

the same time as other comments on this Public Notice. Comments should address: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

15. *Filing Procedures.* Interested parties may file comments no later than April 24, 1998. Reply comments may be filed no later than May 15, 1998. All pleadings should reference AAD File No. 98-23. The original and six copies should be submitted to the Secretary of the Commission; one copy should be submitted to Anthony Dale, Accounting and Audits Division, Common Carrier Bureau, 2000 L Street, Suite 201, Washington, DC 20554. Comments and replies must also comply with Section 1.49 and all other applicable sections of the Commission's Rules. We also direct all interested parties to include the name of the filing party and the date of the filing on each page of their comments and replies. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be filed with International Transcription Services (ITS), the Commission's duplicating contractor, at its office at 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, (202) 857-3800. All pleadings are available for public inspection and copying in the Accounting and Audits public reference room.

Action by the Chief, Common Carrier Bureau, FCC.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Kenneth P. Moran,**

Chief, Accounting and Audits Division,  
Common Carrier Bureau.

[FR Doc. 98-7987 Filed 3-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### Public Information Collections Approved by Office of Management and Budget

March 24, 1998.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has received Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the following public information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,

Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. For further information contact Shoko B. Hair, Federal Communications Commission, (202) 418-1379.

Federal Communications Commission

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0823.

*Expiration Date:* 09/30/98.

*Title:* Pay Telephone Reclassification Memorandum Opinion and Order, CC Docket No. 96-128.

*Form No.:* N/A.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit entities.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 400 respondents; 111.7 hours per response (avg.); 44,700 total annual burden hours.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion, monthly, quarterly, annually, one-time.

*Description:* In the Payphone Orders, the Commission adopted new rules and policies governing the payphone industry to implement Section 276 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Those rules and policies in part establish a plan to ensure fair compensation for "each and every completed intrastate and interstate call using [a] payphone." Specifically, the Commission established a plan to ensure that payphone service providers (PSPs) were compensated for certain noncoin calls originated from their payphones. As part of this plan, the Commission required that by October 7, 1997, LECs provide payphone-specific coding digits to PSPs, and that PSPs provide those digits from their payphones to IXC. The provision of payphone-specific coding digits is a prerequisite to payphone per-call compensation payments by IXCs to PSPs for subscriber 800 and access code calls. The Common Carrier Bureau, on its own motion, subsequently provided a waiver until March 9, 1998, for those payphones for which the necessary coding digits were not provided to identify calls. In a Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) (released March 9, 1998), we clarify the requirements established in the Payphone Orders for the provision for payphone-specific coding digits and for tariffs that LECs must file pursuant to the Payphone Orders. We also grant a waiver of Part 69 of the Commission's rules so that LECs can establish rate elements to recover the costs of implementing FLEX ANI to provide payphone-specific coding digits for per-call compensation. The Commission in the Memorandum Opinion and Order,

therefore, is effecting the following collections of information made in regard to information disclosures required in the Payphone Orders to implement Section 276 of the Act. The collection requirements are as follows:

a. LEC Tariff to provide FLEX ANI to IXCs: The MO&O requires that local exchange carriers (LECs) implement FLEX ANI to comply with the requirements set forth in the Payphone Orders. LECs must provide to IXCs through their interstate tariffs, FLEX ANI service so that IXCs can identify which calls come from a payphone. LECs (and PSPs) must provide FLEX ANI to IXCs without charge for the limited purpose of per-call compensation, and accordingly, LECs providing FLEX ANI must revise their interstate tariffs to reflect FLEX ANI as a nonchargeable option to IXCs no later than March 30, 1998, to be effective no later than April 15, 1998, in those areas that it is available. (*No. of respondents:* 400; *hours per response:* 35 hours; *total annual burden:* 14,000 hours.)

