

**199—38.1(476) General information.**

**38.1(1)** *Application and purpose of rules.* This chapter applies to local utilities. The purpose of these rules is to further the development of competition in the local exchange services market.

**38.1(2)** *Definitions.* For the administration and interpretation of this chapter, the following words and terms shall have the meaning indicated below, unless the context otherwise requires:

“*Act*” means the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

“*Arbitration*” means the investigative process whereby a dispute is submitted to the commission for resolution.

“*Bona fide request*” means a request to a local utility that demonstrates a good faith showing that the requesting party intends to purchase the services requested within six months of the date of the request.

“*Competitive local exchange service provider*” means any person, including a municipal utility, that provides local exchange services, other than a local exchange carrier or a non-rate-regulated wireline provider of local exchange services under an authorized certificate of public convenience and necessity within a specific geographic area described in maps filed with and approved by the commission as of September 30, 1992.

“*Local exchange carrier*” means any person that was the incumbent and historical rate-regulated wireline provider of local exchange services or any successor to such person that provides local exchange services under an authorized certificate of public convenience and necessity within a specific geographic area described in maps filed with and approved by the commission as of September 30, 1992.

“*Local utility*” means any entity that provides wireline local exchange services, including local exchange carriers, competitive local exchange service providers, and other non-rate-regulated wireline providers of local exchange services.

“*Mediation*” means the process in which a neutral party assists the parties in reaching their own settlement but does not have the authority to make a binding decision.

“*Total service long-run incremental cost*” for a service, or group of services, is equal to the utility’s total cost of producing all of its services including the service or group of services in question, minus the utility’s total cost of producing all of its services excluding the service or group of services in question.

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