

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Rules and Policies Concerning)	MM Docket No. 01-317
Multiple Ownership of Radio Broadcast)	
Stations in Local Markets)	
)	
Definition of Radio Markets)	MM Docket No. 00-244
)	

ORDER

Adopted: March 8, 2002

Released: March 8, 2002

By the Chief, Mass Media Bureau:

1. On February 27, 2002, pursuant to section 1.46 of the Commission's Rules,¹ the Infinity Broadcasting Corporation, Clear Channel Communications, Inc., and Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation (hereafter, "petitioners") filed a "Joint Motion for Extension of Comment and Reply Comment Deadlines" in this proceeding. Previously, on January 23, 2002, the Commission granted a motion to extend the original deadlines to file comments and reply comments by extending the comment deadline for 30 days, to March 13, 2002, and April 10, 2002, respectively.² Petitioners now ask the Commission to further extend the comment filing deadlines for 14 days, to March 27, 2002, and April 24, 2002, respectively. Petitioners assert that they have made every effort to respond meaningfully to the Commission's request for in-depth empirical studies by the March 13 deadline, but that an extension is needed because injuries sustained by the analyst they commissioned to conduct a diversity study have delayed the final report.³ Petitioners also state that they believe all commenters would benefit from an extension of time to allow a careful review of the February 19, 2002 decision in *Fox v. FCC*, which they state raises complex and significant questions about the Commission's review of the local radio ownership rule.⁴

2. We believe that the public interest would be served by granting an extension of the comment and reply comment filing deadlines. In this proceeding, the Commission seeks comment on a wide range of issues relating to multiple ownership of radio stations in local

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 1.46.

² See *Order*, MM Docket Nos. 01-317 and 00-244, DA 02-156 (rel. Jan. 23, 2002). (Petitioners had requested a 45 day extension.)

³ Motion at 2.

⁴ *Id.* at 2-3.

markets, including the statutory framework governing local radio ownership, diversity and competition in radio markets. We will, therefore, extend the comment and reply comment deadlines by 14 days. We believe that 14 days provides sufficient additional time for petitioners and other members of the public alike to prepare comprehensive comments and replies. This, in turn, will help the Commission in its decision-making and resolving the complex and significant public policy issues raised in this proceeding.

3. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that petitioners' Joint Motion for Extension of Comment and Reply Comment Deadlines IS GRANTED.

4. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the deadline for filing comments in this proceeding IS EXTENDED to March 27, 2002.

5. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the deadline for filing reply comments in this proceeding IS EXTENDED to April 24, 2002.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Roy J. Stewart
Chief, Mass Media Bureau