

§ 76.1302 Carriage agreement proceedings.

(a) *Complaints.* Any video programming vendor or multichannel video programming distributor aggrieved by conduct that it believes constitute a violation of the regulations set forth in this subpart may commence an adjudicatory proceeding at the Commission to obtain enforcement of the rules through the filing of a complaint. The complaint shall be filed and responded to in accordance with the procedures specified in § 76.7 of this part with the following additions or changes:

(b) *Prefiling notice required.* Any aggrieved video programming vendor or multichannel video programming distributor intending to file a complaint under this section must first notify the potential defendant multichannel video programming distributor that it intends to file a complaint with the Commission based on actions alleged to violate one or more of the provisions contained in § 76.1301 of this part. The notice must be sufficiently detailed so that its recipient(s) can determine the specific nature of the potential complaint. The potential complainant must allow a minimum of ten (10) days for the potential defendant(s) to respond before filing a complaint with the Commission.

(c) *Contents of complaint.* In addition to the requirements of § 76.7 of this part, a carriage agreement complaint shall contain:

(1) The type of multichannel video programming distributor that describes complainant, the address and telephone number of the complainant, and the address and telephone number of each defendant;

(2) Evidence that supports complainant's belief that the defendant, where necessary, meets the attribution standards for application of the carriage agreement regulations;

(3) For complaints alleging a violation of § 76.1301(c) of this part, evidence that supports complainant's claim that the effect of the conduct complained of is to unreasonably restrain the ability of the complainant to compete fairly.

(4) The complaint must be accompanied by appropriate evidence demonstrating that the required notifica-

tion pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section has been made.

(d) *Answer.* (1) Any multichannel video programming distributor upon which a carriage agreement complaint is served under this section shall answer within thirty (30) days of service of the complaint, unless otherwise directed by the Commission.

(2) The answer shall address the relief requested in the complaint, including legal and documentary support, for such response, and may include an alternative relief proposal without any prejudice to any denials or defenses raised.

(e) *Reply.* Within twenty (20) days after service of an answer, unless otherwise directed by the Commission, the complainant may file and serve a reply which shall be responsive to matters contained in the answer and shall not contain new matters.

(f) *Time limit on filing of complaints.* Any complaint filed pursuant to this subsection must be filed within one year of the date on which one of the following events occurs:

(1) The multichannel video programming distributor enters into a contract with a video programming distributor that a party alleges to violate one or more of the rules contained in this section; or

(2) The multichannel video programming distributor offers to carry the video programming vendor's programming pursuant to terms that a party alleges to violate one or more of the rules contained in this section, and such offer to carry programming is unrelated to any existing contract between the complainant and the multichannel video programming distributor; or

(3) A party has notified a multichannel video programming distributor that it intends to file a complaint with the Commission based on violations of one or more of the rules contained in this section.

(g) *Remedies for violations—(1) Remedies authorized.* Upon completion of such adjudicatory proceeding, the Commission shall order appropriate remedies, including, if necessary, mandatory carriage of a video programming vendor's programming on defendant's video distribution system, or the

establishment of prices, terms, and conditions for the carriage of a video programming vendor's programming. Such order shall set forth a timetable for compliance, and shall become effective upon release, unless any order of mandatory carriage would require the defendant multichannel video programming distributor to delete existing programming from its system to accommodate carriage of a video programming vendor's programming. In such instances, if the defendant seeks review of the staff, or administrative law judge decision, the order for carriage of a video programming vendor's programming will not become effective unless and until the decision of the staff or administrative law judge is upheld by the Commission. If the Commission upholds the remedy ordered by the staff or administrative law judge in its entirety, the defendant will be required to carry the video programming vendor's programming for an additional period equal to the time elapsed between the staff or administrative law judge decision and the Commission's ruling, on the terms and conditions approved by the Commission.

(2) *Additional sanctions.* The remedies provided in paragraph (g)(1) of this section are in addition to and not in lieu of the sanctions available under title V or any other provision of the Communications Act.

[64 FR 6574, Feb. 10, 1999]

§§ 76.1303–76.1305 [Reserved]

Subpart R—Telecommunications Act Implementation

SOURCE: 61 FR 18980, Apr. 30, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

§ 76.1400 Purpose.

The rules and regulations set forth in this subpart provide procedures for administering certain aspects of cable regulation. These rules and regulations provide guidance for operators, subscribers and franchise authorities with respect to matters that are subject to immediate implementation under governing statutes but require specific regulatory procedures or definitions.

§ 76.1402 CPST rate complaints.

(a) A local franchise authority may file rate complaints with the Commission within 180 days of the effective date of a rate increase on the cable operator's cable programming services tier if within 90 days of that increase the local franchise authority receives more than one subscriber complaint concerning the increase.

(b) Before filing a rate complaint with the Commission, the local franchise authority must first give the cable operator written notice, including a draft FCC Form 329, of the local franchise authority's intent to file the complaint. The local franchise authority must give an operator a minimum of 30 days to file with the local franchise authority the relevant FCC forms that must be filed to justify a rate increase or, where appropriate, certification that the operator is not subject to rate regulation. The operator must file a complete response with the local franchise authority within the time period specified by the local franchise authority. The local franchise authority shall file with the Commission the complaint and the operator's response to the Complaint. If the operator's response to the complaint asserts that the operator is exempt from rate regulation, the operator's response can be filed with the local franchise authority without filing specific FCC Forms.

§ 76.1404 Use of cable facilities by local exchange carriers.

(a) For purposes of § 76.505(d)(2), the Commission will determine whether use of a cable operator's facilities by a local exchange carrier is reasonably limited in scope and duration according to the procedures in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) Based on the record created by § 76.1617 of the rules, the Commission shall determine whether the local exchange carrier's use of that part of the transmission facilities of a cable system extending from the last multi-use terminal to the premises of the end user is reasonably limited in scope and duration. In making this determination, the Commission will evaluate whether the proposed joint use of cable facilities promotes competition in both services and facilities, and encourages