

COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, IOWA[751]

Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 751—Chapter 10
“Acceptable Use and Enforcement”

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 8D
State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: 2024 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2370

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

July 15, 2026
1 to 2 p.m.

ICN Director’s Conference Room
Grimes State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written or oral comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Iowa Communications Network no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Lori Larsen
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Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Phone: 515.725.4713
Email: lori.larsen@icn.state.ia.us or lori.larsen@iowa.gov

Purpose and Summary

Pursuant to Executive Order 10, the agency proposes to rescind Chapter 10 and adopt a new chapter in lieu thereof. The chapter describes the acceptable use and enforcement of the statewide network. This proposed rulemaking eliminates language that is overly restrictive or obsolete and shortens the chapter.

Analysis of Impact

1. **Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:**
 - **Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rulemaking:**
There is no direct cost associated with the proposed rulemaking.
 - **Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rulemaking:**
All individuals within the State benefit from a well-run and organized State communications network.
2. **Impact of the proposed rulemaking, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred:**
 - **Quantitative description of impact:**
There is no quantitative impact; this chapter simply provides network enforcement for the agency.
 - **Qualitative description of impact:**

The qualitative impact is positive; the rulemaking simplifies the regulatory environment by removing obsolete language and providing clearer guidance on network enforcement.

3. Costs to the State:

• **Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:**

There are no costs to the State or the agency associated with this rulemaking.

• **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

There are no anticipated effects on State revenues.

4. Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rulemaking to the costs and benefits of inaction:

This rulemaking has no costs associated with it and ensures the agency has a basic structure.

5. Determination whether less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking:

The agency seeks to implement these rules in a minimally intrusive and minimally prescriptive manner while still fulfilling the responsibilities of maintaining a well-run State communications network.

6. Alternative methods considered by the agency:

• **Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:**

No other methods were considered because the rules are required to establish the basic regulatory framework mandated by Iowa Code chapter 8D.

• **Reasons why alternative methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rulemaking:**

Not applicable.

Small Business Impact

If the rulemaking will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rulemaking on small business:

• Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rulemaking for small business.

• Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rulemaking for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

• Consolidate or simplify the rulemaking's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

• Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rulemaking for small business.

• Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rulemaking.

If legal and feasible, how does the rulemaking use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?

There is no expected impact on small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Rescind 751—Chapter 10 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 10
ACCEPTABLE USE AND ENFORCEMENT

751—10.1(8D) Policy and authorized use.

10.1(1) *Privilege, not a right.* The ability to use the network is a privilege conferred by law to authorized users. It is not a vested property right. The commission may suspend or revoke access for violation of these rules or applicable law.

10.1(2) *Acceptable use.* Authorized users shall ensure that their use of the network complies with all applicable state and federal laws, the written mission of the authorized user, and the commission’s acceptable use policies.

751—10.2(8D) Violations. The commission may suspend, revoke, or limit services to an authorized user for any of the following reasons:

10.2(1) Failure to pay for services rendered.

10.2(2) Use of the network for personal, commercial, or political purposes not authorized by law.

10.2(3) Allowing an unauthorized user to access the network.

10.2(4) Violation of the commission’s technical standards or security protocols.

10.2(5) Any conduct prejudicial to the security or operation of the network.

751—10.3(8D) Enforcement procedure.

10.3(1) *Notice.* In the event of a violation, the executive director shall provide written notice to the authorized user describing the violation and requesting a remedy.

10.3(2) *Immediate suspension.* The commission may immediately suspend service without prior notice if the violation poses an immediate threat to the security or stability of the network.

10.3(3) *Decertification.* If a violation is not remedied or is habitual, the commission may revoke the user’s authorization to connect to the network.

751—10.4(8D) Appeals. An authorized user aggrieved by a suspension or revocation may appeal the decision in accordance with the contested case procedures in 7—Chapter 2506.

751—10.5(8D) Privacy and content monitoring. The commission and its staff shall not monitor the content of transmissions on the network. Monitoring may only occur when necessary to effect trouble isolation and correction or to investigate a security violation or threat to the integrity of the network. Any such monitoring shall be kept to the absolute minimum necessary to resolve the issue.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 8D.2, 8D.3(3) “b,” 8D.9 and 8D.13(14) through 8D.13(17).