

4. We have identified 89 rule provisions, including 386 rules and requirements, that plainly no longer serve the public interest because they regulate obsolete technology,⁴ are no longer used in practice by the FCC or carriers,⁵ or are otherwise outdated or unnecessary.⁶ Applying the “good cause”

⁴ 47 CFR §§ 68.112, 68.218(b)(2), 68.224, 68.324(f) (regulate technology that, per 47 CFR § 68.4(a)(1), has not been manufactured or imported into the United States since 1991).

⁵ 47 CFR §§ 1.785(b), 43.21(b) (filing of carriers’ or parent companies’ SEC Form 10-K annual reports is no longer necessary because these reports are now publicly available online); 64.607 (regulates furnishing related customer premises equipment that in practice is no longer provided by common carriers); 64.608 (no longer used given the requirement that all wireline telephones be hearing aid compatible); 64.609 (redundant enforcement rule given the rescission of 64.607 and 64.608).

⁶ 47 CFR §§ 6.15-6.16, 7.15-7.16 (redundant rules); 14.4 (exemption for small entities expired in 2013); 1.785(a), 43.21(a), 43.21(c)-(d), 43.21(e)(2)-(3), 43.21(f)-(k) (these reporting requirements apply to carriers whose revenues exceed a specific threshold, i.e. price cap carriers, but the Commission has forborne from requiring these carriers to file financial reports related to cost-based rate regulation, *see, e.g., Petition of Qwest Corporation for Forbearance from Enforcement of the Commission’s ARMIS and 492A Reporting Requirements Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c), et al.*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, WC Docket Nos. 07-204, et al., 23 FCC Rcd 18483 (2008); *Petition of AT&T Inc. for Forbearance under 47 U.S.C. § 160 from Enforcement of Certain of the Commission’s Cost Assignment Rules*, WC Docket No. 07-21 et al., Memorandum Opinion and Order, 23 FCC Rcd 7302, 7307-08, para. 12 n.36 (2008); *Service Quality, Customer Satisfaction, Infrastructure and Operating Data Gathering et al.*, WC Docket No. 08-190 et al., Memorandum Opinion and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 23 FCC Rcd 13647 (2008); *Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Under 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) from Enforcement of Certain Legacy Telecommunications Regulations et al.*, WC Docket No. 12-61 et al., Memorandum Opinion and Order and Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 28 FCC Rcd 7627 (2013); *Comprehensive Review of the Part 32 Uniform System of Accounts; Jurisdictional Separations and Referral to the Federal-State Joint Board*, WC Docket No. 14-130, CC Docket No. 80-286, Report and Order, 32 FCC Rcd 1735, 1748-49, para. 44 (2017) (removing conditions from previous cost allocation requirement forbearance)); 51.605-51.609, 51.613-615 (subject to complete and unconditional forbearance for price cap local exchange carriers in *Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks*, WC Docket No. 18-141, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 34 FCC Rcd 6503 (2019) and for non-price cap local exchange carriers in *Modernizing Unbundling and Resale Requirements in an Era of Next-Generation Networks and Services*, WC Docket No. 19-308, Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 12425 (2020)); 51.705(c)(1)-(3), 51.911(b) (govern expired events); Part 53 (by its terms (*see* 47 CFR § 53.1(b)), the purpose of the part is to implement sections 271 and 272 of the Act, statutory provisions that govern expired events and are subject to complete and unconditional forbearance pursuant in *Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks*, WC Docket No. 18-141, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 34 FCC Rcd 2590, 2591-96, 2604-11, paras. 2-7, paras. 30-41 (2019)); 54.303(a)(6), 54.304(c), 54.307(a), 54.309(a)(1), 54.312, 54.315(a)-(b), 54.316(b)(1), 54.317(g)-(h), 54.321(a), 54.322(c)(1)-(2), (4), 54.502(b)-(c), 54.505(d), 54.801, 54.804(a)-(b), 54.1502, 54.1503(a)-(b), 54.1505, 54.1509-1510, 54.1517, 61.48(l), 61.50(l)(1)-(2), 61.201(b), 61.203(b) (govern expired events); 54.305(c)-(e) (no longer applicable); 64.610 (governs expired pilot program); 64.702 (subject to complete and unconditional forbearance in *Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks et al.*, WC Docket No. 14-192 et al., Memorandum Opinion and Order, 31 FCC Rcd 6157, 6195-99, paras. 67-74 (2015)); 64.801-64.804 (subject to complete and unconditional forbearance in *Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) from Enforcement of Certain Legacy Telecommunications Regulations*, WC Docket No. 12-61, Order, 28 FCC Rcd 2605, 2610-11, paras. 10-12 (2013)); 64.1508(a)(1) (governs an expired event); 64.1603 (unnecessary notice requirement for largely outdated and niche technology); 64.1605 (governs an expired event); 64.1901-64.1903 (subject to complete and unconditional forbearance pursuant to *Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks*, WC Docket No. 18-141, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 34 FCC Rcd 2590, 2602-04, paras. 16-29 (2019)); 64.2103, 64.2107 (govern expired events); 65.500 (interexchange carriers are no longer designated by Commission order as subject to cost-based rate regulation; *see also Motion of AT&T Corp. to Be Reclassified as a Non-Dominant Carrier*, Order, 11 FCC Rcd 3271, 3273, para. 1 (1995); *Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace, Implementation of Section 245(g) of the Communications Act of 1934*, CC Docket No. 96-61, Second Report and

