**Chapter 480-120 WAC**

**TELEPHONE COMPANIES**

**PART I. GENERAL RULES**

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**WAC 480-120-011 Application of rules.**

(1) The rules in this chapter apply to any company that is subject to the jurisdiction of the commission as to rates or services under the provisions of RCW 80.01.040 and chapters 80.04 and 80.36 RCW.

(2) Tariffs filed by companies must conform to these rules. If the commission accepts a tariff that conflicts with these rules, the acceptance is not a waiver of these rules unless the commission specifically approves the variation consistent with WAC 480-120-015 (Exemptions from rules in chapter 480-120 WAC). Tariffs that conflict with these rules without approval are superseded by these rules.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 480-07-910 (Informal complaints), or by filing a formal complaint under WAC 480-07-370 (Pleading—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.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.36.010, 80.36.110, 80.36.320, 80.36.330, 80.36.333, 80.36.338, 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 07-08-027 (Docket UT-060676, General Order R-540), § 480-120-011, filed 3/27/07, effective 4/27/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 03-24-028 (General Order R-510, Docket No. A-010648), § 480-120-011, filed 11/24/03, effective 1/1/04; WSR 03-01-065 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507), § 480-120-011, filed 12/12/02, effective 7/01/03; WSR 01-15-022 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-480), § 480-120-011, filed 7/11/01, effective 8/11/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 1985 c 450. WSR 85-23-001 (Order R-242, Cause No. U-85-56), § 480-120-011, filed 11/7/85; Order R-25, § 480-120-011, filed 5/5/71. Formerly WAC 480-120-010.]

**WAC 480-120-015 Exemptions from rules in chapter 480-120 WAC.**

The commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in this chapter in the same manner and consistent with the standards and according to the procedures set forth in WAC 480-07-110 (Exceptions from and modifications to commission rules).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160 and 34.05.353. WSR 05-06-051 (Docket No. A-021178 and TO-030288, General Order No. R-518), § 480-120-015, filed 2/28/05, effective 3/31/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 03-24-028 (General Order R-510, Docket No. A-010648), § 480-120-015, filed 11/24/03, effective 1/1/04; WSR 03-01-065 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507), § 480-120-015, filed 12/12/02, effective 7/1/03; WSR 01-15-022 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-480), § 480-120-015, filed 7/11/01, effective 8/11/01.]

**WAC 480-120-016 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.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.160 and 80.01.040. WSR 01-15-022 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-480), § 480-120-016, filed 7/11/01, effective 8/11/01; Order R-25, § 480-120-016, filed 5/5/71. Formerly WAC 480-120-020.]

**WAC 480-120-017 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.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 03-01-065 and 03-03-090 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507 and R-507A), § 480-120-017, filed 12/12/02 and 1/16/03, effective 7/1/03.]

**WAC 480-120-019 Telecommunications performance requirements—Enforcement.**

The commission may enforce the performance requirements set forth in this chapter by imposing administrative penalties under RCW 80.04.405, 80.04.380, or other appropriate penalty statutes. These performance requirements are not intended to establish civil duties owed to any individual or class for any other purpose.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 03-01-065 and 03-03-090 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507 and R-507A), § 480-120-019, filed 12/12/02 and 1/16/03, effective 7/1/03.]

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

The definitions in this section apply throughout the chapter except where there is an alternative definition in a specific section, or where the context clearly requires otherwise.

"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.

"Access line" means a circuit providing exchange service between a customer's standard network interface and a serving switching center.

"Affiliate" means an entity that directly or indirectly owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, another entity.

"Affiliated interest" means a person or corporation as defined in RCW 80.16.010.

"Ancillary services" means all local service features excluding basic service.

"Applicant" means any person applying to a telecommunications company for new service or reconnection of discontinued service.

"Average busy hour" means a time-consistent hour of the day during which a switch or trunk carries the most traffic. This definition is applied on an individual switch and an individual trunk basis.

"Basic service" means service that includes the following:

• Single-party service;

• Voice grade access to the public switched network;

• Support for local use;

• Dual tone multifrequency signaling (touch-tone);

• Access to emergency services (E911);

• Access to operator services;

• Access to interexchange services;

• Access to directory assistance; and

• Toll limitation services.

