing;
 - (c) Are free from all charges for postage; [from -060]
 - (d) Include an original and two copies of each tariff; and
- (e) Include a transmittal letter describing the changes proposed. WAC 480-80-1X2 describes the requirements for a transmittal letter.

The commission may reject tariff filings that do not conform to these requirements.

- (6) After acceptance of the tariff filing, the commission will return one copy of the transmittal letter and one copy of the tariff to the company marked with the receipt date. **[from 050]**
 - (7) Telefacsimile transmission.
- (a) The commission will accept tariffs or tariff revisions submitted by telefacsimile transmission:
- (i) If the tariff or tariff revision complies with all other requirements imposed by statute or rule including those in paragraph (4) and (5) of this subsection; and
- (ii) If the company delivers the signed original and two copies of the tariff or tariff revisions to the records center of the commission the following business day.
- (b) The commission will use the date and time the facsimile is received and printed at the record center as the official file date.
- (c) Telefacsimile tariffs received on a Saturday, Sunday, holidays, or after 4:00 p.m. Pacific time, will be dated as received on the following business day. **[from 070]**

Comments:

- 1. Clarifies that a tariff is either approved by the Commission through an order or a tariff is allowed to go into effect by operation of law.
- 2. Reduces faxing time by one hour to allow for processing the same business day.

New Section

480-80-1X2 Tariff filing instructions.

- (1) When a company is required to have a tariff on file with the commission, the company must file and maintain its tariff(s) with the commission with the content described in 480-80-1X3 and in the format detailed in 480-80-1X4.
- (2) The company must submit a transmittal letter with all tariff filings. The transmittal letter must:
 - (a) Identify all new tariffs and tariff revisions;
 - (b) Explain why the tariff is being filed;
- (c) Convey the requested action in understandable terms. Although technical terms are acceptable, descriptions also need to use common terms so that people can readily understand the impact of the filing;
 - (d) Avoid acronyms if possible, but if they are useful, define them first;
- (e) Convey what is prompting the filing, (e.g. increased costs of doing business, filing in compliance with commission orders.);
- (f) Refer to the commonly-used name of that proceeding as well as the docket number;
- (g) Describe which services are impacted, and the dollar amount and percentage of increase or decrease if the filing is a rate change. If a combination of changes are filed (i.e. increases and decreases), each change should be described, as well as the net impacts;

176	(h) Describe the general effect of, and reasons for, the change if filings involve
177	only text changes; and
178	(i) Include an authorizing signature statement in the following form:
179	
180	I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington that I am an authorized tariff issuing agent for (name of company) and the attached tariff filing to the best of my knowledge and belief, is true, correct and complete.

(Date)	(Signature)
(Place)	(Print Name)

(3) The company must include materials necessary to support the tariff filing.

- (4) Requirements in this subsection are not preemptive of any filing requirements contained in WAC 480-09-330 through WAC 480-09-340, related to general rate case filings, or any other rule or commission order regarding tariff filings. Specifically, companies are subject to rules regarding rate filings in chapter 480-09 WAC, including but not limited to:
 - (a) WAC 480-09-015 Submission of "confidential" information;
 - (b) WAC 480-09-101 When communications are received;
 - (c) WAC 480-09-120 Filing and service filing by telefacsimile; number of copies;
 - (d) WAC 480-09-330 Filing requirements General rate increases;
- (e) WAC 480-09-337 Filing requirements General rate increases water companies; and
 - (f) WAC 480-09-340 Compliance filings.

Comments:

- 1. Staff suggests eliminating the need to sign every sheet of a tariff. Instead, a requirement to include an authorizing letter verifying the authenticity of the tariff will be added. The authorizing statement will also eliminate the need for the commission and company to maintain an authorized tariff issuer list.
- 2. Provides guidance for what needs to be included in the transmittal letter as set forth in Commission letter to the companies dated August 19, 1998.

New Section

480-80-1X3 Tariff content.