(continued....)

standard discussed above, we conclude that prior notice and comment are unnecessary before repealing the rules identified in the Appendix.

5. *Direct Final Rule Process.* In this *Direct Final Rule*, we follow the processes previously outlined by the Commission regarding direct final rules, which we briefly summarize here.⁷ At times when the Commission has found prior notice and comment unnecessary before modifying or repealing rules, it simply adopted the relevant rule change without any additional process.⁸ Although we reserve the right to proceed in that manner, we elect in this decision to proceed using what is known as a “direct final rule” process.⁹ By proceeding through a direct final rule, the Commission chooses to provide *expanded* opportunities for public comment when it is not legally required to do so under the “good cause” standard.¹⁰ Under a direct final rule process, rule changes are adopted without prior notice and comment, but are accompanied by an opportunity for the public to file comments—and if we conclude that significant adverse comments have been filed, the relevant rule changes would not take effect until after a full notice and comment process.¹¹

6. In particular, we will publish this item adopting direct final rules in the Federal Register, and allow for comment from interested parties within 20 days of Federal Register publication. Until 20 days after Federal Register publication, this shall be a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding for purposes of our *ex parte* rules.¹² Because this comment process is directed toward the discrete objective of the direct final rule process, and to avoid unwarranted delay in that process, we prohibit filings addressing the rule changes contemplated in this *Direct Final Rule* more than 20 days after Federal Register publication,

Order, 11 FCC Rcd 20730 (1996) (adopting mandatory detariffing for the interstate, domestic, interexchange service of nondominant interexchange carriers); *Section 272(F)(1) Sunset of the BOC Separate Affiliate and Related Requirements et al.*, WC Docket Nos. 02-112, 06-120, CC Docket No. 00-175, 22 FCC Rcd 16440, 16442, para. 2 (2007)); 65.600(c)-(d) (requiring interexchange and price cap carriers to file rate of return reports but neither category is subject to cost-based rate regulation anymore), *see Policy and Rules Concerning Rates for Dominant Carriers, Second Report and Order*, CC Docket No. 87-313, 5 FCC Rcd 6786, 6787, para. 1 (1990) (*LEC Price Cap Order*), *aff'd*, *Nat'l Rural Telecom Ass'n v. FCC*, 988 F.2d 174 (D.C. Cir. 1993); 68.354(e), 68.610(d), 69.104(c)-(e), 69.124, 69.307(c)(1), 69.311(b) (govern an expired event); 69.416(b), 69.501(b)-(c), (e) (govern expired events); 69.108 (switched access transport rates were capped making the methodology outlined in the rule unnecessary, *see Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 26 FCC Rcd 17663, 17933-34, paras. 798, 800-01 (2011), *aff'd*, *In re FCC 11-161*, 753 F.3d 1015 (10th Cir. 2014), *cert. denied*, 135 S. Ct. 2050, and 135 S. Ct. 2072 (2015)); 69.105, 69.607, 69.608 (the carrier common line charge was eliminated in *Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers*, CC Docket Nos. 00-256 et al., Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 00-256, Fifteenth Report and Order in CC Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket Nos. 98-77 and 98-166, 16 FCC Rcd 19613, 19642-43, paras. 61-65 (2001)); 69.705 (the only purpose of this section is to cross-reference § 1.774, which is reserved).