"Business" means a for profit or not-for-profit organization, including, but not limited to, corporations, partnerships, sole proprietorships, limited liability companies, government agencies, and other entities or associations.

"Business days" means days of the week excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and official state holidays.

"Business office" means an office or service center provided and maintained by a company.

"Business service" means service other than residential service.

"Busy season" means an annual, recurring, and reasonably predictable three-month period of the year when a switch or trunk carries the most traffic. This definition is applied on an individual switch and an individual trunk basis.

"Call aggregator" means any corporation, company, partnership, or person, who, in the ordinary course of its operations, makes telephones available to the public or to users of its premises for telephone calls using a provider of operator services, including, but not limited to, hotels, motels, hospitals, campuses, and pay phones (see also pay phone service providers).

"Category of service" means local, data services such as digital subscriber line service, interexchange, or CMRS. Information about a customer's intraLATA and interLATA primary interexchange carrier freeze status is part of the local category.

"Central office" means a company facility that houses the switching and trunking equipment serving a defined area.

"Centrex" means a telecommunications service providing a customer with direct inward dialing to telephone extensions and direct outward dialing from them.

"Class A company" means a local exchange company with two percent or more of the access lines within the state of Washington. The method of determining whether a company is a Class A company is specified in WAC 480-120-034 (Classification of local exchange companies as Class A or Class B).

"Class B company" means a local exchange company with less than two percent of the access lines within the state of Washington. The method of determining whether a company is a Class B company is specified in WAC 480-120-034 (Classification of local exchange companies as Class A or Class B).

"Commercial mobile radio service (CMRS)" means any mobile (wireless) telecommunications service that is provided for profit that makes interconnected service available to the public or to such classes of eligible users as to be effectively available to a substantial portion of the public.

"Commission (agency)" in a context meaning a state agency, means the Washington utilities and transportation commission.

"Company" means any telecommunications company as defined in RCW 80.04.010.

"Competitively classified company" means a company that is classified as competitive by the commission pursuant to RCW 80.36.320.

"Control" means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a company, whether through the ownership of voting shares, by contract, or otherwise.

"Customer" means a person to whom the company is currently providing service.

"Customer premises equipment (CPE)" is equipment located on the customer side of the SNI (other than a company) and used to originate, route, or terminate telecommunications.

"Department" means the Department of Social and Health Services.

"Discontinue; discontinuation; discontinued" means the termina-tion or any restriction of service to a customer.

"Drop facilities" means company-supplied wire and equipment placed between a premises and the company distribution plant at the applicant's property line.

"Due date" means the date an action is required to be completed by rule or, when permitted, the date chosen by a company and provided to a customer as the date to complete an action.

"Eligible telecommunications carrier" (ETC) means a carrier designated as an ETC pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 214(e).

"Emergency response facility" means fire stations, hospitals, police stations, and state and municipal government emergency operations centers.

"Exchange" means a geographic area established by a company for telecommunications service within that area.

"Extended area service (EAS)" means telephone service extending beyond a customer's exchange, for which the customer may pay an additional flat-rate amount per month.

"Facility or facilities" means lines, conduits, ducts, poles, wires, cables, cross-arms, receivers, transmitters, instruments, machines, appliances, instrumentalities and all devices, real estate, easements, apparatus, property and routes used, operated, owned or controlled by a telecommunications company to facilitate the provision of telecommunications service.

"Force majeure" means natural disasters, including fire, flood, earthquake, windstorm, avalanche, mudslide, and other similar events; acts of war or civil unrest when an emergency has been declared by appropriate governmental officials; acts of civil or military authority; embargoes; epidemics; terrorist acts; riots; insurrections; explosions; and nuclear accidents.

"Interexchange" means telephone calls, traffic, facilities or other items that originate in one exchange and terminate in another.

"Interexchange company" means a company, or division thereof, that provides long distance (toll) service.

"Interoffice facilities" means facilities connecting two or more telephone switching centers.

"InterLATA" is a term used to describe services, revenues, functions, etc., that relate to telecommunications originating in one LATA and terminating outside of the originating LATA.