- Each tariff must include a title page, an index, a legend of symbols, a rules section governing service, and a rate schedule section. **[From –160]** The tariff form requirements identified in subsection 480-80-1X4(3) apply to all sheets in the tariff. In addition, each respective section of the tariff must include the following:
- (1) **Title page.** The title page is the first sheet of the tariff. The title page must include:
 - (a) The cancelled tariff number if applicable;

222 (b) The types of services covered by the tariff: (c) A description of the territory that applies to the tariff; and 223 224 (d) The complete name, address, phone number, unified business identifier (UBI) 225 number, and if available, the electronic mail address and web page address of the 226 issuing company. [from -200] (2) Index. The index follows the title page. The index must be updated, if 227 228 applicable, whenever a tariff sheet is added, revised, or cancelled. [from -210] The 229 index must contain a complete and accurate list of the contents of the tariff by: 230 (a) Section title (index, legend of symbols, rules, and rate schedules); 231 (b) Schedule number: 232 (c) Sheet title: and 233 (d) Sheet number. [from -210] 234 (3) Legend of Symbols. The legend of symbols follows the index. This section 235 must identify all symbols used in the tariff to identify changes resulting from the filing of 236 the specific sheet revision. The list must include the required symbols and their 237 meanings, and any other company specific symbol with its meaning consistent with the 238 requirements identified in WAC 480-80-1X4(6). 239 (4) Rules section. The rules section is a set of sheets that follows directly after 240 the legend of symbols. It is a complete set of rules governing the terms and conditions 241 of services in the tariff. Companies must publish rule sheets on consecutively 242 numbered standard tariff sheets. [from - 220(2)] 243 (a) The rules section must include, at a minimum, the following, if applicable: 244 (i) Application for service: 245 (ii) Definition of each service; 246 (iii) Reconnection charge: (iv) Service connection; 247 248 (v) Installation of meters; 249 (vi) Distribution main extension and line extension (except where filed as a 250 rate schedule); 251 (vii) Responsibility for, and maintenance of, distribution plant and service 252 lines: 253 (viii) Access to premises: 254 (ix) Interruptions to service; 255 (x) Bills: 256 (xi) Deposits: (xii) Delinquent accounts; 257 (xiii) Discontinuance of service; 258 259 (xiv) The method the company will use to give notice to its customers of changes within the limits of a banded rate; and 260 (xv) Additional rules as necessary. [from -220(1)] 261 (b) Gas companies must include the requirements set out in: 262 (i) WAC 480-90-233(2) Purchased gas adjustment (may be included in 263 264 rules section or rates section); 265 (ii) WAC 480-90-330(1) Heating value of gas; and (iii) WAC 480-90-343 Statement of meter test procedures.

267 (c) Electric companies must include the requirements set out in WAC 480-100-343 Statement of meter test procedures. 268 (5) Rate schedule section. 269 270 (a) The rate schedule section is the last set of sheets in the tariff. Rate schedule sheets must include the following, if applicable: 271 272 (i) Schedule number; 273 (ii) Title describing service (may include customer class, location available, 274 and whether service is optional); 275 (iii) Availability; 276 (iv) Rate; 277 (v) Minimum charge; 278 (vi) Discount; and 279 (vii) All other factors entering into the computation of the bills under the 280 schedule. 281 (b) Telecommunications companies must also provide the following information, 282 when applicable: 283 (i) **Exchange rate schedules** that include: 284 (A) Primary rate schedules; 285 (B) Private branch exchange rate schedules; (C) Miscellaneous rate schedules; 286 (D) Base rate area maps; and 287 288 (E) Exchange area maps. (ii) Inter-exchange service rate schedules that include: 289 (A) Basic rate schedules; 290 (B) Supplementary rate schedules; and 291 292 (C) List of toll points. [From -230] 293 294 Comments: 295 1. Adds a requirement to include a legend of symbols. This requirement will 296 improve the readability of the tariffs and will provide a place to list any company unique symbols that are allowed in 480-80-1X4. 297 298 2. Removes the requirement to include telegraph rate schedules as Staff believes it 299 is no longer applicable. 300 3. Clarify stakeholder understanding of what (4)(a)(vii) means. 301 302 303 **New Section** 480-80-1X4 Tariff format. 304 305 (1) **Tariff format.** Companies must clearly print or type all tariffs on eight and one-half 306 inch by eleven inch paper, with margins of at least one-half inch on each side. **[from -**307 *1401*. 308 (2) Tariff numbering.

