



# NEWS

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**Federal Communications Commission**  
**445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.**  
**Washington, D. C. 20554**

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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. Circ 1974).

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March 12, 2001

## **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 01-07; NOI 01/18/01 (adopted 01/12/01); FCC-01-15**

#### **Nondiscrimination in the Distribution of Interactive Television Services over Cable.**

The Commission is seeking comment on the initiated proceeding on interactive TV. Comments due: March 19; replies due April 20. Contact Darryl Cooper at (202) 418- 1039.

### **COMMON CARRIER BUREAU**

**CC 96-61; ORDER 11/17/00 (adopted 11/16/00); DA 00-2586**

#### **In the Matter of Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace/Implementation of Section 254(G) of the Communications Act of 1934, as Amended.**

The Commission extends the deadline for detariffing mass-market consumer services from January 31\* to April 30, 2001.

**CC 96-45; R&O 12/08/00; (adopted 12/06/00); FCC 00-428**

**Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service.**

The Commission adopted the recommendation for phasing down the interim hold-harmless provision of the forward-looking high-cost universal service support mechanism for non-rural carriers. Comments due 30 days and replies 45 days from publication in the Federal Register. Contact: William Scher at (202) 418-7399.

**CC 96-45, 98-166, 98-77, 00-256; NPRM 01/05/01 (adopted 12/21/00) FCC 00-448**

**Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Inter Exchange Carriers.**

The Commission is seeking comment on Petition for Rulemaking submitted by the Multi-Association Group. The Petition sets forth an interstate access reform and universal service support proposal for incumbent local exchange carriers subject to rate-of-return regulation. Comment due 30\* days and replies due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

**CC 96-45; FNPRM 01/12/01 (adopted 01/10/01) FCC 01-08**

**Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service.**

The Commission is seeking comment on the Recommended Decision of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service regarding a plan for reforming the rural universal service support mechanism. Comments due 30\* days and replies due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

**CC 00-256; NPRM 01/05/01 (adopted 12/21/00) FCC 00-448**

**Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Inter exchange Carriers.**

The Commission is seeking comment on a Petition for Rulemaking submitted by the Multi-Association Group. The Petition sets forth an interstate access reform and universal service support proposal for incumbent local exchange carriers subject to rate-of-return regulation. Comments due 30 days from publication in the Federal Register; replies due 45 days from publication in the Federal Register.

**CC 94-129, CC 00-257; 3<sup>rd</sup> FNPRM 01/18/01 (adopted 12/27/00); FCC 00-451**

**2000 Biennial Regulatory Review-Review of Policies and Rules Concerning Unauthorized Changes of Consumers Long Distance Carriers.**

The Commission is seeking comment on expedited procedures for handling the sale or transfer of subscribers that will adequately protect consumers as a part of our biennial regulatory review. Comments due 21 days after publication in the Federal Register and replies due 31 days after publication in the Federal Register. Judy Boley at (202) 418-0214.

**CC 99-301; 2<sup>nd</sup> NPRM 01/19/01 (adopted 01/17/01) FCC 01-19**

### **Local Competition and Broadband Reporting.**

The Commission is seeking comment on how to refine or improve the data gathering effort to assess the degree of deployment of broadband services and the development of local competition. Comments due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register and replies due 45 after publication in the Federal Register. Contact: Scott Bergmann at (202) 418-7102.

**CC 96-98. 98-147; 3<sup>rd</sup> R&O on Recon. 4<sup>th</sup> R&O Recon. 3<sup>rd</sup> FNPRM, 6<sup>th</sup> NPRM 01/19/01(adopted 01/19/01) FCC 01-26**

### **Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications Capability et al.**

The Commission addressed five petitions for reconsideration and/or clarification of its Line Sharing Order and is seeking comment in the proceeding. Comments due 21 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 35 days after publication in the Federal Register.