b. LEC Tariff to recover costs: LECs must file a tariff to establish a rate element in their interstate tariffs to recover their costs from PSPs for providing payphone-specific coding digits to IXCs. This tariff must reflect the costs of implementing FLEX ANI to provide payphone-specific coding digits for payphone compensation, and provide for recovery of such costs over a reasonable time period through a monthly recurring flat-rate charge. LECs must provide cost support information for the rate elements they propose. The Bureau will review these LEC rate element tariff filings, the reasonableness of the costs, and the recovery period. LECs will recover their costs over an amortization period of no more than ten years. The rate element charges will discontinue when the LEC has recovered its cost. (*No. of respondents:* 400; *hours per response:* 35 hours; *total annual burden:* 14,000 hours.)

c. LECs must provide IXCs information on payphones that provide payphone-specific coding digits for smart and dumb payphones: LECs must provide IXCs information on the number and location of smart and dumb payphones providing payphone-specific coding digits, as well as the number of those that are not. (*No. of respondents:* 400; *hours per response:* 24 hours; *total annual burden:* 9600 hours.)

d. LECs must provide IXCs and PSPs information on where FLEX ANI is available now and when it is to be scheduled in the future: Within 30 days of the release of the MO&O, LECs should be prepared to provide IXCs, upon request, information regarding

their plans to implement FLEX ANI by end office. LECs must provide IXCs and PSPs information on payphones that provide payphone-specific coding digits on end offices where FLEX ANI is available, and where it is not, on a monthly basis. Pursuant to the waivers in this order, LECs must also inform IXCs and PSPs proposed dates for its availability. (*No. of respondents:* 400; *hours per response:* 16 hours; *total annual burden:* 6400 hours.) e. For a waiver granted to small or midsize LECs, a cost analysis must be provided, upon request: In the MO&O, the Bureau grants a waiver to midsize and small LECs that will be unable to recover the costs of implementing FLEX ANI in a reasonable time period. LECs must make this evaluation within 30 days of the release of the MO&O. The LEC must then notify IXCs that they will not be implementing FLEX ANI pursuant to this waiver, and provide the number of dumb payphones providing the "27" coding digit and the number of smart phones for which payphone-specific coding digits are unavailable. A LEC delaying the implementation of FLEX ANI pursuant to this waiver provision must be prepared to provide its analysis, if requested by the Commission. (*No. of respondents:* 20; *hours per response:* 35 hours; *total annual burden:* 700 hours.) The information disclosure rules and policies governing the payphone industry to implement Section 276 of the Act will ensure the payment of per-call compensation by implementing a method for LECs to provide information to IXCs to identify calls, for each and every call made from a payphone. The Bureau has reviewed several methods of identifying payphone calls and determined that among them, FLEX ANI is the most flexible and has the added capability of providing a number of additional coding digits, in real-time, that can uniquely identify a call as coming from a payphone. FLEX ANI is, therefore, the best method. *Obligation to respond:* required.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0512.

*Expiration Date:* 09/30/98.

*Title:* The ARMIS Annual Summary Report.

*Form No.:* FCC Report 43-01.

*Respondents:* Businesses or other for profit entities.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 150 respondents; 220 hours per response (avg.); 33,000 total annual burden hours.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* Annually.

*Description:* The ARMIS Annual Summary Report contains financial and operating data and is used to monitor

the local exchange carrier industry and to perform routine analyses of costs and revenues on behalf of the Commission.

*Obligation to respond:* Mandatory.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0395.

*Expiration Date:* 09/30/98.

*Title:* Automated Reporting and Management Information Systems (ARMIS)—Sections 43.21 and 43.22.

*Form No.:* FCC Reports 43-02, 43-03, 43-05.

*Respondents:* Business or other for profit.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 50 respondents; 1252.7 hours per response (avg.); 62,637 total annual hours.

*Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* Annually.