⁷ *First Direct Final Rule* at paras. 5-9.

⁸ *See First Direct Final Rule*, at 2, para. 5, n.9.

⁹ *See First Direct Final Rule*, at 2, para. 5, n.10.

¹⁰ Although the Commission has adopted specific rules codified in the Code of Federal Regulations related to notice-and-comment rulemaking procedures, *see* 47 CFR Part 1, Subpart C, there is no legal requirement that we adopt rules before employing processes permitted by the APA and the Communications Act. *See, e.g.*, 47 U.S.C. § 154(j) (absent previously-specified procedural obligations to the contrary “[t]he Commission may conduct its proceedings in such manner as will best conduce to the proper dispatch of business and to the ends of justice”).

¹¹ Administrative Conference of the United States, Recommendation 2024-6, Public Engagement in Agency Rulemaking Under the Good Cause Exemption, 89 Fed. Reg. 106406, 106409, para. 3 (Dec. 30, 2024) (*ACUS Public Engagement and Good Cause Recommendation*).

¹² 47 CFR § 1.1206.

absent further direction from the Commission published in the Federal Register.¹³ This both accords with the purpose of the comment process for direct final rules, and is similar (though not identical) to actions the Commission has taken in other contexts to provide a defined end-point for public filings to enable the Commission to focus its attention on the submissions already before it.¹⁴

7. The direct final rules will be effective 60 days after Federal Register publication. To the extent that the Commission receives comments on these direct final rules, we will evaluate whether they are significant adverse comments that warrant further procedures before changing the rules. In our assessment, we plan to be guided by ACUS's recommendation that "[a]n agency should consider any comment received during direct final rulemaking to be a significant adverse comment if the comment explains why: a. The [direct final] rule would be inappropriate, including challenges to the rule's underlying premise or approach; or b. The [direct final] rule would be ineffective or unacceptable without a change."¹⁵

8. In the event that we conclude that significant adverse comments have been filed, the Wireline Competition Bureau and/or the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau will publish a timely withdrawal in the Federal Register so that this *Direct Final Rule* does not become effective until any appropriate additional procedures have been followed. If significant adverse comments are filed only with respect to a subset of the rule revisions addressed by this *Direct Final Rule*, the Wireline Competition Bureau and/or the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, as appropriate, will withdraw the portions of the *Direct Final Rule* that were subject to significant adverse comments. For example, if a significant adverse comment is filed regarding a single rule within a direct final rule addressing multiple rules, we will publish a withdrawal addressing only that rule.

9. In the event that no comments are filed in response to this *Direct Final Rule*, we do not anticipate publishing a confirmation of the effective date in the Federal Register, but simply will allow the rule changes to take effect as originally specified. Where comments are filed but none of the comments are significant adverse comments, where warranted by the record the Wireline Competition Bureau and/or the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau will issue a Public Notice (PN) that will briefly explain why any comments filed were not determined to be significant adverse comments.¹⁶

¹³ See 47 CFR § 1.1200(a) ("Where the public interest so requires in a particular proceeding, the Commission and its staff retain the discretion to modify the applicable *ex parte* rules by order, letter, or public notice."). Up until that date, we find it in the public interest to continue to operate under permit-but-disclosure procedures in this regard, consistent with the status of the *In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete* proceeding more generally.

