

Federal Communications Commission

§ 51.209

Virtual collocation. *Virtual collocation* is an offering by an incumbent LEC that enables a requesting telecommunications carrier to:

(1) Designate or specify equipment to be used for interconnection or access to unbundled network elements to be located within or upon an incumbent LEC's premises, and dedicated to such telecommunications carrier's use;

(2) Use such equipment to interconnect with an incumbent LEC's network facilities for the transmission and routing of telephone exchange service, exchange access service, or both, or for access to an incumbent LEC's unbundled network elements for the provision of a telecommunications service; and

(3) Electronically monitor and control its communications channels terminating in such equipment.

Wire center. A wire center is the location of an incumbent LEC local switching facility containing one or more central offices, as defined in the Appendix to part 36 of this chapter. The wire center boundaries define the area in which all customers served by a given wire center are located.

[61 FR 45619, Aug. 29, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 47348, Sept. 6, 1996; 64 FR 23241, Apr. 30, 1999; 65 FR 1344, Jan. 10, 2000; 65 FR 2550, Jan. 18, 2000; 65 FR 54438, Sept. 8, 2000; 66 FR 43521, Aug. 20, 2001; 68 FR 52293, Sept. 2, 2003; 70 FR 8952, Feb. 24, 2005]

Subpart B—Telecommunications Carriers

§ 51.100 General duty.

(a) Each telecommunications carrier has the duty:

(1) To interconnect directly or indirectly with the facilities and equipment of other telecommunications carriers; and

(2) To not install network features, functions, or capabilities that do not comply with the guidelines and standards as provided in the Commission's rules or section 255 or 256 of the Act.

(b) A telecommunication carrier that has interconnected or gained access under sections 251(a)(1), 251(c)(2), or 251(c)(3) of the Act, may offer information services through the same arrangement, so long as it is offering

telecommunications services through the same arrangement as well.

Subpart C—Obligations of All Local Exchange Carriers

§ 51.201 Resale.

The rules governing resale of services by an incumbent LEC are set forth in subpart G of this part.

§ 51.203 Number portability.

The rules governing number portability are set forth in part 52, subpart C of this chapter.

§ 51.205 Dialing parity: General.

A local exchange carrier (LEC) shall provide local and toll dialing parity to competing providers of telephone exchange service or telephone toll service, with no unreasonable dialing delays. Dialing parity shall be provided for all originating telecommunications services that require dialing to route a call.

[61 FR 47349, Sept. 6, 1996]

§ 51.207 Local dialing parity.

A LEC shall permit telephone exchange service customers within a local calling area to dial the same number of digits to make a local telephone call notwithstanding the identity of the customer's or the called party's telecommunications service provider.

[61 FR 47349, Sept. 6, 1996]

§ 51.209 Toll dialing parity.

(a) A LEC shall implement throughout each state in which it offers telephone exchange service intraLATA and interLATA toll dialing parity based on LATA boundaries. When a single LATA covers more than one state, the LEC shall use the implementation procedures that each state has approved for the LEC within that state's borders.

(b) A LEC shall implement toll dialing parity through a presubscription process that permits a customer to select a carrier to which all designated calls on a customer's line will be routed automatically. LECs shall allow a

§51.213

customer to presubscribe, at a minimum, to one telecommunications carrier for all interLATA toll calls and to presubscribe to the same or to another telecommunications carrier for all intraLATA toll calls.

(c) A LEC may not assign automatically a customer's intraLATA toll traffic to itself, to its subsidiaries or affiliates, to the customer's presubscribed interLATA or interstate toll carrier, or to any other carrier, except when, in a state that already has implemented intrastate, intraLATA toll dialing parity, the subscriber has selected the same presubscribed carrier for both intraLATA and interLATA toll calls.

(d) Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, states may require that toll dialing parity be based on state boundaries if it deems that the provision of intrastate and interstate toll dialing parity is procompetitive and otherwise in the public interest.

[61 FR 47349, Sept. 6, 1996]

§51.213 Toll dialing parity implementation plans.

(a) A LEC must file a plan for providing intraLATA toll dialing parity throughout each state in which it offers telephone exchange service. A LEC cannot offer intraLATA toll dialing parity within a state until the implementation plan has been approved by the appropriate state commission or the Commission.

(b) A LEC's implementation plan must include:

(1) A proposal that explains how the LEC will offer intraLATA toll dialing parity for each exchange that the LEC operates in the state, in accordance with the provisions of this section, and a proposed time schedule for implementation; and

(2) A proposal for timely notification of its subscribers and the methods it proposes to use to enable subscribers to affirmatively select an intraLATA toll service provider.

(3) A LEC that is not a BOC also shall identify the LATA with which it will associate for the purposes of providing

47 CFR Ch. I (10–1–11 Edition)

intraLATA and interLATA toll dialing parity under this subpart.

[61 FR 47349, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 71 FR 65750, Nov. 9, 2006]

§51.215 Dialing parity: Cost recovery.

(a) A LEC may recover the incremental costs necessary for the implementation of toll dialing parity. The LEC must recover such costs from all providers of telephone exchange service and telephone toll service in the area served by the LEC, including that LEC. The LEC shall use a cost recovery mechanism established by the state.

(b) Any cost recovery mechanism for the provision of toll dialing parity pursuant to this section that a state adopts must not:

(1) Give one service provider an appreciable cost advantage over another service provider, when competing for a specific subscriber (*i.e.*, the recovery mechanism may not have a disparate effect on the incremental costs of competing service providers seeking to serve the same customer); or

(2) Have a disparate effect on the ability of competing service providers to earn a normal return on their investment.

[61 FR 47350, Sept. 6, 1996]

§51.217 Nondiscriminatory access: Telephone numbers, operator services, directory assistance services, and directory listings.

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) *Competing provider.* A “competing provider” is a provider of telephone exchange or telephone toll services that seeks nondiscriminatory access from a local exchange carrier (LEC) in that LEC's service area.

(2) *Nondiscriminatory access.* “Nondiscriminatory access” refers to access to telephone numbers, operator services, directory assistance and directory listings that is at least equal to the access that the providing local exchange carrier (LEC) itself receives. Nondiscriminatory access includes, but is not limited to:

(i) Nondiscrimination between and among carriers in the rates, terms, and conditions of the access provided; and

(ii) The ability of the competing provider to obtain access that is at least