*Description:* FCC Report 43-02 contains company-wide data for each account specified in the Uniform System of Accounts (USOA). It provides the annual operating results of the carriers' activities for every account in the USOA. (*No. of respondents:* 50; *hours per response:* 960 hours; *total annual burden:* 48,000 hours). FCC Report 43-05 collects data at the study area level and holding company level and is designed to capture trends in service quality under price cap regulation. It provides service quality information in the areas of interexchange access service installation and repair intervals, local service installation and repair intervals, trunk blockage and total switch downtime for price cap companies. (*No. of respondents:* 12; *hours per response:* 849 hours; *total annual burden:* 10,197.4 hours). FCC Report 43-07 is designed to capture trends in telephone industry infrastructure development under price cap regulation. It provides switch deployment and capabilities data. (*No. of respondents:* 8; *hours per response:* 550 hours; *total annual burden:* 4400 hours). *Obligation to comply:* Mandatory.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0513.

*Expiration Date:* 09/30/98.

*Title:* ARMIS Joint Cost Report.

*Form No.:* FCC Report 43-03.

*Respondents:* Business or other for profit.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 150 respondents; 200 hours per response (avg.); 30,000 total annual hours.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* Annually.

*Description:* The Joint Cost Report is needed to administer our joint cost rules (Part 64) and to analyze the regulated and nonregulated cost and revenue allocations by study area in order to prevent cross-subsidization of

nonregulated operations by the regulated operations.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0511.

*Expiration Date:* 09/30/98.

*Title:* ARMIS Access Report.

*Form No.:* FCC Report 43-04.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 150 respondents; 1,150 hours per response (avg.); 172,500 total annual hours.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* Annually.

*Description:* The Access Report is needed to administer the results of the FCC's jurisdictional separations and access charge procedures in order to analyze revenue requirements, joint cost allocations, jurisdictional separations and access charges. *Obligation to comply:* Mandatory.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0763.

*Expiration Date:* 09/30/98.

*Title:* The ARMIS Customer Satisfaction Report.

*Form No.:* FCC Report 43-06.

*Respondents:* Businesses or other for profit entities.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 8 respondents; 7200 hours per response (avg.); 5,760 total annual burden hours.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* Annually.

*Description:* The Customer Satisfaction Report collects data from carrier surveys designed to capture trends in service quality. *Obligation to comply:* Mandatory.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0496.

*Title:* The ARMIS Operating Data Report.

*Form No.:* FCC Report 43-08.

*Respondents:* Businesses or other for profit entities.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 50 respondents; 160 hours per response (avg.); 8,000 total annual burden hours.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* Annually.

*Description:* The ARMIS Operating Data Report consists of statistical schedules which are needed by the Commission to monitor network growth, usage, and reliability. *Obligation to comply:* Mandatory.

ARMIS was implemented to facilitate the timely and efficient analysis of revenue requirements and rate of return, to provide an improved basis for audits and other oversight functions, and to enhance the Commission's ability to quantify the effects of alternative policy. The information contained in the reports provides the necessary detail to enable the Commission to fulfill its regulatory responsibilities. Automated reporting of these data greatly enhances

the Commission's ability to process and analyze the extensive amounts of data it needs to administer its rules. All the reports have been updated to reflect the new expiration date. Copies of the updated reports may be obtained from Barbara Van Hagen of the Accounting and Audits Division at 2000 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., Room 812. Call 202-418-0849.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0439.

*Expiration Date:* 03/31/2001.

*Title:* Regulations Concerning Indecent Communications By Telephone.

*Form No.:* N/A.

*Respondents:* Business or other for profit entities.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 10,200 respondents; .16 hours per response (avg). 1,632 total annual burden hours.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Description:* Section 223 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. Section 223, as amended by the Appropriations Act of 1990, Public Law 101-166, Sections 521, 103 Stat. 1192 (November 21, 1989), imposes fines and penalties on those who knowingly use the telephone to make obscene or indecent communications for commercial purposes. The fines and penalties are applicable to those who use the telephone, or permit their telephone to be used, for obscene communications to any person and to those who use the telephone for indecent communications to persons under 18 years of age or to adults without their consent. Section 223 requires telephone companies, to the extent technically feasible, to prohibit access to indecent communications from the telephone of a subscriber who has not previously requested access. 47 C.F.R. 64.201 implements the statute. The rules and regulations establish defenses to prosecution where the defendant restricts access to the prohibited indecent communications to persons 18 years of age or older by complying with the Commission's procedures. Section 64.201 contains several information collection requirements including: (1) A requirement that certain common carriers block access to indecent messages unless the subscriber seeks access from the common carrier (telephone company) in writing (*no. of respondents:* 10,000; *hours per response:* 10 minutes; *total annual burden:* 1600 hours); (2) a requirement that adult message service providers notify their carriers of the nature of their programming (*no. of respondents:* 100;