¹⁴ See, e.g., 47 CFR § 1.58 (adopting a quiet period for forbearance proceedings based on "[t]he prohibition in § 1.1203(a) on contacts with decisionmakers concerning matters listed in the Sunshine Agenda"). In the event that a petition for reconsideration of this action is filed, we will subsequently specifically address any comment process associated with such a petition in light of the prohibition on filings addressing the rule changes more than 30 days after Federal Register publication. See 47 CFR § 1.4(b)(1) (date of "public notice" for non-notice and comment rulemaking proceedings required to be published in the Federal Register is the date of Federal Register publication); 47 U.S.C. § 405(a) (establishing a deadline of 30 days from public notice for petitions for reconsideration of actions by the Commission).

¹⁵ *ACUS Public Engagement and Good Cause Recommendation*, 89 Fed. Reg. at 106409, para. 4. The touchstone for analysis is whether a comment materially calls into question the conclusion that prior notice and comment is unnecessary under the APA, which is the predicate for use of direct final rule procedures. While we expect the formulation provided by ACUS to be a useful guide for conducting that analysis, our statutory determination of "good cause" to forgo notice and comment ultimately represents the critical issue, rather than the particular language used by ACUS.

¹⁶ Although the PN is a document in a non-notice and comment rulemaking proceeding, nothing in that document is required to be published in the Federal Register by the APA given that the PN is not itself adopting new or modified rules. As a result, the Wireline Competition Bureau and/or the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau also need not publish the PN in the Federal Register to establish the date of "public notice" for the PN under section

(continued....)

III. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

A. Paperwork Reduction Act

10. This document does not contain new or modified information collections subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), 44 U.S.C. §§ 3501-3521. In addition, therefore, it does not contain any new or modified information collection burden for small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees, pursuant to the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002, 44 U.S.C. § 3506(c)(4).

B. Congressional Review Act

11. The Commission has determined, and the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget concurs, that this rule is “non-major” under the Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. § 804(2). The Commission will send a copy of this Direct Final Rule to Congress and the Government Accountability Office pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 801(a)(1)(A).

C. Filing Requirements

12. Interested parties may file comments on or before the date indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using the Commission’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
 - Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S. Postal Service. **All filings must be addressed to the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.**
 - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission’s Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC’s mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
 - Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
 - Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be sent to 45 L Street, NE, Washington, DC 20554.
- People with Disabilities. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530.

D. Additional Information

13. For additional information, please contact Edward Krachmer, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1525 or Edward.Krachmer@fcc.gov, or Kristi Thornton, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, at (202) 418-2467 or Kristi.Thornton@fcc.gov.

IV. ORDERING CLAUSES

14. Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that, pursuant to sections 4(i), 4(j), and 303(r) of the

1.4(b)(1) of the Commission’s rules—which is limited to documents in rulemaking proceedings “required by the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, 553, to be published in the Federal Register,” 47 CFR § 1.4(b)(1)—and instead the date of public notice of the PN will be the release date. *See* 47 CFR § 1.4(b)(4).

Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j), and 303(r), this *Direct Final Rule* **IS ADOPTED**. Except as specified in paragraph 8, this *Direct Final Rule* shall be effective upon Federal Register publication of the rule changes set forth in the Appendix, which shall also serve as the date of public notice of that action.¹⁷

15. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the amendments of the Commission's rules as set forth in the Appendix shall be effective 60 days after Federal Register publication. In the event that significant adverse comments are filed, the Wireline Competition Bureau and/or the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau shall publish a timely document in the Federal Register withdrawing the rule so that the rule change does not become effective until any additional procedures have been followed. In the event that significant adverse comments are filed with respect to only a subset of the rule revisions, we direct the Wireline Competition Bureau and/or the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, as appropriate, to publish a timely document in the Federal Register withdrawing only such rule so that the rule change does not become effective until any additional procedures have been followed.

16. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Office of the Managing Director, Performance Program Management, **SHALL SEND** a copy of this *Direct Final Rule* in a report to be sent to Congress and the Government Accountability Office pursuant to the Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. § 801(a)(1)(A).

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary

¹⁷ Pursuant to Executive Order 14215, 90 Fed. Reg. 10447 (Feb. 20, 2025), this regulatory action has been determined to be not significant under Executive Order 12866, 58 Fed. Reg. 68708 (Dec. 28, 1993).

