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Federal Communications Commission
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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See *MCI v. FCC*, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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FCC PROPOSES STEPS TO FACILITATE LICENSING OF EARTH STATIONS

The Commission has proposed steps that, if adopted, would facilitate licensing of earth stations, expediting the provision of satellite services to the public, without increasing the risk of harmful interference to existing earth station, space station, or terrestrial wireless operators.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Notice) proposes revisions to the Part 25 earth station licensing rules. Part 25 establishes size and power standards for earth station antennas. The Notice proposes several rule revisions to streamline the filing requirements for routine and non-routine earth station applications.

The Notice also includes proposals for:

- relaxing power and power density requirements, and allowing some temporary fixed earth stations to begin operation sooner;
- streamlining the very small aperture terminal (VSAT) rules; and
- adopting a simplified license application form for "routine" earth stations

The Commission based many of these proposals on informal comments from members of the public.

Action by the Commission by Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, December 14, 2000 (FCC 00-435). Chairman Kennard, Commissioners Ness, Furchtgott-Roth, Powell, and Tristani.

IB Docket No. 00-248.

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