



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

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November 20, 2000

OPEN PROCEEDINGS

The following is a listing of current FCC Notices of Proposed Rulemaking and Notices of Inquiry open for public comment, except routine petitions to amend the Table of Allotments. This listing also includes pertinent Public Notices announcing comment subjects and dates. For additional information, contact Marilyn Abraham, Consumer Information Bureau at (202) 418-2374. Please note: as comment and reply comment periods expire, they are deleted from this listing. *Asterisk indicates comment period deadline is past, but reply comment period still is open.

CABLE SERVICES BUREAU

CS-97-80; FNPRM 9/18/00 (adopted 9/14/00); FCC 00-341

Implementation of Section 304 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices.

The Commission adopted Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Declaratory Ruling in this proceeding. Comments due: November 15*; replies due: December 18.

GEN 00-185; NOI 9/28/00 (adopted 9/28/00); FCC 00-355

In the Matter of Inquiry Concerning High-Speed Access to the Internet Over Cable and Other Facilities.

The Commission is seeking comments to determine what regulatory treatment, if any, should be accorded to cable modem service and the cable modem platform used in providing this service. Comments due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 75 days after publication in the Federal Register.

COMMON CARRIER BUREAU

CC 96-45; PN 10/4/00; FCC 00J-3

Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Seeks Comment on Rural Task Force Recommendation Pleading Cycle Established.

In the May 1997 *Universal Service Order*, the Commission, acting on the recommendation of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service encouraged the Joint Board to establish a Rural Task Force to "provide valuable assistance in identifying the issues unique to rural carriers and analyzing the appropriateness of proxy cost models for rural carriers. On September 17, 1997, the Joint Board announced the creation of the Rural Task Force and directed it to present a report to the Joint Board making specific recommendations on the establishment of a forward-looking economic cost mechanism for rural telephone companies. The Joint Board will consider this report in formulating a recommendation to the Commission for universal service reform for rural carriers. Comments due November 3*; replies due November 30. Contact: Gene Fullano at (202) 418-7400.

PN 10/12/00; DA 00-2329

Inquiry Concerning High-Speed Access to the Internet over Cable and Other Facilities, Pleading Cycle Extended; and United States Telecom Association Files Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Universal Service Obligations of Cable Operators Pleading Cycle Established.

On September 28, 2000, the Commission adopted and released a Notice of Inquiry seeking public comment on several matters related to high-speed access to the Internet over cable and other facilities. Comments due December 1, 2000; replies due January 10, 2001. Contact: Katherine Schroder at (202) 418-7400.

PN 10/13/00; DA 00-2327

Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on Western Wireless' Supplemental Filing Relating to its Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier on the Crow Reservation in Montana, Pleading Cycle Established.

On August 4, 1999, Western Wireless filed with the Commission a petition under section 214(e)(6) seeking a designation of eligibility to receive federal universal service support for a service area comprised of the Crow Reservation in Montana. Comments due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register. Contact: Richard D. Smith at (202) 418-7400.

PN 10/17/00; DA 00-2342

FCC Seeks Comments to Update the Record in the CLEA Technical Capabilities Proceeding, CC Docket 97-213.

The Commission is seeking comments on the definition of the term "call identifying information" as used in CLEA, discussed in the legislative history, and used in the interim standard, and whether the four punch list capabilities are call identifying information, whether

deficiencies exist in the interim standard, and how each of the four punch list capabilities would address such deficiencies. Comments due November 16*; replies due December 1. Contact: Geraldine Matise 202-418-2322 or Rodney Small 418-2452.

PN 10/18/00; DA 00-2354

Pleading Cycle Established for Comments on National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. 2001 Modification of Average Schedule Universal Service Formulas.

On October 2, 2000, the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. filed its 2001 Modifications of Average Schedule Universal Service Formulas. These proposed formulas, if approved, would be scheduled to take effect of January 1, 2001 and remain in effect through December 31, 2001. Comments due November 6*; replies due November 20. Contact: George Williams at (202) 418-0867.

CC 00-199; NPRM 10/18/00 (adopted 10/12/00); FCC 00-364

2000 Biennial Regulatory Review.

The Commission is seeking comments on whether and how to streamline significantly the existing accounting and reporting requirements. Phase 2 - Comments due December 21, 2000; replies due January 30, 2001; Phase 3 - Comments due January 30, 2001, replies due February 28, 2001.