APPENDIX**Final Rules**

For the reasons set forth above, the Federal Communications Commission amends parts 1, 6, 7, 14, 43, 51, 53, 54, 61, 64, 65, 68, 69 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 1 – PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

The authority citation for part 1 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. chs. 2, 5, 9, 13; 28 U.S.C. 2461 note; 47 U.S.C. 1754, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart E – Complaints, Applications, Tariffs, and Reports Involving Common Carriers

Section 1.785 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (a) and (b):

§ 1.785

(a) [Removed and Reserved]

(b) [Removed and Reserved]

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PART 6 – ACCESS TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE, TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND CUSTOMER PREMISES EQUIPMENT BY PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The authority citation for part 6 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 151-154, 208, 255, and 303(r).

Subpart D – [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve subpart D, consisting of sections 6.15 and 6.16.

§§ 6.15 and 6.16 [Removed and Reserved]**PART 7 – ACCESS TO VOICEMAIL AND INTERACTIVE MENU SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT BY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

The authority citation for part 7 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 151-154, 208, 255, and 303(r).

Subpart D – [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve subpart D, consisting of sections 7.15 and 7.16.

§§ 7.15 and 7.16 [Removed and Reserved]

PART 14 – ACCESS TO ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT BY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The authority citation for part 14 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 151-154, 255, 303, 403, 503, 617, 618, 619 unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A – Scope

Remove and reserve section 14.4.

§ 14.4 [Removed and Reserved]**PART 43 – REPORTS OF COMMUNICATION COMMON CARRIERS, PROVIDERS OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICES AND CERTAIN AFFILIATES**

The authority citation for part 43 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 35-39, 154, 211, 219, 220; sec. 402(b)(2)(B), (c), Pub. L. 104-104, 110 Stat. 129.

Section 43.21 is amended by removing and reserving subsections (a) through (d), subparagraphs (e)(2) and (e)(3), and paragraphs (f) through (k).

§ 43.21

(a) [Removed and Reserved]

(b) [Removed and Reserved]

(c) [Removed and Reserved]

(d) [Removed and Reserved]

(e) * * * * *

(1) * * * * *

(2) [Removed and Reserved]

(3) [Removed and Reserved]

(f) [Removed and Reserved]

(g) [Removed and Reserved]

(h) [Removed and Reserved]

(i) [Removed and Reserved]

(j) [Removed and Reserved]

(k) [Removed and Reserved]

PART 51 – INTERCONNECTION

The authority citation for part 51 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 151-55, 201-05, 207-09, 218, 225-27, 251-52, 271, 332 unless otherwise noted.

Subpart G – Resale

Remove and reserve sections 51.605 through 51.609.

§§ 51.605 through 51.609 [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve sections 51.613 through 51.615.

§§ 51.613 through 51.615 [Removed and Reserved]

Subpart H – Reciprocal Compensation for Transport and Termination of Telecommunications Traffic

Remove and reserve section 51.705(c)(1)-(c)(3).

§ 51.705

* * * * *

(c) * * * * *

(1) [Removed and Reserved]

(2) [Removed and Reserved]

(3) [Removed and Reserved]

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Subpart J – Transitional Access Service Pricing

Remove and reserve section 51.911(b).

§ 51.911

* * * * *

(b) [Removed and Reserved]

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PART 53 – SPECIAL PROVISIONS CONCERNING BELL OPERATING COMPANIES

Remove and reserve Part 53, consisting of sections 53.1 through 53.501.

PART 53—[Removed and Reserved]

§§ 53.1 through 53.501 [Removed and Reserved]

PART 54 – UNIVERSAL SERVICE

The authority citation for part 54 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i), 155, 201, 205, 214, 219, 220, 229, 254, 303(r), 403, 1004, 1302, 1601-1609, and 1752, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart D – Universal Service Support for High Cost Areas

Section 54.303 is amended by removing and reserving subparagraph (a)(6):

§ 54.303

(a) * * * * *

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(6) [Removed and Reserved]

(7) * * * * *

*** * * * ***

Section 54.304 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (c).