**CC 96-45; FNPRM 01/23/01(adopted 01/22/01) FCC 01-31**

### **Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service.**

The Commission is seeking comment on implementation of the Children's Internet Protection Act. Comments due 15 days after publication in the Federal Register and replies 22 days after publication in the Federal Register.

**CC 96-98; PN 01/24/01; DA 01-169**

### **Comments Sought on the Use of Unbundled Network Elements to Provide Exchange Access Services.**

On June 2, 2000, the Commission issued a Supplement Order Clarification in the above caption proceeding that extended and clarified the temporary constraint on the ability of requesting carriers to use combination of unbundled network elements to provide exchange access service. Comments due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register. Contact: Jodie Donovan-May or Tom Navin at (202) 418-1580.

**CC 96-45; PN 02/02/01; DA 01-278**

### **Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on Western Wireless' Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for or the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.**

On January 19, 2001, Western Wireless Corporation filed with the Commission a petition under section 214(e)(6) seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier to receive federal

universal service support for the provision of service on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Comments due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register. Contact: Richard D. Smith or Anita Cheng at (202) 418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484.

**PN 02/02/01; DA 01-281**

**NECA 2001 Modification of Average Schedule Formulas for July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002.**

On December 28, 2000, the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. filed proposed 2001 Modification of Average Schedules with the Commission pursuant to section 69.606 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §69.606. Comments due March 5\*; replies due March 26. Contact: Stephen Burnett at (202) 418-2257, TTY at (202) 418-0484.

**CC 96-98; PN 02/09/01; DA 01-341**

**Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on the Florida PSC Petition for Expedited Decision for the Release of a New Area Code to Provide Relief for the 561 Numbering Plan Area.**

The Commission seeks comment on the request of the Florida Public Service Commission for the release of a new area code to provide relief for the 561 numbering plan area. Comments due March 9\*; replies due March 23. Contact: Sanford Williams at (202) 418-2320, TTY (202) 418-0484.

**PN 02/13/01; DA 01-384**

**Common Carrier Bureau Announces the Comment and Reply Comment Dates Relating to Western Wireless' Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.**

On February 2, 2001, the Common Carrier Bureau released a Public Notice seeking comment on Western Wireless' petition for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Comments due March 12; replies due March 26. Contact: Richard D. Smith or Anita Cheng at (202) 418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484.

**CS 01-42; PN 02/15/01; DA 01-407**

**Comments Sought on City Signal Communications, Inc. Petition for Declaratory Ruling Concerning Use of Public Rights of way for Access to Poles in Eastlake, Ohio Pursuant to Section 253.**

On February 12, 2001, City Signal Communications, Inc. refiled a Petition for Declaratory Ruling seeking Commission preemption of the enforcement of any pronouncement, rule, regulation, or ordinance by City of Eastlake, Ohio that prohibits or may have the effect of

prohibiting the ability of City Signal from providing interstate or intrastate telecommunications service in or through the City of Eastlake. Comments due: March 20; replies due April 4. Contact: Janice Myles at (202) 418-1577 or Trudy Hercules at (202) 418-2288.

**CC 96-45; PN 02/15/01; DA 01-409**

**Smith Bagley, Inc. Petitions for Agreement to Redefine the Service Areas of Navajo Communications Company, Citizens Communications Company of the White Mountains, and Century Tel of the Southwest, Inc. on Tribal Lands within the State of Arizona.**

The Common Carrier Bureau provides notice that Smith Bagley, Inc. has filed a petition, pursuant to section 54.207 of the Commission's rules, requesting the Commission's consent to the Arizona Corporation Commission's proposed "service area" definition for areas served by rural telephone companies on tribal lands within Arizona. Comments due March 16; replies due March 30. Contact: Richard D. Smith or Anita Cheng at (202) 418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484.