"IntraLATA" is a term used to describe services, revenues, functions, etc., that relate to telecommunications that originate and terminate within the same LATA.

"Local access and transport area (LATA)" means a local access transport area as defined by the commission in conformance with applicable federal law.

"Local calling area" means one or more rate centers within which a customer can place calls without incurring long-distance (toll) charges.

"Local exchange company (LEC)" means a company providing local exchange telecommunications service.

"Major outages" means a service failure lasting for thirty or more minutes that causes the disruption of local exchange or toll services to more than one thousand customers; total loss of service to a public safety answering point or emergency response agency; intercompany trunks or toll trunks not meeting service requirements for four hours or more and affecting service; or an intermodal link blockage (no dial tone) in excess of five percent for more than one hour in any switch or remote switch.

"Missed commitment" means orders for exchange access lines for which the company does not provide service by the due date.

"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.

"Pay phone" or "pay telephone" means any telephone made available to the public on a fee-per-call basis independent of any other commercial transaction. A pay phone or pay telephone includes telephones that are coin-operated or are activated by calling collect or using a calling card.

"Pay phone services" means provision of pay phone equipment to the public for placement of local exchange, interexchange, or operator service calls.

"Pay phone service provider (PSP)" means any corporation, company, partnership, or person who owns or operates and makes pay phones available to the public.

"Payment agency" means a physical location established by a local exchange company, either on its own premises or through a subcontractor, for the purpose of receiving cash and urgent payments from customers.

"Person" means an individual, or an organization such as a firm, partnership, corporation, municipal corporation, agency, association or other entity.

"Prior obligation" means an amount owed to a local exchange company or an interexchange company for regulated services at the time the company physically toll-restricts, interrupts, or discontinues service for nonpayment.

"Proprietary" means owned by a particular person.

"Provision" means supplying telecommunications service to a customer.

"Public access line (PAL)" means an access line equipped with features to detect coins, permit the use of calling cards, and such other features as may be used to provision a pay phone.

"Public safety answering point (PSAP)" means an answering loca-tion for enhanced 911 (E911) calls originating in a given area. PSAPs are designated as primary or secondary. Primary PSAPs receive E911 calls directly from the public; secondary PSAPs receive E911 calls only on a transfer or relay basis from the primary PSAP. Secondary PSAPs generally serve as centralized answering locations for a particular type of emergency call.

“Radio communications service company” has the meaning found in RCW 80.04.010, except that for the purposes of this section it includes only those companies providing two-way voice communication as a common carrier.

"Residential service" means basic service to a household.

"Restricted basic service" means either the ability to receive incoming calls, make outgoing calls, or both through voice grade access to the public switched network, including E911 access, but not including other services that are a part of basic service.

"Results of operations" means a fiscal year financial statement concerning regulated operations that include revenues, expenses, taxes, net operating income, and rate base. The rate of return is also included as part of the results of operations. The rate of return is the percentage of net operating income to the rate base.

"Service interruption" means a loss of or impairment of service that is not due to, and is not, a major outage.

"Service provider" means any business that offers a product or service to a customer, the charge for which appears on the customer's telephone bill.

"Special circuit" means an access line specially conditioned to give it characteristics suitable for handling special or unique services.

"Standard network interface (SNI)" means the protector that generally marks the point of interconnection between company communications facilities and customer's terminal equipment, protective apparatus, or wiring at a customer's premises. The network interface or demarcation point is located on the customer's side of the company's protector, or the equivalent thereof in cases where a protector is not employed.

"Station" means a telephone instrument installed for a customer to use for toll and exchange service.

"Subscriber list information (SLI)" means any information:

(a) Identifying the listed names of subscribers of a company and those subscribers' telephone numbers, addresses, or primary advertising classifications (as such classifications are assigned when service is established), or any combination of listed names, numbers, addresses, or classifications; and

(b) That the company or an affiliate has published, caused to be published, or accepted for publication in any directory format.

"Subsidiary" means any company in which the telecommunications company owns directly or indirectly five percent or more of the voting securities, unless the telecommunications company demonstrates it does not have control.

"Support structure" means the trench, pole, or conduit used to provide a path for placement of drop facilities.