(a) Companies filing more than one kind of service, such as electric and gas,

must file separate tariffs for each type of service.

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- (b) Each new tariff must use the next available WN U-number. The WN U-number must be the official designation of the tariff. *[From -150]*(3) **Sheet requirements.** Every sheet of the tariff must contain the:

 (a) Tariff number;

 (b) Tariff sheet number;

 (c) Name of the company issuing the tariff;

 (d) Effective date; *[From -160]* and

 (e) A blank rectangle area in the upper right hand corner, two inches wide as
 - (e) A blank rectangle area in the upper right hand corner, two inches wide and one and one-half inches high, for commission use.
 - (4) Sheet numbering.
 - (a) Each tariff sheet must have a different sheet number.
 - (b) The first time a tariff sheet is published, the company must mark it as "original sheet."
 - (c) The company must use the same sheet number on all subsequent revisions and number the revised sheets sequentially as follows:

On the first revision, designate the sheet as:

FIRST REVISION OF SHEET CANCELLING ORIGINAL SHEET

On the second revision, designate the sheet as:

SECOND REVISION OF SHEET CANCELLING FIRST REVISION OF SHEET

- (d) Each tariff revision sheet must use consecutive revision numbers and indicate the cancellation of the superseded sheet.
- (e) The commission will not consider tariff sheets that have been rejected or withdrawn before they become effective when numbering subsequent tariff revisions.
- (f) When a company cancels and removes a tariff sheet, it must not reactivate the sheet during the life of the tariff unless it uses the appropriate revision number and contains the same basic information. **[from -180]**
- (5) **Reserving sheet numbers.** In the construction of a tariff it may be necessary in the future to file additional rates and rules. To provide a proper place for these subsequent filings in proper relation to schedules already filed, reservation of sheet numbers should be considered. **[from-190]**
- (6) **Tariff symbols.** Each time a tariff sheet(s) is revised, companies must code all changes to the previous version with a tariff symbol.
- (a) Tariff revisions must include symbols that indicate the purpose and effect of the change.
- (b) Companies must locate the symbols on the right hand side of the changed text within the margin.
 - (c) Companies must use the following list of symbols for the purposes identified:

358	D - to signify discontinued rate, service, regulation or condition;
359	N - to signify new rate, service, regulation, condition or sheet;
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361	I - to signify a rate increase;
362	R - to signify a rate reduction;
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364	C - to signify changed condition or regulation;
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366	K - to signify that material has been transferred to another sheet in the
367	tariff (A footnote is required on the tariff sheet to identify the
368	material's new sheet number.);
369	M - to signify that material has been transferred from another sheet in
370	the tariff (A footnote is required on the tariff sheet to identify the
371	material's former sheet number.);
372	
373	T - to signify a change in text for clarification;
374	
375	O - to signify no change (This symbol is discretionary unless specifically
376	requested by the commission).
377	
378	(d) Companies may use additional symbols for other purposes as long as the
379	additional symbols are identified in the company's tariff as provided for in WAC 480-80-
380	1X3(3) Tariff content.
381	
382	Comments:
383	1. Allows a company to create and use an additional symbol that may be unique to
384	the company's tariff.
385	2. Staff suggests removing the requirement for an issued date. This date is
386	confusing. Commission Staff needs to know the date the tariff is received by the
387	Commission. Originally it was thought the issued date would serve this purpose, but
388 389	the company would have no way of knowing what that would be when the tariff is sent by mail. Instead, the issued date has been the date the company prepares its
390	tariff. This date is not meaningful for the Commission.
390 391	3. Adds a requirement for a blank rectangle in the upper right hand corner of the
392	tariff for commission use.
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New Section

480-80-1X5 Substitute pages.