CC 00-217; PN 10/26/00; DA 00-2414

Comments Requested on the Application by SBC Communications, Inc. for Authorization under Section 271 of the Communications Act to Provide In-Region, InterLATA Service in the States of Kansas and Oklahoma.

On October 26, 2000, SBC Communications Inc. and its subsidiaries, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc., d/b/a Southwestern Bell Long Distance (collectively, SWBT) filed a joint application for authorization to provide in-region, interLATA service in the State of Kansas and Oklahoma, pursuant to § 271 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act), 47 U.S.C. § 271. Comments due November 15*; replies due December 11. Contact: John Stanley at (202) 418-1496, Gary Remondino at (202) 418-2298 or Michael Balmoris at (202) 418-0253.

CC 80-286; PN 10/30/00; DA 00-2433

Comment Sought on Recommended Decision Issued by Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations.

On July 21, 2000, the Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations released a *Recommended Decision* for instituting an interim freeze of the Part 36 category relationships and jurisdictional allocation factors. On August 15, 2000, the Commission released a public notice,

similar to this *Public Notice* that sought comment on the *Recommended Decision*. The *August 15 Public Notice* inadvertently was not published in the Federal Register. In order to provide adequate notice to interested parties, the Commission now release this *Public Notice* seeking comment on the *Recommended Decision*. Comments due 15 days from Federal Register publication; replies due 25 days from Federal Register publication. Contact William Cox at (202) 418-7400.

CC 96-45; PN 10/31/00; DA 00-2460

Common Carrier Bureau Announces the Comment and Reply Comment Dates Relating to Western Wireless' Supplemental Filing and Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier on the Crow Reservation in Montana.

On October 13, 2000, the Common Carrier Bureau released a Public Notice seeking comment on Western Wireless' supplemental filing relating to its petition for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier on the Crow Reservation in Montana. Comments due November 24; replies due December 11. Contact: Richard D. Smith at (202) 418-7400.

PN 11/06/00; DA 00-2493

Commission Seeks Comment on Application for consent to Transfer Control Filed by WorldCom, Inc. and Intermedia Communications, Inc.

On October 23, 2000, WorldCom, Inc. and Intermedia Communications Inc. filed an application pursuant to sections 214 and 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 214, 310(d), requesting Commission approval of the transfer of control to WorldCom of Commission licenses and authorizations held by Intermedia to provide domestic and international telecommunications services pursuant to Parts 21, 63, 90, and 101 of the Commission's rules. Comments/petitions due December 6; responses/oppositions due December 21. Contact: Henry Thaggert at (202) 418-1580.

PN 11/08/00; DA 00-2526

Comments Invited on PF. NET Line Construction Project Across the State of Missouri, Compliance with the Authorization Requirements Under Section 214 and the Environmental and Historic Preservation Requirements Under NEPA AND NHPA.

The Common Carrier Bureau is seeking comments on whether a line construction project by PF.NET in the State of Missouri is subject to the Federal Communications Commission's jurisdiction under section 214(a) of the Federal Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and, if so, whether PF.NET has complied with the Commission's regulations with regard to the project. Comments due December 8, 2000. Contact: Marilyn Jones (202) 418-2320 and Carmell Weathers (202) 418-2325.

PN 11/08/00; DA 00-2530

Comments Requested in Connection with Court Remand of Non-Accounting Safeguards Order.

On November 8, 2000, the Common Carrier Bureau released a Public Notice seeking comments on the arguments raised by the petitioners before the D.C. Circuit concerning the above caption proceeding. The Commission ask that the parties address the issues, as well as any additional issues previously raised before the Commission or the court that are relevant to this inquiry. Comments due November 29; replies due December 11. Contact: Johanna Mikes (202) 418-1535.

PN 11/15/00

Comment Sought on Southwestern Bell Requests for Limited Modification of LATA Boundaries to Provide Expanded Local Calling Service Between Certain Exchanges in Texas.