§ 54.304

*** * * * ***

(c) [Removed and Reserved]

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Section 54.305 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (c) through (e).

§ 54.305

*** * * * ***

(c) [Removed and Reserved]

(d) [Removed and Reserved]

(e) [Removed and Reserved]

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Section 54.307 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (a).

§ 54.307

(a) [Removed and Reserved]

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Section 54.309 is amended by removing and reserving subparagraph (a)(1).

§ 54.309

(a)

(1) [Removed and Reserved]

(2) * * * * *

* * * * *

Remove and reserve section 54.312.

§ 54.312 [Removed and Reserved]

Section 54.315 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (a) through (b).

§ 54.315

(a) [Removed and Reserved]

(b) [Removed and Reserved]

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Section 54.316 is amended by removing and reserving subparagraph (b)(1).

§ 54.316

(b) * * * * *

(1) [Removed and Reserved]

* * * * *

Section 54.317 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (g) and (h).

§ 54.317

* * * * *

(g) [Removed and Reserved]

(h) [Removed and Reserved]

Section 54.321 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (a).

§ 54.321

(a) [Removed and Reserved]

* * * * *

Section 54.322 is amended by removing and reserving subparagraphs (c)(1), (c)(2), and (c)(4).

§ 54.322

* * * * *

(c) * * * * *

(1) [Removed and Reserved]

(2) [Removed and Reserved]

(3) * * * * *

(4) [Removed and Reserved]

Subpart F – Universal Service Support for Schools and Libraries

Section 54.502 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (b) and (c).

§ 54.502

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(b) [Removed and Reserved]

(c) [Removed and Reserved]

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Section 54.505 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (d).

§ 54.505

* * * * *

(d) [Removed and Reserved]

* * * * *

Subpart J – Rural Digital Opportunity Fund

Remove and reserve section 54.801.

§ 54.801 [Removed and Reserved]

Section 54.804 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (a) and (b).

§ 54.804

(a) [Removed and Reserved]

(b) [Removed and Reserved]

* * * * *

Subpart O – Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund

Remove and reserve section 54.1502\.

§ 54.1502 [Removed and Reserved]

Section 54.1503 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (a) and (b).

§ 54.1503

(a) [Removed and Reserved]

(b) [Removed and Reserved]

* * * * *

Remove and reserve section 54.1505.

§ 54.1505 [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve sections 54.1509 and 54.1510.

§ 54.1509 [Removed and Reserved]

§ 54.1510 [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve section 54.1517.

§ 54.1517 [Removed and Reserved]

PART 61 – TARIFFS

The authority citation for part 61 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i), 154(j), 201-205, 403, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart E – General Rules for Dominant Carriers

Remove and reserve section 61.48(l).

§ 61.48

* * * * *

(l) [Removed and Reserved]

* * * * *

Section 61.50 is amended by removing and reserving subparagraphs (l)(1) and (l)(2).

§ 61.50

* * * * *

(l)

(1) [Removed and Reserved]

(2) [Removed and Reserved]

* * * * *

Subpart K – Detariffing of Business Data Services

Section 61.201 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (b).

(b).

§ 61.201

* * * * *

(b) [Removed and Reserved]

Section 61.203 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (b).

§ 61.203(b)

* * * * *

(b) [Removed and Reserved]

PART 64 – MISCELLANEOUS RULES RELATING TO COMMON CARRIERS

The authority citation for part 64 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 151, 152, 154, 201, 202, 217, 218, 220, 222, 225, 226, 227, 227b, 228, 251(a), 251(e), 254(k), 255, 262, 276, 403(b)(2)(B), (c), 616, 620, 716, 1401-1473, unless otherwise noted; Pub. L. 115-141, Div. P, sec. 503, 132 Stat. 348, 1091; Pub. L. 117-338, 136 Stat. 6156.

Subpart F – Telecommunications Relay Services and Related Customer Premises Equipment for Persons With Disabilities

Remove and reserve sections 64.607 through 64.610.

§§ 64.607 through 64.610 [Removed and Reserved]**Subpart G – Furnishing of Enhanced Services and Customer-Premises Equipment by Bell Operating Companies; Telephone Operator Services**

Remove and reserve section 64.702.