- (1) The commission may accept substitute pages amending a pending tariff sheet if the substitute pages:
- (a) Do not materially change the terms and conditions of service contained in the pending tariff sheet;
 - (b) Do not increase the rates contained in the pending tariff sheet; or
 - (c) Make typographical corrections to the pending tariff sheet.

(2) The commission must receive substitute pages, along with a transmittal letter, explaining the revisions and including the notation "Do Not Redocket." The commission retains discretion to reject any substitute pages where doing so is in the public interest.

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Comments:

1. New rule proposed to reflect current procedures.

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Amend 480-80-045

480-80-1X6 Banded rate tariff filings.

- (1) **Telecommunication companies.** Telecommunications companies may file banded rate tariffs. Banded rate tariff filings must, at a minimum, be accompanied with the following:
- (a) A statement detailing how the public interest will be better served by a banded rate tariff rather than a tariff with fixed rates:
- (b) A verifiable cost of service study supporting the contention that the minimum rate in the banded rate tariff covers the cost of the service. Costs will be determined under a long run incremental cost analysis, including the price charged to other telecommunications carriers for any essential function used to provide the service, or any other commission-approved cost method; and
 - (c) Information detailing the revenue impact of the banded rate tariff.
- (2) Electric and natural gas companies. Electric and natural gas companies may file banded rate tariffs for any nonresidential natural gas or electric service that is subject to effective competition from energy suppliers not regulated by the commission. Banded rate tariff filings must, at a minimum, be accompanied with the following:
- (a) A statement detailing how the public interest will be better served by a banded rate tariff rather than a tariff with fixed rates;
- (b) A verifiable cost of service study supporting the contention that the minimum rate in the banded rate tariff covers all costs resulting from providing the service and provides a contribution to fixed costs; and
 - (c) Information detailing the revenue impact of the banded rate tariff.

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Comments:

1. Identifies minimum filing requirements for telephone, electric, and gas banded rate tariff filings.

438 439 440

Amend 480-80-070

- 441 480-80-1X7 Tariff filings with statutory notice.
- 442 (1) The commission must receive tariff revisions with notice as required by RCW
- 443 80.28.060 and RCW 80.36.110. The statutes require thirty days' notice for tariff
- revisions except telecommunications companies meeting the requirements of RCW 444
- 80.36.110(2) may file with ten days' notice to the commission. 445

- (2) The notice begins with the date the commission receives the filing. The commission will consider tariff revisions received on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, or after the times identified in subsection (3) as having been received on the following business day.
 - (3) The filing times and requirements for tariff revisions are as follows:
- (a) Mailing. The commission must receive tariff revisions by 5:00 p.m. Pacific time and must include an original and two copies of all materials.
- (b) Telefacsimile. The commission must receive tariff revisions by 4:00 p.m. Pacific time. The commission must receive an original and two hard copies of all materials the following business day.

[Part moved to -1X10]

458 Comments:

- 1. Reduces the time period allowed for faxing by one hour to 4:00 pm Pacific time to accommodate time needed for printing.
- 2. Revisions in this rule may require amendments to 480-09-120.

Amend 480-80-240

480-80-1X8 Tariff filings with less than statutory notice.

- (1) The commission may allow tariff revisions to become effective with less than statutory notice when the company states a reason for lack of notice. This process is known as "less than statutory notice" (LSN) handling. A company filing for LSN handling may use an LSN form supplied by the commission, or a transmittal letter containing at least the following information:
 - (a) Company information:
 - (i) Name and address of company;
 - (ii) Unified business identifier (UBI) number;
 - (iii) Telephone number, e-mail address, and facsimile number; and
 - (iv) Name and signature of person to contact regarding the filing.
 - (b) Tariff identification information:
 - (i) Number of the tariff being amended;
 - (ii) Identifying number and title of the tariff item(s) being amended; and
 - (iii) Number of the tariff sheet being amended.
 - (c) Concise description of the changes being proposed:
 - (d) Reason(s) for requesting LSN handling; and
 - (e) Effective date requested.
- (2) The revised tariff must include an effective date not less than the required statutory notice period.
- (3) If the LSN request is granted, the commission will change the effective date to reflect the authorized LSN effective date.