"Switched access line" means, for the purpose of applying the telephone assistance program excise tax, a communication facility extending from a serving central office to a customer's premises to provide access to and from the switched telecommunications network for message toll service and local calling. When used with PBX or Centrex-CU a switched access line may also be referred to as a trunk.

"Telecommunications service" means the offering of telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used.

"Telemarketing" means contacting a person by telephone in an attempt to sell one or more products or services.

"Toll restriction" or "toll restricted" means a service that prevents the use of a local access line to initiate a long distance call using a presubscribed interexchange company.

"Traffic" means telecommunications activity on a telecommunica-tions network, normally used in connection with measurements of capacity of various parts of the network.

"Trouble report" means a report of service affecting network problems reported by customers, and does not include problems on the customer's side of the SNI.

"Trunk" means, in a telecommunications network, a path connecting two switching systems used to establish end-to-end connection. In some circumstances, both of its terminations may be in the same switching system.

"Washington telephone assistance program" means the program of local exchange service discounts administered by the department.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.36.010, 80.36.110, 80.36.320, 80.36.330, 80.36.333, 80.36.338, 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 07-08-027 (Docket UT-060676, General Order R-540), § 480-120-021, filed 3/27/07, effective 4/27/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 05-03-031 (Docket No. UT 040015, General Order No. R-516), § 480-120-021, filed 1/10/05, effective 2/10/05; WSR 03-01-065 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507), § 480-120-021, filed 12/12/02, effective 7/1/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.160, 80.36.520 and 80.01.040. WSR 99-02-020 (Order R-452, Docket No. UT-970301), § 480-120-021, filed 12/29/98, effective 1/29/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. WSR 93-06-055 (Order R-384, Docket No. UT-921192), § 480-120-021, filed 2/26/93, effective 3/29/93. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and chapter 80.36 RCW. WSR 91-13-078 (Order R-345, Docket No. UT-900726), § 480-120-021, filed 6/18/91, effective 7/19/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 1988 c 91. WSR 89-04-044 (Order R-293, Docket No. U-88-1882-R), § 480-120-021, filed 1/31/89. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. WSR 86-11-009 (Order R-250, Cause No. U-85-58), § 480-120-021, filed 5/12/86, effective 7/31/86. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 1985 c 450. WSR 85-23-001 (Order R-242, Cause No. U-85-56), § 480-120-021, filed 11/7/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.060. WSR 79-10-060 (Order R-131, Cause No. U-79-42), § 480-120-021, filed 9/18/79. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.36.140. WSR 79-03-031 (Order R-123, Cause No. U-79-01), § 480-120-021, filed 2/28/79; Order R-25, § 480-120-021, filed 5/5/71. Formerly WAC 480-120-030.]

**WAC 480-120-026 Tariffs.**

Only companies that have not been competitively classified must file tariffs in accordance with chapter 480-80 WAC, Utilities general—Tariffs and contracts.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.36.010, 80.36.110, 80.36.320, 80.36.330, 80.36.333, 80.36.338, 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 07-08-027 (Docket UT-060676, General Order R-540), § 480-120-026, filed 3/27/07, effective 4/27/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.160 and 80.01.040. WSR 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.]

**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 80.36.010, 80.36.110, 80.36.320, 80.36.330, 80.36.333, 80.36.338, 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 07-08-027 (Docket UT-060676, General Order R-540), § 480-120-028, filed 3/27/07, effective 4/27/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.160 and 80.01.040. WSR 01-15-022 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-480), § 480-120-028, filed 7/11/01, effective 8/11/01.]

**WAC 480-120-034 Classification of local exchange companies as Class A or Class B.**

(1) Each local exchange company is classified as a Class A company or a Class B company, based on the number of access lines it provides to Washington state customers.

(2) The classification of a company as Class A or Class B is made without respect to the company's classification as a competitive company under RCW 80.36.320.

(3) For purposes of classifying a company as Class A or Class B, the number of access lines served by the local exchange company includes the number of access lines served in this state by any affiliate of that local exchange company.

(4) Any company whose classification as Class A or Class B changes, due to a change in the number of access lines served, a change in affiliate relationships, or other reason, must notify the commission secretary of the change in classification within thirty days after the end of the month in which change in classification occurs.