*hours per response:* 10 minutes; *total annual burden:* 16, hours); and (3) a requirement that a provider of adult message services request that their carriers identify it as such in bills to its subscribers (*no. of respondents:* 100; *hours per response:* 10 minutes; *total annual burden:* 16 hours). The information requirements are imposed on carriers, adult message service providers and those who solicit their services to ensure that minors are denied access to material deemed indecent. If the information collections were not imposed the Commission would not be able to carry out its responsibilities as mandated in Section 223 of the Act. Obligation to respond: required.

Public reporting burden for the collections of information is as noted above. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the collections of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Washington, D.C. 20554.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Magalie Roman Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-8153 Filed 3-26-98; 8:45 am]

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket No. 87-313; DA 98-483]

### Accounting and Audits Division

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This Public Notice invites interested parties to comment on a proposal of numerous improvements to the ARMIS Report 43-05 Service Quality Report, which provides data regarding service quality, and the ARMIS Report 43-06 Customer Satisfaction Report, which provides data concerning customer satisfaction. The ARMIS 43-05 Service Quality Report captures important service quality trends of price cap carriers on a study area basis. The ARMIS Report 43-06 Customer Satisfaction Report, reflects the results of customer satisfaction surveys conducted by carriers.

**DATES:** Comments are to be filed on or before April 24, 1998. Reply comments are due on or before May 15, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20052.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Anthony Dale, Common Carrier Bureau,

Accounting and Audits Division, (202) 418-2260, or via E-mail to "dbyrd@fcc.gov".

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. In this Public Notice released March 11, 1998 ("Notice"), the Common Carrier Bureau ("the Bureau") proposes a number of improvements to the ARMIS Report 43-05 Service Quality Report, which provides data regarding service quality, and the ARMIS Report 43-06 Customer Satisfaction Report, which provides data concerning customer satisfaction. The ARMIS 43-05 Service Quality Report captures important service quality trends of price cap carriers on a study area basis. ARMIS Report 43-05 contains five tables: (1) Installation and repair intervals for interexchange carriers; (2) installation and repair intervals for local access customers; (3) common trunk blockage; (4) total switch downtime and occurrences of two minutes or more duration; and (5) service quality complaints. ARMIS Report 43-06, the Customer Satisfaction Report, reflects the results of customer satisfaction surveys conducted by carriers. The report captures trends in service quality as measured by the perception of residential, small business, and large business customers. All incumbent local exchange carriers ("LECs") subject to price cap regulation file the Service Quality Report, but only the Bell operating companies and GTE file the Customer Satisfaction Report.

#### A. Service Quality in Rural Areas

2. We are particularly interested in the quality of service available in rural areas. We seek additional comments on modifications to both the ARMIS 43-05 Service Quality Report and the ARMIS 43-06 Customer Satisfaction Report that would permit detailed analysis of the quality of service provided to rural areas. For ARMIS Report 43-05, carriers already disaggregate the reported data into MSA and non-MSA categories throughout most of the report. For ARMIS Report 43-06, the Customer Satisfaction Report, we propose disaggregating the reported data to reflect customer satisfaction by MSA and non-MSA categories. We seek comment on whether this level of disaggregation adequately illustrates the quality of service provided to rural areas, or whether we should consider a greater level of detail.

3. Additionally, although ARMIS Report 43-05 collects data concerning switch outages, the report does not collect data concerning facility outages caused by cable cuts, which are the primary source of network outages. Because many rural areas do not meet