§ 64.702 [Removed and Reserved]**Subpart H – [Removed and Reserved]**

Remove and reserve subpart H, consisting of sections 64.801 through 64.804.

§§ 64.801 through 64.804 [Removed and Reserved]**Subpart O – Interstate Pay-Per-Call and Other Information Services**

Section 64.1508 is amended by removing and reserving subparagraph (a)(1).

§ 64.1508

(a) * * * * *

(1) [Removed and Reserved]

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Subpart P – Calling Party Telephone Number; Privacy

Remove and reserve section 64.1603.

§ 64.1603 [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve section 64.1605.

§ 64.1605 [Removed and Reserved]**Subpart T – [Removed and Reserved]**

Remove and reserve subpart T, consisting of sections 64.1901 through 64.1903.

§§ 64.1901 through 64.1903 [Removed and Reserved]**Subpart V – Rural Call Completion**

Remove and reserve sections 64.2103.

§§ 64.2103 [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve sections 64.2107.

§§ 64.2107 [Removed and Reserved]**PART 65 – INTERSTATE RATE OF RETURN PRESCRIPTION, PROCEDURES, AND METHODOLOGIES**

The authority citation for part 65 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i), 155, 201, 205, 214, 219, 220, 254, 303(r), 403, and 1302 unless otherwise noted.

Subpart D – [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve subpart D, consisting of section 65.500.

§ 65.500 [Removed and Reserved]**Subpart E – Rate of Return Reports**

Section 65.600 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (c) and (d).

§ 65.600

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(c) [Removed and Reserved]

(d) [Removed and Reserved]

PART 68 – CONNECTION OF TERMINAL EQUIPMENT TO THE TELEPHONE NETWORK

The authority citation for part 68 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 610.

Subpart B – Conditions on Use of Terminal Equipment

Remove and reserve section 68.112.

§ 68.112 [Removed and Reserved]**Subpart C – Terminal Equipment Approval Procedures**

Section 68.218 is amended by removing and reserving subparagraph (b)(2).

§ 68.218

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(b) * * * * *

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(2) [Removed and Reserved]

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Remove and reserve section 68.224.

§ 68.224 [Removed and Reserved]

Subpart D – Conditions for Terminal Equipment Approval

Section 68.324 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (f).

§ 68.324

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(f) [Removed and Reserved]

Section 68.354 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (e).

§ 68.354

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(e) [Removed and Reserved]

Subpart G – Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments

Section 68.610 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (d).

§ 68.610

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(d) [Removed and Reserved]

PART 69 – ACCESS CHARGES

The authority citation for part 69 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 201, 202, 203, 205, 218, 220, 254, 403.

Subpart B – Computation of Charges

Section 69.104 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (c)-(e).

§ 69.104

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(c) [Removed and Reserved]

(d) [Removed and Reserved]

(e) [Removed and Reserved]

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Remove and reserve section 69.105.

§ 69.105 [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve section 69.108.

§ 69.108 [Removed and Reserved]

Remove and reserve section 69.124.

§ 69.124 [Removed and Reserved]

Subpart D – Apportionment of Net Investment

Section 69.307 is amended by removing and reserving subparagraph (c)(1).

§ 69.307

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(c)

(1) [Removed and Reserved]

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Section 69.311 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (b).

§ 69.311

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(b) [Removed and Reserved]

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Subpart E – Apportionment of Expenses

Section 69.416 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (b).

§ 69.416

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(b) [Removed and Reserved]

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Subpart F – Segregation of Common Line Element Revenue Requirement

Section 69.501 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (b), (c), and (e).

§ 69.501

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(b) [Removed and Reserved]

(c) [Removed and Reserved]

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(e) [Removed and Reserved]

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Subpart G – Exchange Carrier Association

Remove and reserve sections 69.607 through 69.608.

§§ 69.607 through 69.608 [Removed and Reserved]

Subpart H – Pricing Flexibility

Remove and reserve section 69.705.

§ 69.705 [Removed and Reserved]

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN BRENDAN CARR**

Re: *Delete, Delete, Delete*, GN Docket No. 25-133, Direct Final Rule (Sept. 30, 2025).