Comments:

- 1. Eliminates the requirement to post the LSN notice in business offices.
- 2. Provides an option to use a Commission LSN form.

491 492 493 **New Section** 494 480-80-1X9 Tariff filings that do not require statutory notice. [From -240] 495 The following types of tariff filings do not require statutory notice but must be filed with 496 the commission at least one day before the effective date: 497 (1) A rate for a service not previously provided by an existing regulated 498 company's tariff; 499 (2) A tariff revision that reflects no change affecting the public; 500 (3) A change in a banded rate when notice to customers has been or will be 501 given in accordance with tariff rules applicable to the service: 502 (4) Initial tariffs; or 503 (5) Other service as the commission may allow. 504 505 Comments: 506 1. Clarifies that initial tariffs do not require statutory notice. 507 508 509 **New Section** 510 480-80-1X10 Failure to provide statutory notice. [from -070] 511 A tariff issued without the required statutory notice to the commission and the public has 512 the same status as if the tariff had not been issued. Full statutory notice must be given 513 on any reissuance. 514 515 516 **New Section** 517 480-80-1X11 Withdrawing a tariff filing. 518 (1) When withdrawing a filing that the commission has not suspended, a company must 519 submit a letter that includes the following information: 520 (a) Name and address of company: 521 (b) Docket number; 522 (c) Advice number, if applicable; (d) Name of person to contact regarding the withdrawal; and 523 524 (e) Signature of the person authorized to file tariffs in the following form: 525 526 I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the 527 state of Washington that I am an authorized tariff issuing agent for 528 (name of company) and wish to withdraw the referenced filing. 529 530 (Date) (Signature) 531 532 (Place) (Type Name)

534 (2) When a company proposes to withdraw a filing that the commission has suspended, the company must submit a letter containing all the information in 535 subsection (1) together with an explanation of why the withdrawal is being requested. 536 537 The proposed withdrawal will take effect only upon commission order. 538 539 Comments: 540 1. Identifies information needed to withdraw a filing. 541 542 543 Amend 480-80-350 544 480-80-1X12 Refiling tariffs. 545 The commission may require a company to refile a complete tariff depending on the 546 extent of the tariff revisions. 547 548 Comments: 549 1. Clear language rewrite only. 550 551 552 Amend 480-80-300 553 480-80-1X13 Rejecting tariffs. 554 The commission may reject any tariff that reflects retroactive rate treatment or that is 555 found to be out of compliance with commission rules. 556 557 Comments: 558 1. Makes the rule permissive rather than mandatory. 559 560 561 Amend 480-80-250 562 480-80-1X14 Tariff adoption notice. 563 (1) A company must file a tariff adoption notice with the commission if there is a: 564 (a) Change in ownership; (b) Transfer of all or part of the operating control from one company to another; 565 566 or 567 (c) Company name change. 568 (2) The acquiring company must file the tariff adoption notice if there is a change in ownership or control. The surviving company must file the tariff adoption notice if 569 570 there is a name change. 571 (3) Content of the tariff adoption notice must contain, at a minimum, the following: 572 (Name of company) adopts and makes its own in every respect all 573 574 tariffs, supplements and amendments filed with the Washington 575 utilities and transportation commission by (Name of previous company) prior to (Date). 576

- (4) The tariff adoption notice may be made effective on one day's notice.
- (5) The company adopting the tariff must file to incorporate the adopted tariff in its own tariff within sixty days of the date of the filing of the adoption notice **except that** the time limit is one year if the adoption is required due to a name change.

[from -260]

- (6) Until the company that adopted a tariff refiles the tariff in its own name, all revisions after the adoption must include:
- (a) The name of the company whose tariff was adopted at the top of the sheet; and
 - (b) The name of the company that adopted the tariff at the bottom of the sheet.

