

IPU RESEARCH NOTE

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ■ INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

RESTRUCTURING TIMELINE

APRIL 2012 ■ ipu.msu.edu

TELECOMMUNICATIONS	ENERGY
FCC permits MCI to offer private-line service	1969
FCC's <i>Computer I</i> decision (entry)	1971
	1972
	FERC Order 319 allowed open gas transmission to all high-priority customers
FCC permits MCI to offer foreign exchange service	1973
U.S. DOJ files antitrust suit against AT&T	1974
FCC orders MCI to stop selling toll service	1975
FCC Part 68 rules permit equipment attachments	
FCC's order preventing toll service overturned	1977
	1978
	Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) and rules for qualifying facilities (QFs)
	Natural Gas Policy Act
FCC's <i>Computer II</i> decision (unbundling)	1980
DOJ and AT&T settle antitrust suit with divestiture plan-Modified Final Judgment approved	1982
	FERC Order 234 (opened gas transportation)
	FERC Order 234-B (allowed open gas transmission to schools and hospitals)
MTS and WATS market structure order	1983
	Special marketing programs allow off-system sales of gas to outside of interstate pipeline areas
Consent Decree goes into effect with AT&T is broken up into AT&T long distance and BOCs	1984
Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984	FERC Order 380 (gas take or pay)
	1985
	Maryland People's Counsel v. FERC re access
	FERC Order 436 (gas open access)
FCC's <i>Computer III</i> decision (open access)	1986
	1987
	FERC Order 451 (gas market pricing)
Local competition and performance-based regulation begin to emerge (late 1980s, early 1990s)	1989
	Natural Gas Wellhead Decontrol Act
	FERC Order 500 (amends Order 436)
<i>Computer III</i> decision remanded	1990
FCC adopts price-cap regulation (1990-1991)	Clean Air Act
BOCs permitted to enter the enhanced services market	1991
	FERC Order 537 (gas transmission)
	1992
	Energy Policy Act modifies PUHCA and authorizes FERC to require open transmission access
	FERC Order 636 (gas unbundling)
	1994
	67 FERC 61,252-258 (1994) (gas gathering policy)
	1995
	First residential gas choice pilots
Telecommunications Act (local competition)	1996
	FERC Orders 888 & 889 (electricity access)FERC allows recovery of wholesale stranded cost
	States begin statutory electricity restructuring
NARUC files suit against FCC re jurisdiction	1997
	Retail access for electricity begins in CA, NH, PA, and RI (initially large-volume customers)

FCC adopts price flexibility for special access rates	1999	
FCC approves RBOC long-distance entry for NY		
Mergers create new Verizon and Qwest	2000	FERC Order 2000-A created RTOs and RTO requirements
	2001	FERC allows price caps on California and WSCC wholesale spot market prices
FCC declares internet over cable an information service	2002	
Michigan deregulates most telecom services		
FCC Internet over Cable Order reversed	2003	
FCC releases Triennial Review Order		
Wireless local number portability required		
DC Circuit overturns FCC unbundling decision	2004	
AT&T and MCI exit local markets		
Court rules that states can prevent municipalities from providing telecom services (Nixon)		
FCC declares internet over DSL an information service	2005	Energy Policy Act; requires transmission investment incentives; repeals the Public Utility Holding Company Act
FCC approves AT&T-SBC and Verizon-MCI mergers	2006	FERC Order 679 provides for transmission investment incentives
FCC imposes service obligations for voice over IP		
	2007	Energy Independence and Security Act
	2009	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
FCC rules differentiate wired and wireless internet access	2010	
Six companies propose America's Broadband Connectivity (ABC) Plan to reform universal service	2011	FERC Order 1000 (transmission planning and cost allocation)
U.S. DOJ sues to block AT&T acquisition of T-Mobile		