(5) By July 1 of each year, the commission will publish on its web site the total number of access lines served by local exchange companies in Washington, based on information reported by companies for the previous calendar year, and a calculation of the two percent threshold.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 05-03-031 (Docket No. UT 040015, General Order No. R-516), § 480-120-034, filed 1/10/05, effective effective 2/10/05.]

**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 rates, terms and conditions pursuant to competitive classification, 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 480-120-132 and 480-120-162, 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 36.75.070 or 36.75.080. 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 36.75.010(10). 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 9A.72.085, that it is properly registered with the commission to provide the service.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.36.010, 80.36.110, 80.36.320, 80.36.330, 80.36.333, 80.36.338, 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 07-08-027 (Docket UT-060676, General Order R-540), § 480-120-061, filed 3/27/07, effective 4/27/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 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 80.01.040. WSR 94-20-010 (Order R-422, Docket No. UT-940049), § 480-120-061, filed 9/22/94, effective 10/23/94; WSR 92-01-115 (Order R-353, Docket No. UT-910788), § 480-120-061, filed 12/18/91, effective 1/18/92; WSR 85-18-011 (Order R-233, Cause No. U-85-35), § 480-120-061, filed 8/23/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.060. WSR 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.]

**WAC 480-120-071 Extension of service.**

(1) This rule only applies to wire line eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) that receive federal high-cost universal service support.

(2) Definitions. The following definitions apply to this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Applicant" means any person applying to a telecommunications company for new residential basic local exchange service. Applicant does not include developers requesting service for developments.

"Cost of service extension" means the direct and indirect costs of the material and labor to plan and construct the facilities including, but not limited to, permitting fees, rights of way fees, and payments to subcontractors, and does not include the cost of reinforcement, network upgrade, or similar costs.

"Developer" means any owner of a development who offers it for disposition, or an agent of such an owner.

"Development" means land which is divided or is proposed to be divided for the purpose of disposition into four or more lots, par-cels, or units.

"Distribution plant" means telephone equipment and facilities necessary to provide new residential basic local exchange service to a premises, but does not include drop wire.

"Drop wire" means company-supplied wire and pedestals to be placed between a premises and the company distribution plant at the applicant's property line. For drop wire installed after January 15, 2001, a drop wire must be sufficient in capacity to allow the provisioning of three individual basic exchange voice-grade access lines.

"Extension of service" means an extension of company distribution plant for new residential basic local exchange service to a location where no distribution plant of the extending company exists at the time an extension of service is requested. An extension is constructed at the request of one or more applicants for service. Extensions of service do not include trenches, conduits, or other support structure for placement of company-provided facilities from the applicant's property line to the premises to be served. Extension of service, as defined in this rule, does not apply to extensions of service to developments or to extensions of service for temporary occupancy or temporary service.

"Extraordinary cost" means a substantial expense resulting from circumstances or conditions beyond the control of the company that are exceptional and unlikely to occur in the normal course of planning and constructing facilities contemplated by this rule.

"Order date" as defined in WAC 480-120-021 (Definitions) means the date when an applicant requests service unless a company identifies specific actions a customer must first complete in order to be in compliance with commission rules. Except as provided in WAC 480-120-061 (Refusing service) and 480-120-104 (Information to consumers), when specific actions are required to be completed by the applicant, the order date becomes the date the company receives the completed application for extension of service.

"Premises" means any structure that is used as a residence, but does not include predominantly commercial or industrial structures.

"Temporary occupancy" means occupancy definitely known to be for less than one year but does not include intermittent or seasonal use when the intermittent or seasonal use will occur in more than a one-year period.

"Temporary service" means service definitely known to be for a short period of time, such as service provided for construction huts, sales campaigns, athletic contests, conventions, fairs, circuses, and similar events.

(3) Residential basic local exchange service.

(a) Each wire line ETC must,

within seven business days of an applicant's initial request, provide the applicant with an application for extension of service. The company must also provide the applicant a brief explanation of the extension of service rules.

(b) The company must process applications that require an extension of service in a timely manner.

(4) Allowances.