Comments:

- 1. Removes language referring to "if it intends to use the tariff of the former operating utility."
- 2. Removes the requirement to post the adoption notice. Notification is addressed in the new proposed consumer rules.
- 3. Extends the time period for incorporating an adopted tariff into the new company's tariff due to a name change from 60 days to one year.
- 4. Combines 480-80-250 and 480-80-260 into one rule.
- 5. Removes the second company adoption restriction.

Amend 480-80-320

480-80-1X15 Discontinuing a service or services.

When a company proposes to discontinue a service or services, it must file a cancellation of the tariff to be discontinued or file a revised tariff omitting the item or items discontinued. The company must include a transmittal letter identifying the change and the reason for the discontinuance. Cancellation filings will be subject to full thirty days' statutory notice, unless made effective by a less than statutory notice order, and will be subject to all other provisions with respect to tariff filings.

Amend 480-80-080

480-80-1X16 Tariff availability to customers. [includes -090]

- (1) Tariffs must be available for inspection upon request.
 - (2) Each company must maintain a complete copy of its current tariff:
 - (a) At all of its business offices;
 - (b) By delivery to the customer within three business days; or
- (c) Electronically. If the electronic option is the method a company chooses to make tariffs available to the public, it must also provide the equipment needed, at its business offices, to access its tariff.
- (3) The company must provide the customer with a copy of the requested tariff information by mail if the company does not maintain a business office within the customer's service area.

- (4) The company must provide the public with assistance in locating desired tariff information.
- (5) The company must post a public notice in every office that maintains a tariff as follows:

(Name of Company)

A COMPLETE PUBLIC FILE OF THIS COMPANY'S TARIFF, APPLICABLE TO THIS TERRITORY, IS MAINTAINED IN THIS OFFICE AND MAY BE INSPECTED BY ANY PERSON UPON REQUEST AND WITHOUT SPECIFIYING A REASON FOR THE REQUEST. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMPANY WILL ASSIST IN GETTING INFORMATION FROM THE TARIFF.

Comments:

- 1. Removes the requirement for the company to provide the commission with a list of its business offices.
- 2. Allows companies the option of providing its tariff electronically to customers.
- 3. Allows companies the option of providing its tariff by delivery to customers.

III. PRICE LISTS

These price list rules replace the price list portion of 480-80-035. Effective 5/5/01 480-120-027 was repealed and subsequently adopted as 480-80-035.

480-80-2X1 Definition and use of price lists.

- (1) A price list is a telecommunications company's standard offer to the general public or to other telecommunications companies of one or more intrastate telecommunications services that the commission has determined to be subject to effective competition.
- (2) A company classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.320 may file a price list to offer any intrastate telecommunications service. A company that has not been classified as competitive may file a price list to offer any intrastate telecommunications service that has been classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.330.
- (3) A company may file a tariff for a service even if the commission has determined that service to be subject to effective competition. 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 companies will not apply.

480-80-2X2 Interpretation and application of price lists.

- (1) A price list is not a tariff and is not reviewed or approved by the commission at the time of filing. The commission will, when appropriate, investigate a price list or complain against a price list.
- (2) The commission will not deem a customer to have constructive knowledge of any provision of a price list solely because that provision has been filed with the

commission. Any dispute as to whether a customer had knowledge of a price list provision will be based on the form and content of notice provided by the company as well as any other demonstration of the customer's actual knowledge.

(3) If the commission determines that any provisions of a price list are conflicting or ambiguous, it will construe the conflict or ambiguity in favor of the customer.

480-80-2X3 Price lists format and content.