With the baseball playoffs starting today, it seems appropriate to introduce our next item with Yogi Berra's famous line: "It's like déjà vu all over again."

For the third monthly meeting in a row, we are eliminating a large tranche of regulations as part of our *In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete* proceeding. Including this month's item, we've now teed up for elimination about 70,000 words, 158 pages, and 803 rules and requirements from the books.

This latest round primarily targets wireline-related rules and requirements that govern obsolete technology, are duplicative, or are no longer used in practice. We're talking about rules that pertain to a wide variety of now-defunct topics, including antiquated distinctions between wireline carriers, technology that has been eclipsed, and dates pertaining to rate regulation, universal service, pilot programs, and equipment requirements that have long passed.

With this latest action, we're about halfway through the deadwood stage of our *Delete* campaign. In this stage, we have been scrapping rules that have sat on the books for a long time that either were overturned by courts or just very plainly have been overtaken by events. We have been going bureau by bureau to identify all of the low-hanging fruit rules and regulations that can be cut.

In phase two of our *Delete* campaign, we're going to take some more significant, substantive whacks at the FCC rulebook. So be prepared to continue experiencing déjà vu all over again as *In re: Delete, Delete, Delete* keeps on rolling.

For their great work on this item, I'd like to thank Ed Krachmer, Matthew Baker, Audra Hale-Maddox, Lauren Garry, Kate Dumouchel, Irina Asoskov, Marv Sacks, Richard Kwiatkowski, Molly Burgdorf, Ike Ofobike, Stephen Wang, Michael Scott, Kristi Thornton, Bob Aldrich, and Mark Stone.

**DISSENTING STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER ANNA M. GOMEZ**

Re: *Delete, Delete, Delete*, GN Docket No. 25-133, Direct Final Rule (Sept. 30, 2025).

Once again, I want to thank agency staff for identifying Commission rules that may have outlived their usefulness. I know there is growing pressure on them to come up with potential rules for deletion to meet an arbitrary rule reduction quota, so I want to acknowledge their hard work.

My process concerns, however, remain. The procedures used today to erase rules adopted pursuant to notice and comment were put in place without seeking public comment on appropriate processes and guardrails. I cannot support the elimination of substantive rules pursuant to these procedures.

This is particularly concerning when we're dealing with rules that involve accessibility issues. Many of the rules being removed through this process today involve the deaf and blind community. But this Direct Final Rule does little to explain exactly how these changes may impact their ability to receive accessible equipment or make it harder for consumers with disabilities to lodge complaints or understand their rights.

Instead, we give the public just 20 days to review and understand 386 rules they may not even be aware of that are up for removal, and to file significant adverse comments that may or may not be deemed sufficient to stop that process. When it comes to eliminating longstanding protections for vulnerable populations, this is simply not enough.

Take for example the case of the agency's review of our adherence to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) reviews. Instead of making changes in a vacuum, that Notice of Proposed Rulemaking has allowed remote and distant tribal communities to weigh in about the impact of abandoning these protections altogether.

Through that process, the Organized Village of Kasaan, a tribe in Alaska, has told us that Kasaan village is "home to the only remaining Haida longhouse in the United States, and [their] lands contain burial sites, carving sheds, and traditional food harvesting areas." According to them, previous infrastructure projects "have disrupted salmon spawning grounds and crab habitats, which are central to [their] food security and cultural practices."

As this case shows, this is exactly why we give these communities proper notice and comment periods.

And so, while some of these are not substantive rules, I worry about the public's ability to properly assess the impact of the broader changes we're proposing here.

For this reason, I dissent.

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER OLIVIA TRUSTY**

Re: *Delete, Delete, Delete*, Direct Final Rule, GN Docket No. 25-133 (September 30, 2025).

With this item, the Commission advances its ongoing effort to identify and eliminate rules that are obsolete, unused, or otherwise outdated and unnecessary. I thank the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau and the Wireline Competition Bureau for their excellent work on this item, and I look forward to future Commission actions that build on this important agency-wide initiative.