(a) A company must allow for an extension of service within its service territory up to one thousand feet at no charge to the applicant. The company may allow for an extension of service for distances over the allowance.

(b) The applicant is responsible for the cost of that portion of the extension of service, if any, that exceeds the allowance. The company must permit multiple applicants to aggregate their allowances when an extension of service to two or more applicants would follow a single construction path.

(5) Determining costs and billing for extensions of service longer than allowances.

(a) The company must estimate the cost of the service extension that is attributable to distribution plant that must be extended beyond the applicable allowance established under subsection (4)(b) of this section.

(b) At the completion of the construction of the extension of service, the company must determine the difference between the estimated cost and the actual cost of construction. The company must provide to the applicant detailed construction costs showing the difference. The company must refund any overpayment and may charge the applicant for reasonable additional costs up to ten percent of the estimate.

(6) Requirements for supporting structures and trenches.

(a) A company may condition construction on completion of support structures, trenches, or both on the applicant's property.

(i) Applicants are responsible for installation of all supporting structures required for placement of company-provided drop wire from the applicant's property line to the applicant's premises. The company may offer to construct supporting structures and dig trenches and may charge for those services, but the company must not require that applicants use only company services to construct supporting structures and dig trenches. The offer must clearly state that the applicant may choose to employ a different company for construction services.

(ii) The company may require that all supporting structures required for placement of company-provided drop wire from the applicant's property line to the premises are placed in accordance with reasonable company construction specifications. The company must require that, once in place and in use, all supporting structures and drop wire will be maintained by the company as long as the company provides service, and any support structure and trenches constructed at company expense are owned by the company.

(b) Once supporting structures, trenches, or both, have been constructed, the company must provide drop wire to applicants at no charge.

(7) Temporary service. A company may not provide allowances (e.g., one thousand feet without charge) or discounts on the cost of construction for extension of temporary service.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 08-19-001 and 08-20-113 (Docket UT-073014, General Order R-551), § 480-120-071, filed 9/3/08 and 9/30/08, effective 10/4/08 and 10/31/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 80.36.080, 80.36.300. WSR 00-24-097 (Order R-474, Docket No. UT-991737), § 480-120-071, filed 12/5/00, effective 1/15/01; Order R-25, § 480-120-071, filed 5/5/71. Formerly WAC 480-120-170.]

**WAC 480-120-083 Cessation of telecommunications services.**

(1) This rule applies to any telecommunications company that ceases the provision of any telecommunications service in all or any portion of the state (exiting telecommunications company). This rule does not apply to:

(a) Services offered by tariff that are subject to the statutory notice requirements of RCW 80.36.110 (Tariff Changes – Statutory Notice – Exception);

(b) Discontinuance of service to an individual customer in com-pliance with WAC 480-120-172 (Discontinuing service—Company initiated);

(c) Cessation of a service when the provider replaces the terminated service with comparable service without interruption. For example, the notice requirements of this rule do not apply when a local exchange carrier (LEC) providing Centrex-type service with one group of features replaces that service, without interruption, with a version of Centrex-type service that has a different group of features; and

(d) A service being discontinued that has no subscribers.

Changes in customers' service providers for local exchange and intrastate toll services when there is a cessation of service are also subject to WAC 480-120-147 (Changes in local exchange and intrastate toll services).

(2) No telecommunications company may cease the provision of any telecommunications service in all or any portion of the state unless it first provides written notice to the following persons at least 30 days in advance of cessation of service:

(a) The commission;

(b) The state 911 program, in the instance of local exchange service, private branch exchange service (PBX), Centrex-type service, or private line service used in the provision of emergency services related to the state 911 program;

(c) Each of its customers, including customers that are telecommunications companies;

(d) Incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) providing the exiting telecommunications company with unbundled network elements (UNEs) pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. Section 151 et seq., if UNEs or combinations of UNEs are part of a telecommunications service provided to some or all of the exiting telecommunications company's customers;

(e) Each telecommunications company providing the exiting tele-communications company with resold telecommunications service, if resold service is part of a telecommunications service provided to some or all of the exiting telecommunications company's customers;

(f) The national number administrator authorizing the release of all assigned telephone numbers to other telecommunications companies and releasing all unassigned telephone numbers to the number administrator.

