

CHAPTER 21. INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENTS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS

Subchapter D. DISPUTE RESOLUTION.

§21.99. Approval of Arbitrated Agreements.

- (a) **Application.** Any interconnection agreement resulting from arbitration must be submitted to the commission for approval and filed in the same proceeding within 30 days of the date of the presiding officer's arbitration award, unless otherwise provided. Following the issuance of the presiding officer's arbitration award under §21.95 of this title (relating to Compulsory Arbitration), the parties must jointly file with the commission a copy of the final interconnection agreement, incorporating all contract language ordered by the presiding officer. Any interconnection agreement submitted to the commission for approval is a public record and no portion of the interconnection agreement may be treated as confidential information under §21.77 of this title (relating to Confidential Material). The application for approval of an arbitrated agreement must be accompanied by:
- (1) a complete and unredacted copy of the arbitrated interconnection agreement including any portions of the agreement that were not the subject of arbitration;
 - (2) the name, address, telephone number, facsimile number, and email address of each of the parties to the agreement; and
 - (3) to the extent that an agreement adopted by arbitration establishes a new or different price for an unbundled network element, combination of unbundled network elements, or resold service, a verified statement that all certificated carriers will be notified of such price either through web posting, mass mailing or electronic mail within ten days of the date the ruling becomes final.
- (b) **Parties' comments.** Any party wishing to file comments on the interconnection agreement incorporating the contract language ordered by the presiding officer as required in subsection (a) of this section, must do so within five calendar days following the filing of the application under subsection (a) of this section. Any reply comments must be filed within three calendar days of any initial comments.
- (c) **Commission approval.** The commission will issue its final decision on an agreement adopted by arbitration within 30 calendar days following the filing of the application under subsection (a) of this section. The commission's final decision may reject, approve, or modify the agreement, and will provide written findings as to any deficiencies. If the commission does not act to approve or reject the agreement adopted by arbitration within 30 days after submission by the parties under subsection (a) of this section, the agreement will be deemed approved.
- (d) **Effective date.** An interconnection agreement approved by arbitration becomes effective within ten calendar days from the date that the commission's order approving the interconnection agreement is signed by all commissioners unless otherwise specified in the order approving the agreement.
- (e) **Filing of agreement.** Following the commission's approval of the agreement, the parties to the interconnection agreement must file a copy of the complete agreement with the commission within ten working days of the commission's decision. The copy be clearly marked with the control number for the proceeding and the language "Complete interconnection agreement (as modified) and approved on (insert date)." Also within 15 working days of the approval of the agreement, the incumbent local exchange company (ILEC) must post notice of the approved interconnection agreement on its website in a manner that is easily identifiable. The ILEC website must provide a complete list of commission-approved interconnection agreements, listed alphabetically by carrier, including docket numbers and effective dates. In addition, the ILEC website must provide a direct link to the commission's website.