

**CHAPTER 21. INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENTS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS**

**Subchapter C. PRELIMINARY ISSUES, ORDERS, AND PROCEEDINGS.**

**§21.73. Consolidation of Dockets, Consolidation of Issues, and Joint Filings.**

- (a) **Consolidation of dockets.** The commission or presiding officer may on its own motion or upon a motion from a party, to the extent practical, consolidate separate dispute resolution proceedings and the approval proceedings pursuant to this chapter.
- (b) **Consolidation of issues.** The commission or presiding officer may on its own motion or upon the motion of a party, to the extent practical, consolidate similar issues from separate dispute resolution and approval proceedings pursuant to this chapter.
- (c) **Joint filings or joinder.**
  - (1) **Joint filings.** Parties may jointly file dispute resolution and approval proceedings when there are common issues of law or fact.
  - (2) **Joinder.** A person may request joinder when there are common issues of law or fact and shall agree to be bound by any judgment rendered as to the common issues.
  - (3) **Factors to be considered.** The commission or presiding officer shall determine whether the proceedings should be maintained as a joint proceeding or be severed or should be consolidated in whole or in part. In making this determination the commission or presiding officer shall consider:
    - (A) administrative burden on the parties and the commission;
    - (B) whether there are issues of fact or law common to the proceedings;
    - (C) whether separate proceedings would create a risk of inconsistent resolutions; and
    - (D) whether allowing joinder or consolidation would result in undue delay of the proceedings or prejudice any party.