(3) The notice to the commission and the state 911 program re-quired in subsections (2)(a) and (b) must include:

(a) The name of the exiting telecommunications company;

(b) For each category of service, the date each telecommunica-tions service will cease; and

(c) The number of customers for each telecommunications service and their location, described by exchange or by city and county for each telecommunications service being ceased.

(4) The notice to customers required in subsection (2)(c) must include:

(a) The date telecommunications service will cease;

(b) Information on how to contact the exiting telecommunications company by telephone in order to obtain information needed to establish service with another provider;

(c) An explanation of how customers may receive a refund on any unused service. The exiting telecommunications company must provide information to consumers via its customer service number outlining the procedure for obtaining refunds and continue to provide this information for sixty days after the date of cessation of service.

(d) A second notice provided by one of the two options listed below:

(i) Between ten and thirty days before cessation of service, the exiting telecommunications company must complete one direct call advising every customer of the cessation of service, including the date of cessation of service and a number to call for more information, if necessary. A direct call means a call in which the company leaves a recorded voice message for or speaks directly to the responsible party or its agent on the billing account; or

(ii) At least ten days before cessation of service, the exiting telecommunications company must provide a second written notice of cessation of service including the date of cessation of service and a number to call for more information, if necessary;

(e) A company may seek the commission's assistance in drafting the customer notices.

(5) The notice to ILECs required in subsection (2)(d) must in-clude:

(a) The date telecommunications service will cease;

(b) Identification of the UNE components in relationship to the service information provided to the customer when such information differs from the ILEC's identification information as billed to the exiting telecommunications company. For example, if the ILEC identifies a UNE loop with a circuit identification number, the exiting telecommunications company must provide the ILEC with the customer telephone number assigned to the ILEC's UNE loop circuit identification number; and

(c) The telephone contact information to enable the ILEC or new provider to obtain UNE service and circuit identification information needed to establish service for a customer who will no longer receive service from the exiting telecommunications company.

(6) The notice to suppliers required in subsection (2)(e) must include:

(a) The date telecommunications service will cease;

(b) Identification of the resold service element components in relationship to the service information provided to the customer, when such information differs from the supplier's identification information as billed to the exiting telecommunications company; and

(c) Telephone contact information to enable the regulated supplier or new provider to obtain underlying service and circuit identification information needed to establish comparable replacement service for a customer who will no longer receive service from the exiting telecommunications company.

(7) The notice to the national number administrator required in subsection (2)(f) must include:

(a) Identification of all working telephone numbers assigned to customers;

(b) Identification of all unassigned or administrative numbers available for reassignment to other providers and the date such unassigned telephone numbers will be available for reassignment; and

(c) Authorization of the release of each individual assigned customer's telephone number(s) to subsequent providers selected by the customer.

(8) ILECs and telecommunications companies that are suppliers under subsection (6) must provide the information in the required notice(s) (if received) to the subsequent provider upon a request authorized by the customer.

(9) A telecommunications company ceasing a local exchange ser-vice, a PBX service, a Centrex-type service, or a private line service used in the provision of emergency services related to the state 911 program must inform the commission and the state 911 program within twenty-four hours of the cessation of telecommunications service of the number of customers and their location, listed by exchange or by city and county, that remained as customers for the telecommunications service when service ceased.

**(10) Canceling registration.** A company canceling its registration as a telecommunications company must notify the commission in writing and, as applicable, comply with the requirements of WAC 480-120-083 (Cessation of telecommunications services). It remains subject to commission jurisdiction with respect to its provision of telecommunications service during the time it was registered, and it must file an annual report and pay regulatory fees for the period during which it was registered.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 03-22-046 (Docket No. A-030832, General Order No. R-509), § 480-120-083, filed 10/29/03, effective 11/29/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.04.160 and 80.01.040. WSR 01-24-114 (General Order No. R-494, Docket No. UT-010558), § 480-120-083, filed 12/5/01, effective 1/5/02.   
Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 03-01-065 (Docket No. UT-990146, General Order No. R-507), § 480-120-148, filed 12/12/02, effective 7/1/03.]