On June 30, 2000 and September 20, 2000, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company filed a total of four petitions requesting modification of local access and transport area boundaries to provide two-way, flat-rate, non-optional expanded local calling service between the following exchanges; Minden and Nacogdoches; Joensboro and Temple; and Mt. Enterprise and Nacogdoches. Comments due: November 29; replies due: December 6. Contact: Alan Thomas at (202) 418-2320.

PN 11/15/00

Comment Sought on Verizon-West Virginia Request for Limited Modification of LATA Boundaries to Provide Expanded Local Calling Service Between Certain Exchanges in West Virginia.

On September 14, 2000, Verizon-West Virginia filed a petition requesting modification of local access and transport area boundaries to provide two-way, non-optional expanded local calling service between the Glenville and Grantsville exchanges; and between the Gassaway and Arnoldsburg exchanges. Comments due November 29; replies due December 6. Contact: Alan Thomas at (202) 418-2320.

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PN 10/11/00; DA 00-2251

VoiceStream Wireless Corporation, Powertel, Inc., and DeutscheTelekom AG Seek FCC Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations and Request Declaratory Ruling Allowing Indirect Foreign Ownership.

On September 18, 2000, VoiceStream Wireless Corporation, Powertel, Inc., and Deutsche Telekom filed applications under § 214 and 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, seeking Commission approval of the transfer of control to DT of licenses and authorizations presently held by VoiceStream, Powertel, and their subsidiaries. Petitions/Comments due November 13*; Oppositions/Responses due November 27. Contact: Lauren Kravetz or John Branscome at (202) 418-7240.

IB 00-203; NPRM 10/24/00 (adopted 10/13/00); FCC 00-369

FWCC Request for Declaratory Ruling on Partial-Band Licensing of Earth Stations in the Fixed-Satellite Service that Share Terrestrial Spectrum.

The Commission is seeking comment on this adopted notice of proposed rulemaking designed to promote efficient use of the radio spectrum and wide access to electronic commerce in underserved rural areas of America. Comments due 45 days from publication in the Federal Register; replies due 75 days from publication in the Federal Register.

DA 00-2521; Order 11/8/00 (adopted 11/08/00)

Voicestream Wireless, Powertel, ETC, Transfer of Control Extension.

The Commission granted the Motion for Extension of Time in the above caption proceeding. Comments due December 13; replies due January 8, 2001. Contact: Justin Connor at (202) 418-1476

MASS MEDIA BUREAU

MM 00-44; R&O and FNPRM 10/5/00 (adopted 9/14/00); FCC 00-343

In the Matter of Extension of the Filing Requirement for Children's Television Programming Reports (FCC Form 398).

In this Report and Order the Commission made a number of changes to the children's educational television reporting requirements of commercial broadcast television licenses. Extended quarterly Children's television programming Reports (FCC Form 398). Require broadcasters to file these reports on a quarterly basis, at the time prepared, rather than annually, announce a number of revisions to be made to the FCC Form 398 to make the information on the form clearer and more useful to the public and the Commission. Comments due December 18, 2000; replies due January 17, 2001.

MM-00-167; NPRM 10/5/00 (adopted 9/14/00); FCC 00-344

In the Matter of Children's Television Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters.

The Commission is seeking comments on a range of issues related to the obligation of digital television broadcasters to children. Comments due December 18, 2000; replies due January 17, 2001.

OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

ET 98-237; 1st R&O and 2nd NPRM 10/24/00 (adopted 10/12/00); FCC 00-363

Amendment of the Commission's Rules with Regard to the 3650-3700 MHz Government Transfer Band.

The Commission adopted rules allocating the 50 megahertz of spectrum in the 3650-3700 MHz band to the fixed and mobile terrestrial services on a primary basis, facilitating the provision of a broad range of services. Proposed licensing and service rules for assignment of licenses in this band by competitive bidding. Comments due 30 days from publication in the Federal Register; replies due 60 days from publication in the Federal Register.

WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

WT 96-86; Fourth NPRM 8/2/00 (adopted 7/25/00); FCC 00-271

The Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Communication Requirements Through the Year 2010.

In this Fourth Notice of Proposed Rule Making, the Commission is considering various technical and operational issues regarding the use of interoperability frequencies in the 764-776 MHz and 794-806 MHz frequency bands. Comments can be filed 30* days after publication in the Federal Register; reply comments can be filed 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

PN 10/3/00; DA 00-2248

Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Conforms Due Dates for Filing Comments and Replies to the Fourth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WT Docket No. 97-82.