- (1) A price list must include, for each service in the price list, a description of the service, all limitations, terms, or conditions on the offering of that service, if any, and all rates, charges, or prices at which the service is offered.
- (2) A price list must plainly state the places where the offered telecommunications service will be rendered.
 - (3) A price list must be clearly marked on each page with the effective date.
- (4) A price list must conform to all applicable laws, rules, and orders. Acceptance by the commission of a non-conforming price list will not be deemed a waiver of the law, rule, or order. Any price list provision that conflicts with a law, rule, or order may not be enforced unless the commission waives that law, rule, or order.
- (5) A price list of a company classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.320 may state the rates, charges, or prices as maximum amounts rather than specific prices.
- (6) A price list of a company offering a service classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.330 may state the rates, charges, or prices as maximum and minimum amounts rather than specific prices. The minimum price must comply with the cost requirement in subsection (8).
- (7) Price list filing must be accompanied by a transmittal letter in compliance with the provisions of WAC 480-80-1X2(2).
- (8) The rates, charges, and prices of services classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.330 must cover the company's cost of providing the service. Costs will be determined under a long run incremental cost analysis, including the price charged to other telecommunications carriers for any essential function used to provide the service, or any other commission-approved cost method.
 - (9) Telefacsimile transmission.
- (a) The commission will accept price lists or price list revisions submitted by telefacsimile transmission if the company delivers the signed original of the price list or price list revisions to the records center of the commission the following business day.
- (b) The commission will use the date and time the facsimile is received and printed at the record center as the official file date.
- (c) Telefacsimile tariffs received on a Saturday, Sunday, holidays, or after 4:00 p.m. Pacific time, will be dated as received on the following business day.

480-80-2X4 Effective date of price list filings.

- (1) Any new price list or price list revision becomes effective on the later of (a) the effective date stated in the price list, (b) ten days after it is filed with the commission, and (c) ten days after any existing customers receive actual notice of the revision in accordance with WAC 480-120-XXX.
- (2) This section does not apply to the filing of price lists as a part of a telecommunications company's application for registration and competitive classification under chapter 480-121 WAC.

480-80-2X5 Price list availability to customers.

- (1) Each company must maintain a complete copy of the price list that is on file with the commission on a web site accessible to the public using standard web browser software.
- (2) Each company must include in each customer bill or notice the Internet address (uniform resource locator) of the web site containing its price list.
- (3) Each company must provide to any customer making a written or oral request a copy of the price list applicable to that customer's service. The company must provide the price list at no charge to the customer.

IV. CONTRACTS

Amend 480-80-325 Effective 5/5/01 480-120 027was repealed and subsequently adopted as 480-80-325. Includes part of –326.

480-80-3X1 Contract for service.

periods for service.

- (1) Whenever the classification of service under which the customer is to be served requires that the service must be taken for a specified minimum period, or as otherwise provided by tariff, a contract may be executed.
- (2) Electric, gas, and water companies must provide the commission with a sample of each contract form currently used.
- (3) Upon request, telecommunications companies must provide the commission with a sample of typical contract forms currently used within one business day.
- (4) Any contract entered into with an information provider, as defined in WAC 480-120-089, for advertising or promotion must require within the contract that the cost to the customer be prominently stated.

Comments:

(2) Reduces the requirement to "upon request" for telecommunications companies only.

(1) Revised to recognize stakeholders' observations that a written contract may be

required in circumstances other than in connection with specified minimum

Amend 480-80-330

480-80-3X2 Special contracts for telecommunications companies not classified as competitive.

- (1) Contracts to be filed. Telecommunications companies not competitively classified must file with the commission:
- (a) All contracts for the retail sale of regulated intrastate telecommunications services to end-use customers that:
- (i) State rates, charges, prices, terms, or conditions that do not conform to any existing tariff; or
- (ii) Provide for telecommunications services not specifically addressed in the telecommunications company's existing tariffs.
- (b) Any modification of a previously executed contract will be treated as a new contract.
 - (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 "firm bid" contracts are governed under subsection (5).
- (b) School, library, and rural health care provider contracts entered into pursuant to 47 CFR, Part 54, are governed under subsection (6).
 - (c) All other retail contracts are governed under subsection (7).

SUMMARY COMPARISON OF THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF RETAIL CONTRACTS

Subsection	Contract Type	When to File	Effective Date
(5)	Federal Firm Bid	no later than 15 days after acceptance	when filed or later as specified
(6)	47 CFR Part 54; Schools, Libraries, & RHCs	no later than 15 days after acceptance	when filed or later as specified
(7)	All other retail contracts	no later than 30 days prior to the proposed effective date	at least 30 days after filing

 (5) Federal "firm bid" contracts - filing requirements and effective dates. Where a federal 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

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) of this section. The contract will become effective at the time specified in the contract, but not earlier than filed with the commission.

