

(h) Staff are well trained in the handling and restraint of prisoners, including the proper use of firearms and other restraint devices, and have received specialized training in the area of sexual harassment.

**§ 97.22 No pre-emption of federal, State, or local laws or regulations.**

The regulations in this part implement the Act and do not pre-empt any applicable federal, State, or local law that may impose additional obligations on private prisoner transport companies or otherwise regulate the transportation of violent prisoners. All federal laws and regulations governing interstate commerce (*e.g.*, federal laws regulating the possession of weapons and Federal Aviation Administration rules and regulations governing travel on commercial aircraft) will continue to apply to private prisoner transport companies. The regulations in this part in no way pre-empt, displace, or affect the authority of States, local governments, or other federal agencies to address these issues.

**§ 97.24 No civil defense created.**

The regulations in this part on private prisoner transport companies are not intended to create a defense to any civil action, whether initiated by a unit of government or any other party. Compliance with the regulations in this part is not intended to and does not establish a defense against an allegation of negligence or breach of contract. Regardless of whether a contractual agreement establishes minimum precautions, the companies affected by the regulations in this part will remain subject to the standards of care that are imposed by constitutional, statutory and common law upon their activities (or other activities of a similarly hazardous nature).

**§ 97.30 Enforcement.**

Any person who is found in violation of the regulations in this part will:

(a) Be liable to the United States for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation;

(b) Be liable to the United States for the costs of prosecution; and

(c) Make restitution to any entity of the United States, of a State, or of an inferior political subdivision of a State, that expends funds for the purpose of apprehending any violent prisoner who escapes from a prisoner transport company as the result, in whole or in part, of a violation of the regulations in this part promulgated pursuant to the Act.

Dated: December 11, 2001.

**John Ashcroft,**

*Attorney General.*

[FR Doc. 01-30937 Filed 12-14-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4401-19-P

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration**

**29 CFR Parts 1910, 1915, 1926 and 1928**

[Docket Number H-122A]

RIN 1218-AB37

**Indoor Air Quality**

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

**ACTION:** Withdrawal of proposal.

**SUMMARY:** OSHA is withdrawing its Indoor Air Quality proposal and terminating the rulemaking proceeding. In the years since the proposal was issued, a great many state and local governments and private employers have taken action to curtail smoking in public areas and in workplaces. In addition, the portion of the proposal not related to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) received little attention during the rulemaking proceedings, and much of that consisted of commenters calling into question significant portions of the proposal. As a result, record evidence supporting the non-ETS portion of the proposal is sparse.

Withdrawal of this proposal will also allow the Agency to devote its resources to other projects. The Agency's current regulatory priorities, as set forth in the Regulatory Agenda, include a number of important occupational safety and health standards. This document does not preclude any agency action that OSHA may find to be appropriate in the future.

**DATES:** The withdrawal is made on December 17, 2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bonnie Friedman, Director, OSHA Public Affairs Office, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N-3647, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; Telephone (202) 693-1999; Fax (202) 693-1634.

**Authority and Signature**

This document was prepared under the direction of John L. Henshaw, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Labor. It is issued pursuant to section 6(b) of the

Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1594, 29 U.S.C. 655) and 29 C.F.R. 1911.18.

Signed at Washington, DC this 12th of December, 2001.

**John L. Henshaw,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor.*

[FR Doc. 01-31165 Filed 12-14-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-M

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

**47 CFR Part 51**

[CC Docket No. 01-318, CC Docket No. 98-56, CC Docket No. 98-157, CC Docket No. 96-98, CC Docket No. 98-141; DA 01-2859]

**Performance Measurements and Standards for Unbundled Network Elements and Interconnection**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** This document grants a motion requesting an extension of the comment period established in the above-captioned docket. The order grants a 21-day extension to both the comment and reply comment deadlines.

**DATES:** Comments are due January 22, 2002 and Reply Comments are due February 12, 2002.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cathy Carpino, Attorney Advisor, Policy and Program Planning Division, Common Carrier Bureau, (202) 418-1580.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

1. On November 19, 2001, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (66 FR 59759 (November 30, 2001)) establishing the pleading cycle for comments and reply comments in the above-captioned docket. The deadline for comments was established as December 31, 2001, and January 22, 2002 for reply comments.

2. On December 3, 2001, the United States Telecom Association (USTA) filed a Motion for Extension of Time to extend the date for comments and reply comments by 30 days. According to USTA, it seeks this extension to permit its membership the opportunity "to undertake the dialogue necessary to pursue an industry wide solution" to unbundled network element (UNE) performance standards in response to the *UNE Measurements and Standards Notice*. USTA argues that the current comment schedule, which, it notes, falls within the upcoming holiday season, would not provide USTA's members an

adequate opportunity to consider the issues raised in this proceeding and that an extension would not prejudice the interests of other parties.

3. On December 4, 2001, BellSouth Corporation (BellSouth) filed comments in support of USTA's extension request, noting that during this holiday season, many of BellSouth's personnel who are necessary to address the issues raised in this proceeding are often unavailable. BellSouth argues that affording the parties additional time to prepare comments will facilitate the development of a more complete record that will, in turn, enable the Commission to conclude this proceeding in a reasonable and timely manner. On December 5, 2001, the Competitive Telecommunications Association (CompTel) filed similar comments in support of the USTA Motion. Like BellSouth, CompTel contends that a modest extension of the comment period would permit interested parties to provide more substantive and complete comments on

the complex issues raised in the *UNE Measurements and Standards Notice*. CompTel argues that the subject matter about which the Commission requested comment will require a great deal of inter-company coordination between operations, engineering, provisioning and policy experts to provide the Commission with the most useful information. CompTel notes that the upcoming holiday season will only exacerbate an undertaking that will already be complicated by the dispersion of expertise within the organizations of both competitive and incumbent carriers.

4. It is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time are not routinely granted. In this instance, however, the Bureau finds that USTA, BellSouth, and CompTel have shown good cause for a limited extension of the deadline for filing comments and reply comments in this proceeding. Because of the complexity and the sheer number of issues presented in the *UNE Measurements and Standards Notice*,

the Commission's desire to obtain a complete record with input from both carriers and state public utility commissions, and the impending holiday season, a 21-day extension is granted for both comments and reply comments from the dates those comments were due initially.

5. Accordingly, pursuant to authority found in section 4(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154(i), and sections 0.91, 0.291 and 1.46 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 0.91, 0.291, 1.46, USTA's Motion for Extension of Time *is granted* to the extent described herein to establish a new comments deadline of January 22, 2002 and reply comments deadline of February 12, 2002.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Michelle M. Carey,**

*Chief, Policy and Program Planning Division.*

[FR Doc. 01-30984 Filed 12-14-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6712-01-P**