

## 2. GENERAL

### 2.1 Scope

These guidelines are for billing access and interconnection services provided by two or more providers or by one provider in two or more states within a single LATA. It is to the mutual benefit of both customers (customers and end users) and providers that bills be accurate and auditable. This document addresses the concept of MPB and revenue sharing as detailed in the December 8, 1988 Report. As stated previously, access and interconnection services include Usage Sensitive and Flat Rates Services. Where intrastate tariffs and contracts permit, these guidelines are used for access and interconnection services. The determination of implementing a meet-point Billing arrangement between providers, which operate in the same territory, is based upon Provider-to-Provider negotiations where the regulatory environment permits. When all involved providers agree to a meet-point Billing arrangement, these guidelines are used.

### 2.2 MECAB Revision

#### 2.2.1 Reason for Revision

OBF Issue 472 (the MECAB Change Management Document) recommends that the MECAB be updated to incorporate all resolved OBF issues affecting the MECAB document. This is the **sixth revision** to the MECAB based on OBF Issue 472. This revision contains updates to industry guidelines to reflect the resolution of the following OBF Issues:<sup>1</sup>

- Issue 1548 - Billing Verification Process in an Unbundled Environment
- Issue 1667 - Exchange of Billing Information
- Issue 1690 - Notification of Interconnecting Billing Information to the ULEC.
- Issue 2056 - For Facility-Based LECs/CLECs & CMRS, Enhance the Meetpoint/Meetpoint-like Record Exchange to be Consistent with Unbundled Processes
- Issue 2138 - Redefine and Evaluate the Need for Existing MECAB Data Elements
- Issue 2162 - Eliminate Pass Through meet-point Billing Options in MECAB

The following issues were reviewed but no changes were made to the document.

- Issue 1284 - Long Term LNP Billing and Verification
- Issue 1287 - Billing For Unbundled Network Elements
- Issue 1528 - The Billing Impact Resulting From Access Reform
- Issue 1593 - Guidelines Do Not Exist For Providing Historical PICC Detail Data to Verify PICC Charges

#### 2.2.2 Change Management

MECAB standards represent policy guidelines approved by the OBF; the Billing Committee of the OBF is responsible for the MECAB document. MECAB is changed through the incorporation of resolved OBF issues. Proposed changes to MECAB are reviewed and approved by the OBF Billing Committee and the OBF General Session. In accordance with the MO&O in CC Docket No. 86-104, released July 31, 1987, the FCC will have the opportunity to review any revisions to the standards (MECAB) to the extent that further tariff revisions are necessary.

<sup>1</sup> A record of resolved OBF Issues incorporated in MECAB revisions is contained in Section 11 - OBF Issues Included in MECAB Revisions.