

EPA APPROVED NEW MEXICO STATUTES IN THE CURRENT NEW MEXICO SIP—Continued

State citation	Title/subject	State Approval/ effective date	EPA approval date	Comments
74-2-6 .....	Adoption of Regulations Notice and Hearings.	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-7 .....	Permits .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-8 .....	Variances .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-9 .....	Variances—Judicial Review .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-10 .....	Emergency Procedure .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-11 .....	Confidential Information .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-11.1 .....	Limitations on Regulations .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-12 .....	Enforcement .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-13 .....	Inspection .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-14 .....	Penalties .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-15 .....	Additional Means of Enforcement .....	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-15.1 .....	Primary Nonferrous Smelter Orders ..	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-16 .....	Declaratory Judgement of Regulation	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	
74-2-17 .....	Continuing Effect of Present Laws, Rules, and Regulations.	08/11/83	11/02/84, 49 FR 44101	

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Care Financing Administration**

**42 CFR Parts 409, 410, 411, 413, 424, 483, and 489**

[HCFA-1913-N]

RIN 0938-A147

**Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities; Extension of Comment Period**

**AGENCY:** Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of extension of comment period for interim final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This document extends the comment period for an interim final rule with comment period that was published in the **Federal Register** on May 12, 1998 (63 FR 26252). That interim final rule implements provisions in section 4432 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 related to Medicare payment for skilled nursing facility services. Those include the implementation of a Medicare prospective payment system for skilled nursing facilities, consolidated billing, and a number of related changes. The comment period is extended for 60 days.

**DATES:** The comment period is extended to 5 p.m. on September 11, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail written comments (one original and three copies) to the following address: Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Attention: HCFA-1913-IFC, P.O. Box 26688, Baltimore, MD 21207-0488.

If you prefer, you may deliver your written comments (one original and three copies) to one of the following addresses: Room 309-G, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201, or Room C5-09-26, Central Building, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850.

Because of staffing and resource limitations, we cannot accept comments by facsimile (FAX) transmission. In commenting, please refer to file code HCFA-1913-IFC. Comments received timely will be available for public inspection as they are received, generally beginning approximately 3 weeks after publication of a document, in Room 309-G of the Department's offices at 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, on Monday through Friday of each week from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (phone: (202) 690-7890).

For comments that relate to information collection requirements, mail a copy of comments to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, Attn: Allison Herron Eydtt, HCFA Desk Officer.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laurence Wilson, (410) 786-4603 (for general information). John Davis, (410) 786-0008 (for information related to the Federal rates). Dana Burley, (410) 786-

4547 (for information related to the case-mix classification methodology). Steve Raitzyk, (410) 786-4599 (for information related to the facility-specific transition payment rates). Bill Ullman, (410) 786-5667 (for information related to consolidated billing and related provisions).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On May 12, 1998, we issued an interim final rule with comment period in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 26252) that implements provisions in section 4432 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 related to Medicare payment for skilled nursing facility services. Those include the implementation of a Medicare prospective payment system for skilled nursing facilities, consolidated billing, and a number of related changes. We indicated that comments would be considered if we received them by July 13, 1998.

Because of the complexity and scope of the interim final rule and because numerous members of the industry and professional associations have requested more time to analyze the potential consequences of the rule, we have decided to extend the comment period for an additional 60 days. This document announces the extension of the public comment period to September 11, 1998.

**Authority:** Secs. 1102 and 1871 of the Social Security Act. (42 U.S.C. 1302 and 1395hh).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance; Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: June 30, 1998.

**Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,**  
Administrator, Health Care Financing  
Administration.

Dated: July 9, 1998.

**Donna E. Shalala,**  
Secretary.

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Parts 0 and 63

[FCC 98-127 ]

#### Notification of Common Carriers of Service Disruptions

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications  
Commission.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This *Order* amends the Commission's rules that require carriers to send final reports of certain telephone network service outages to the Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau. This order amends the rules so that carriers required to provide the Commission with final reports of those outages will be directed to send them to the Chief of the Office of Engineering and Technology instead of the Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 13, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Robert Kimball, Office of Engineering  
and Technology, (202) 418-2339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Commission's Order, FCC 98-127, adopted June 19, 1998, and released June 25, 1998. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and also may be purchased from the Commission's duplication contractor, International Transcription Service, (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036.

#### Summary of Order

The Commission's rules require wireline common carriers to send final reports of certain telephone network service outages to the Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau. The Order summarized here amends the rule so that carriers required to provide the Commission with final reports of those outages will be directed to send them to the Chief of the Office of Engineering and Technology instead.

Since February 18, 1996, the Office of Engineering and Technology has coordinated the meetings and other activities of the Network Reliability Council, now called the Network Reliability and Interoperability Council. Previously this coordinating function was carried out by the Common Carrier Bureau. The receipt and tabulation of outage reports, however, continues to be carried out by the staff of the Common Carrier Bureau. Since these outage reports are relied upon by the Council in the conduct of its research and since tabulation and any analysis that may be required is best conducted by those most familiar with the best practice recommendations of the Council, the Council coordination function and the receipt and tabulation function should be consolidated in the same office.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*, does not apply to this proceeding because the Commission is adopting this rule without notice and comment. See 5 U.S.C. 603(a) and 604(a). Notice and comment are not required because the Commission is modifying a "rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice." See 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A). Moreover, the Commission has found that notice and comment are unnecessary here. See 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B).

#### List of Subjects

##### 47 CFR Part 0

Organization and functions  
(government agencies).

##### 47 CFR Part 63

Communications common carriers,  
Reporting and recordkeeping  
requirements.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Magalie Roman Salas,**  
Secretary.

#### Rule Changes

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, Parts 0 and 63 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations are amended as follows:

### PART 0—COMMISSION ORGANIZATION

1. The authority citation for part 0 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** Secs. 5, 48 Stat. 1068, as amended; 47 U.S.C. 155.

2. Section 0.31 is amended by revising paragraph (j) to read as follows:

#### § 0.31 Functions of the Office.

\* \* \* \* \*

(j) To perform all engineering and management functions of the Commission with respect to formulating rules and regulations, technical standards, and general policies for parts 15, 18 and section 63.100 of this chapter, and for type approval and acceptance, and certification of radio equipment for compliance with the Rules.

\* \* \* \* \*

### PART 63—EXTENSION OF LINES AND DISCONTINUANCE, REDUCTION, OUTAGE AND IMPAIRMENT OF SERVICE BY COMMON CARRIERS; AND GRANTS OF RECOGNIZED PRIVATE OPERATING AGENCY STATUS

3. The authority citation for part 63 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i), 154(j), 201-205, 218, 403 and 533, unless otherwise noted.

4. Section 63.100, paragraphs (b), (c), (d), and (h) are amended by revising the last sentence of each paragraph and paragraph (e) introductory text, is amended by revising the ninth sentence to read as follows:

#### § 63.100 Notification of service outage.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) \* \* \* Not later than thirty days after the outage, the carrier shall file with the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, a Final Service Disruption Report providing all available information on the service outage, including any information not contained in its Initial Service Disruption Report and detailing specifically the root cause of the outage and listing and evaluating the effectiveness and application in the immediate case of any best practices or industry standards identified by the Network Reliability Council to eliminate or ameliorate outages of the reported type.

(c) \* \* \* Not later than thirty days after the outage, the carrier shall file with the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, a Final Service Disruption Report providing all available information on the service outage, including any information not contained in its Initial Service Disruption Report and detailing specifically the root cause of the outage and listing and evaluating the effectiveness and application in the immediate case of any best practices or industry standards identified by the Network Reliability Council to eliminate