- (6) School, library, and rural health care provider contracts filing requirements and effective dates. A telecommunications company that enters into a contract to provide service to a school, library, or rural health care provider, as part of the federal universal service program, must file the contract with the commission upon acceptance by the administrator of the federal universal service program, no later than fifteen days after such acceptance. The filing must include the same documentation as required for approval by subsection (7) of this section. The contract will become effective at the time specified in the contract, but not earlier than 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 the price charged to other telecommunications carriers 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. If the basis for using a contract is the availability of an alternative service provider, identify that provider.
- (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. In no event may a contract 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. 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 80.36.100. 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) where service will be provided.

Comments:

- 1. Clarifies current requirements.
- 2. Makes a generic imputation standard more explicit, see subsection (7)(b)(iii).

Amend 480-80-335

480-80-3X3 Special contracts for electric, water, and natural gas companies.

- (1) Contracts to be filed. Electric, water, and natural gas 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 any existing tariff; or
- (b) Provide for utility services not specifically addressed in the company's existing tariffs.
- (2) Any 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 company's filed tariffs and are subject to enforcement, supervision, regulation, control, and public inspection as such. The provisions of this chapter will apply except for those provisions governing the filing, notice, and form of tariffs, including those stated in WAC 480-80-XXX through 480-80-XXX.
- (4) Filing and effective dates. The contract 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. In no event may a contract 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 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. 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 company for subsequent ratemaking considerations.

- (7) Filings under this section may be submitted with portions designated "confidential" pursuant to WAC 480-09-015. 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.

Comments:

1. Updates revised WAC reference numbers only.

480-80-3X4 and 480-80-3X5 replace the contract portion of 480-80-035. Effective 5/5/01 480-120-027 was repealed and subsequently adopted as 480-80-035

480-80-3X4 Using contracts for services classified as competitive.

- (1) If a company makes an offer of service at prices, terms, or conditions other than those in its price list, and the customer accepts that offer, the company must provide the service at prices, terms, and conditions consistent with the offer. Except as provided in WAC 480-80-3X5, the company must file with the commission either a price list revision or a customer contract setting out the alternative prices, terms, and conditions.
 - (2) All contracts will be for a stated time period.
- (3) A contract will be enforceable by the contracting parties according to its terms even if the company fails to file the contract where required by WAC 480-80-3X5.
- (4) Any contract for a service classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.330 must comply with the cost requirement in WAC 480-80-2X3(8).
- (5) A contract must not include both "price listed" and "tariffed" services unless the tariffed services are set forth separately and offered under an approved tariff or contract (see WAC 480-80-3X2).

480-80-3X5 Filing contracts for services classified as competitive.

- 911 (1) This section applies to services offered by any company classified as competitive 912 under RCW 80.36.320 and to any service classified as competitive under RCW
- 913 80.36.330. However, if a company has elected, pursuant to WAC 480-80-2X1(3) to
- offer a competitive service by tariff, the contract rules in WAC 480-80-3X2 applicable to
- 915 tariffed services apply instead.

(2) A 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 company is not required to file a contract with prices below the maximum prices in the price list, as provided for in WAC 480-80-2X3(5), or within the maximum and minimum prices in the price list, as provided for in WAC 480-80-2X3(6), if the contract otherwise is consistent with the price list.

- (3) Any modification to a previously executed contract is a new contract and must be filed as required by this section.
- (4) Unless it includes a provision allowing the commission to reject it during the first fifteen days after it is filed, any contract required by subsection (2) to be filed with the commission will become effective on the later of (a) its stated effective date and (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) Filings under this section may be submitted with portions designated "confidential" pursuant to WAC 480-09-015. However, the commission will reject any filing that designates as "confidential" the essential terms and conditions of a contract as defined in WAC 480-80-3X2(8).
- (6) A 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 480-80-2X3(8).