

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

In the Matter of)	
)	
Communications Assistance for)	ET Docket No. 04-295
Law Enforcement Act and)	
Broadband Access and Services)	RM-10865
)	

ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION OF TIME

Adopted: November 23, 2004

Released: November 24, 2004

By the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology:

Reply Comment Date: December 21, 2004

1. On August 9, 2004, the Commission released a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* (“*Notice*”) in the above-captioned proceeding, seeking comment on the appropriate legal and policy framework of the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act.¹ The *Notice* was published in the Federal Register on September 23, 2004, establishing a comment deadline of November 8, 2004 and a reply comment deadline of December 7, 2004.² Comments were filed in accord with the November 8, 2004 comment deadline; however, on November 22, 2004, the United States Department of Justice (“DoJ”) filed a motion requesting a two-week extension of the reply comment deadline.³ For the reasons stated below, we are granting the requested extension.

2. In support of its request, DoJ states:

DoJ's request is based on several factors. Due to the significant number of issues raised in the *Notice* and the number of initial comments filed in response to the *Notice*, DOJ and other parties would benefit from an additional two weeks to review and respond to the comments . . . Moreover, because the extension request is quite modest, it should not interfere with any Commission plans for taking action in this docket.⁴

3. It is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted.⁵ However, we agree with DoJ that the *Notice* raised a significant number of issues and that a large number of parties filed comments. Further, many of these comments are quite complex. Additionally, while the comment period was nearly three months from release of the *Notice*, the current reply comment deadline is less than one month from the comment deadline. As there is considerable value in this rule making in allowing parties to provide detailed analysis of the comments, we will extend the time for filing reply

¹ See *Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Declaratory Ruling*, ET Docket No. 04-295, 19 FCC Rcd 15676 (2004).

² 69 Fed. Reg. 56976 (September 23, 2004).

³ See *Motion for Extension of Time for Interested Parties to File Reply Comments*, ET Docket No. 04-295, filed by DoJ on November 22, 2004.

⁴ *Id.* at 1.

⁵ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).

comments by two weeks, as requested by DoJ.

4. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to section 4(i) and 4(j) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i) and 154(j), and sections 0.31, 0.241, and 1.46 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.31, 0.241, and 1.46, the deadline for filing reply comments is extended from December 7, 2004 to December 21, 2004.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Edmond J. Thomas
Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology