

recently released *Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003, Report and Order* (68 FR 48445 (August 13, 2003)). The corrections are as follows:

1. On page 48466, in the third column of § 1.1152, the fee amounts in the first four entries, in the second column of the table, immediately following the 220 MHz Nationwide heading is corrected to read \$10.00 instead of \$5.00.

Federal Communications Commission

Marlene H. Dortch,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-23131 Filed 9-10-03; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 51

[CC 95-185 and 96-98; WT 97-207; FCC 03-215]

Cost-Based Terminating Compensation for CMRS Providers

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule; interpretation.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission responds to an application for review of a May 9, 2001, letter issued jointly by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and the Common Carrier Bureau (now the Wireline Competition Bureau) (Joint Letter) in response to a request for clarification of our reciprocal compensation rules. The Commission concludes that the Joint Letter is consistent with the interpretation of the Communications Act that the Commission adopted in the August 1996 Local Competition Order and reflected in the Commission's rules and prior orders and, accordingly, affirms the interpretation of our rules stated therein.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Trachtenberg, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Policy Division, (202) 418-7369, or via the Internet at Peter.Trachtenberg@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Order in CC Docket Nos. 95-185 and 96-98, and WT Docket No. 97-207, FCC 03-215, adopted on August 27, 2003, and released on September 3, 2003. The complete text of this Order is available on the Commission's website in the Electronic Comment Filing System and for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Room CY-A257, 445 Twelfth Street,

SW., Washington, DC 20554. A copy of the Order may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554, telephone (202) 863-2893, facsimile (202) 863-2898, or via e-mail qualexint@aol.com.

1. On February 2, 2000, Sprint PCS filed a letter and legal memorandum requesting that the Commission confirm and clarify Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) providers' entitlement to reciprocal compensation for all the additional costs of switching or delivering to mobile customers "local traffic originated on other networks." On April 27, 2001, in the context of seeking comment on a unified intercarrier compensation scheme, the Commission issued the Unified Intercarrier Compensation Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), 66 FR 28410, (May 23, 2001), which, among other things, reviewed and sought comment on the application of its current orders and rules regarding asymmetric reciprocal compensation to Local Exchange Carrier (LEC)-CMRS interconnection.

2. On May 9, 2001, WTB and WCB responded to the Sprint PCS Letter, relying on clarifications of the reciprocal compensation rules in the NPRM. The Joint Letter stated that, based on the language of section 252(d)(2)(A) of the Communications Act, CMRS carriers are entitled to the opportunity to demonstrate that their termination costs exceed those of ILECs, that the "equivalent facility" language of § 51.701(c) and (d) of the Commission's rules does not require that wireless network components be reviewed on the basis of their relationship to wireline network components or bar a CMRS carrier from receiving compensation for the additional costs that it incurs in terminating traffic on its network if those costs exceed the ILEC's costs, and that if a CMRS carrier can demonstrate that the costs associated with spectrum, cell sites, backhaul links, base station controllers and mobile switching centers vary, to some degree, with the level of traffic that is carried on the wireless network, a CMRS carrier can submit a cost study to justify its claim to asymmetric reciprocal compensation that includes additional traffic sensitive costs associated with those network elements. The Joint Letter also stated that a CMRS carrier is entitled to the tandem interconnection rate under § 51.711(a)(3) of the Commission's rules if it can satisfy a comparable geographic area test, and need not also satisfy a functional equivalency test.

3. On June 8, 2001, SBC submitted an application for review of the Joint Letter contending that the Joint Letter could be read as establishing a broader definition of additional costs for CMRS networks than the Commission previously established for LEC networks and that the Joint Letter improperly read the functional equivalency test out of the rules for purposes of deciding whether a new entrant should be compensated at the tandem interconnection rate.

4. We reaffirm that, under the current rules, a CMRS carrier can seek a compensation rate that includes the traffic-sensitive costs associated with its network elements. We conclude that the Joint Letter correctly addressed the questions raised in the Sprint PCS request.

5. The Joint Letter correctly reflected the Commission's interpretation of section 252(d)(2)(A) of the Act in the Local Competition Order, 61 FR 47284, (September 6, 1996), in stating that, based on the language of section 252(d)(2)(A), carriers are entitled to recover all of their additional forward-looking costs of terminating traffic to the extent they demonstrate such costs. Further, § 51.711(b) of our rules expressly permits connecting carriers, including CMRS carriers, an opportunity to prove that their additional costs justify a higher rate than the rate charged by the incumbent LEC. Such additional costs must be established through a cost study using a forward-looking economic cost model.

6. The Joint Letter also correctly explained that the determination of the additional costs of terminating traffic over a wireless network element does not involve an inquiry into whether the wireless network element is "equivalent" to a recoverable wireline element. The term "equivalent facility" in §§ 51.701(c) and 51.701(d) of our rules was not intended to preclude the recovery by CMRS carriers of the "additional costs" of wireless components that might be regarded as functionally equivalent to wireline elements whose costs are non-recoverable, such as a wireline LEC's local loop. Rather, the term was used to ensure that the costs of non-LEC facilities would be included in transport and termination rates even if such facilities did not precisely track the network facilities architecture of a LEC. Thus, while equivalence does, in part, define what facilities are involved in the function of "termination," it is simply not relevant to determining which of those terminating facilities imposes costs that can be recovered through reciprocal compensation charges.