This *Public Notice* conforms the dates for filing comments and reply comments to the *Order on Reconsideration of the Third Report and Order, Fifth Report and Order, and Fourth Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making* (GCC 00-274), which was released on August 14, 2000, with the dates published in the Federal Register on August 29, 2000. Comments due October 30*; replies due November 27.

PN 10/19/00; DA 00-2352

Motorola, Inc. and Nextel Communications, Inc. Seek Consent to Assign 900 MHz SMR Licenses.

Motorola, Inc., and two of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Motorola SMR, Inc., and Motorola Communications and Electronics, Inc., and FCI 900, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nextel Communications, Inc., filed applications under §310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended seeking Commission approval to assign various 900 MHz Specialized Mobile Radio licenses and authorizations held by Motorola to FCI 900. Petitions/Comments due November 20; oppositions/replies due November 30. Contact: Lauren Kravetz or John Branscome at (202) 418-7240.

PN 10/25/00; DA 00-2402

Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on Request to Reopen the Petition for Rulemaking Regarding Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones.

On October 7, 2000, the Wireless Access Coalition formally requested that the Federal Communications Commission re-open the Petition for Rule Making in the Matter of § 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules, Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones. Originally filed in 1995 by the HEAR-IT NOW Coalition, the Petition asked that the exemption for PCS devices from the Hearing Aid Compatibility Act of 1988 be revoked. Comments due December 8; replies due January 8. Contact: E. Wendy Austrie at (202) 418-1310.

PN 10/24/00; DA 00-2397

VoiceStream Wireless Corporation and Cook Inlet Region, Inc. Seek FCC Consent for Transfer of Control of Licenses and Authorizations, WT Docket 00-207.

Cook Inlet Region, Inc., an Alaska Regional Corporation organized under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, 47 U.S.C. §§ 1601 *et seq.*, and VoiceStream Wireless Corporation a Delaware corporation, have filed applications under sections 214 and 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 214, 310(d), and the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2001, Public Law No. 106-259, seeking Commission consent to a transfer of control of licenses from Cook to VoiceStream. Comments due November 24; replies due December 1. Contact: Lauren Kravetz or John Branscome (parts 24 and 27) at (202) 418-7240 or Claudia Fox or Justin Connor (international 24, § 310(b)(4)) at (202) 418-1460.

WT 99-217; 1st R&O and Further NPRM 10/25/00 (adopted 10/12/00); FCC 00-366

In The Matter of Promotion of Competitive Networks in Local Telecommunications Markets.

The Commission took actions to foster competition in local communications markets by implementing measures to ensure that competing telecommunications providers are able to provide services to customers in multiple tenant environments. Comments due December 22, 2000; replies due January 22, 2001.

WT 00-193; NPRM 11/01/00 (adopted 10/04/00); FCC 00-361

Automatic and Manual Roaming Obligations Pertaining to Commercial Mobile Radio Services.

The Commission initiated new proceeding to consider adopting and "automatic" roaming rule and whether to sunset the "manual" roaming requirement. Comments due January 5; replies due February 5. Contact: Paul Murray (202) 418-0688.

PN 11/06/00; DA 00-2345

Wireless Telecommunication Bureau Seeks Comment on Request for Waiver by Mcmurdo Limited to Permit Use of Frequency 406.028 MHZ for 406 MHZ Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB).

On October 16, 2000, McMurdo Limited filed a request for waiver of Section 80.1061 of the Commission's Rules' to permit the use of the frequency 406.028 MHz for a new 406 MHz EPIRB. Comments due November 20; replies due November 27. Contact: Jim Shaffer at (202) 418-0687.

PN 11/15/00; DA 00-2572

Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Solicits Assistance in Updating Commercial Operator License Examination (COLE) Question Pools for Elements 1 and 7, and Seeks Comment on Development of Procedures to update COLE Question Pools.

The Commission is soliciting private sector assistance in updating the COLE question pools for Elements 1 (Basic Radio Law) and 7 (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System radio operating procedures). Comments due December 15, 2000; replies due January 2, 2001. Contact: Genevieve Augustin at (202) 418-0680.