

IPU RESEARCH NOTE

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

RESTRUCTURING TIMELINE

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Telecommunications		Energy
FCC grants MCI petition to offer private-line service	1969	
	1970	
FCC's <i>Computer I</i> decision	1971	
Free-entry decision		
	1972	
	1973	
Dept. of Justice files AT&T antitrust suit	1974	
FCC orders MCI to stop selling toll service	1975	
	1976	
FCC's order preventing toll service overturned	1977	
FCC's <i>Computer II</i> decision (unbundling)	1978	Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) and rules for qualifying facilities (QFs) Natural Gas Policy Act
	1979	
	1980	
	1981	
DOJ and AT&T settle antitrust with divestiture plan (Modified Final Judgment approved)	1982	FERC Order 234 (opening gas transportation)
	1983	Special marketing programs allow off-system sales of gas to outside of interstate pipeline areas
AT&T divestiture implemented	1984	FERC Order 380 (gas take or pay)
FCC's <i>Computer III</i> decision (open networks)	1985	Maryland People's Counsel v. FERC re access FERC Order 436 (gas open access)
	1986	
	1987	FERC Order 451 (gas market pricing)
	1988	
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)
FCC moves from ROR to price-cap regulation (1990-1991)	1990	Clean Air Act
	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)

Telecommunications		Energy
	1993	
	1994	FERC Orders (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	1997	Retail access for electricity begins in CA, NH, PA, and RI (initially large-volume customers)
	1998	
FCC adopts price flexibility regime for special access rates	1999	
FCC approves RBOC long-distance entry for NY		
	2000	
Mergers create new Verizon and Qwest	2001	FERC allows price caps on California and WSCC wholesale spot market prices
Michigan deregulates most telecom services	2002	
Wireless local number portability required	2003	
DC Circuit overturns FCC unbundling decision AT&T and MCI exit local markets	2004	
Court rules that states can prevent municipalities from providing telecom services (Nixon)		
FCC declares DSL an information service v. a telecom service (Brand X)	2005	Energy Policy Act Public Utility Holding Company Act repealed
Mergers create new AT&T	2006	
	2007	Energy Independence and Security Act
	2008	
	2009	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act