7. We also conclude that our interpretation here does not apply a different standard of additional cost to CMRS carriers than the standard applicable to LECs. The “additional cost” standard applicable to both is whether an element is traffic-sensitive. In asserting that the Commission applied a different standard of recoverable costs in the Local Competition Order when it found that loop costs were not recoverable, SBC misconstrues the Commission’s reasoning. The Commission excluded loop costs because it found that “[t]he costs of local loops and line ports associated with local switches do not vary in proportion to the number of calls terminated over these facilities’ and concluded that “such non-traffic sensitive costs should not be considered “additional costs” when a LEC terminates a call that originated on the network of a competing carrier.” Because loop costs were excluded from “additional costs” on the basis of a finding of non-traffic sensitivity, we are not creating a different standard for CMRS carriers by permitting them to recover all costs that are traffic-sensitive.

8. We also find that the Joint Letter’s interpretation of the tandem interconnection rate rule is correct. Section 51.711(a)(3) of our rules governs when the tandem interconnection rate is applicable, and requires only a comparable geographic area test to be met for a carrier to receive the tandem interconnection rate. SBC argues that § 51.711(a)(3) of our rules must be interpreted to require both a functional equivalence test and a comparable geographic area test based on discussion in the Local Competition Order addressing this issue. As the Joint Letter correctly noted, however, the Commission has previously addressed the import of this language in the NPRM, and stated that “although there has been some confusion stemming from additional language in the text of the Local Competition Order regarding functional equivalency, § 51.711(a)(3) is clear in requiring only a geographic area test.” We reaffirm this interpretation.

9. Accordingly, it is ordered that, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 154(i), and 47 CFR 1.115(c), the Application for Review filed by SBC Communications Inc. on June 8, 2001, is denied.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03–23129 Filed 9–10–03; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Part 1804

RIN 2700–AC61

Format and Numbering of Award Documents

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule revises the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) to change the scheme used for numbering procurement award instruments. This change is required to comply with the General Services Administration (GSA) requirement that each agency establish unique document numbers on award instruments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Childs, NASA, Office of Procurement, Analysis Division (Code HC), (202) 358–0454, e-mail: wchilds@nasa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Effective October 1, 2003, each agency is required to have unique document numbers on contracts, BPA calls, and other procurement instruments. Document numbers must be unique within the agency and between agencies. The General Services Administration (GSA) has established a register of agency numbering schemes to assure they do not conflict. On May 21, 2003, the Assistant Administrator for Procurement approved a new numbering scheme to be used by NASA to comply with the GSA requirement. This final rule implements that scheme.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

This final rule does not constitute a significant revision within the meaning of FAR 1.501 and Public Law 98–577, and publication for public comment is not required. However, NASA will consider comments from small entities concerning the affected NFS Part 1804 in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the changes do not impose recordkeeping or information collection requirements which require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 1804.

Government Procurement.

Tom Luedtke,

Assistant Administrator for Procurement.

■ Accordingly, 48 CFR Part 1804 is amended as follows:

■ 1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Part 1804 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 2473(c)(1).

PART 1804—ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

■ 2. Revise sections 1804.7101 and 1804.7102 to read as follows:

1804.7101 Policy.

(a) Contractual documents shall be numbered with approved prefixes, suffixes, and serial numbers as prescribed in this subpart. If other identification is required for center purposes, it shall be placed on the document in such a location as to clearly separate it from the identification number.

(b) The identification number shall consist of exactly 10 alpha-numeric characters positioned as prescribed in this subpart and shall be retained unchanged for the life of the particular instrument.

(c) Identification numbers shall be serially assigned to the extent feasible. Installations may designate blocks of numbers to offices for future use.

(d) Solicitations shall be numbered in accordance with installation procedures, except that in all cases the identifying number shall begin with the three characters specified in 1804.7102(a)(1) and (2).

1804.7102 Numbering scheme.

(a) General.

(1) The first two characters shall be NN.

(2) The third character shall be the same letter as used in the Integrated Financial Management Program (IFMP), *i.e.*, the first letter of Center name, except for GRC which uses “C”.

(3) The fourth and fifth characters shall be 2 numeric characters for the FY in which the award is expected to be signed by the Government.

(4) The sixth through ninth characters shall be 4 digits for action number; 2 alphas, 2 numbers (AA01, AA02 . . . AA99, AB01, AB02, . . . AZ99, BA01, BA02, etc. through ZZ99)

(5) The tenth character shall be 1 alpha character for type of action.

(b) Codes for Type of Action:

A—Cooperative agreement.

B—BOA, GWAC, or other indefinite delivery type contract.

C—Contract (except Facilities or indefinite delivery type).