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**PART 53—SPECIAL PROVISIONS
CONCERNING BELL OPERATING
COMPANIES**

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AUTHORITY: Sections 1–5, 7, 201–05, 218, 251, 253, 271–75, 48 Stat. 1070, as amended, 1077; 47 U.S.C. 151–55, 157, 201–05, 218, 251, 253, 271–75, unless otherwise noted.
SOURCE: 62 FR 2967, Jan. 21, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Information

§ 53.1 Basis and purpose.

- (a) *Basis.* The rules in this part are issued pursuant to the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.
(b) *Purpose.* The purpose of the rules in this part is to implement sections 271 and 272 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 271 and 272.

§ 53.3 Terms and definitions.

- Terms used in this part have the following meanings:
Act. The Act means the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.
Affiliate. An affiliate is a person that (directly or indirectly) owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, another person. For purposes of this part, the term “own” means to own an equity interest (or the equivalent thereof) of more than 10 percent.
AT&T Consent Decree. The AT&T Consent Decree is the order entered August 24, 1982, in the antitrust action styled *United States v. Western Electric*, Civil