**ASD 01-18; PN 02/16/2001; DA 01-424**

**Comment Sought on SBC's Revision to its Cost Allocation Manual.**

On February 9, 2001, SBC Communications, Inc. filed an update to its consolidated cost Allocation Manual for Nevada Bell and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company in accordance with Section 64.903 of the Commission's rules. Comments due March 15; replies due March 30. Contact Ed Dashkin at (202) 418-0806, TTY (202) 418-0484.

**PN 02/16/01; DA 01-460**

**Pleading Cycle Established for Comments on Petition of Ascent for Preemption of Montgomery, Alabama Taxation Policy.**

On January 18, 2001, the Association of Communications Enterprises filed a petition seeking preemption, pursuant to Section 253 of the Communications Act, of imposition by the City of Montgomery, Alabama of a flat annual license and privilege tax on all telecommunications companies who serve Montgomery subscribers. Comments due March 19; replies due April 3. Contact: Janice M. Myles 202-418-1577.

**PN 02/21/01; DA 01-466**

**Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control Expedited Petition for Additional Authority, and the Michigan Public Service Commission Petition for Additional Delegated Authority to Implement Number Conservation Measures.**

The Commission is seeking comment on the Michigan and Connecticut Commissions' requests for delegated authority to implement the number conservation measures. Comments due March 23; replies due April 9. Contact: Jennifer Gorny at (202) 418-2320.

**PN 02/22/01; DA 01-332**

**Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on Proposed Change to SBC's Performance Measurements ASD 01-17.**

The SBC/Ameritech Merger Order requires SBC Communications, Inc. to publicly file performance data demonstrating its progress in opening its local markets to competitors.

The Merger Order allows SBC and the Commission to make mutually agreeable changes to the performance measurements business rules on a semi-annual basis. The Commission is seeking comment on SBC's proposal to assist the evaluation. Comments due March 8\*; replies due March 15. Contact: Mark Stone at (202) 418-0816.

**PN 02/22/01; DA 01-453**

**Common Carrier Bureau Requests Comments on AT&T Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Payphone Compensation Rate Caps. Pleading Cycle Established.**

On February 5, 2001, AT&T filed a petition pursuant to Section 276© of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and Section 1.2 of the Commission's rules asking the Commission for a declaratory ruling that States may not foreclose carriers from establishing cost-recovery mechanisms to recoup from payphone users the costs of operating payphones subsequent to the Commission's implementation of Section 276 of the Act. Comments due March 23; replies due April 9. Contact: Ana Curtis or Lynne Milne at (202) 418-1520, TTY: (202) 418-0484.

**CC 97-213; PN 02/22/01; DA 01-489**

**CALEA Section 107(c) Extension Petitions: Additional Petitions Receiving Preliminary Extensions from the Common Carrier Bureau and Revised Date for all Preliminary Extensions Previously Granted in DA 97-213, NSD-L-00-234. Pleading Cycle Established.**

The wireline telecommunications carriers have filed petitions with the Commission seeking extensions of the deadline for complying with the capability requirements of Section 103 of the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA), 47 U.S.C. § 1002, as provided by Section 107(c) of CALEA, 47 U.S.C. § 1006(c). Pleading Cycle Established. Comments due March 24; replies due April 8. Contact: Gayle Radley Teicher at (202) 418-1515.

**CC 96-98; PN 02/23/01; DA 01-501**

**Common Carrier Bureau Grants Motion for Limited Extension of Time for Filing Comments and Reply Comments on the use of Unbundled Network Elements to Provide Exchange Access Service. Revised filing dates.**

The Commission granted a limited extension of time in the above listed proceeding. Comments due April 5; replies due April 3001. Contact: Jodie Donovan-May or Tom Navin at (202) 418-1580.

**PN 02/23/01; DA 01-573**

**Comment Sought on QWEST Corporation Request for Limited Modification of LATA Boundaries to Provide Expanded Local Calling Service Between Certain Exchanges in Colorado file no. NSD-L-01-31, pleading cycle established.**

On January 17, 2001 Qwest Corporation filed a petition requesting modification of local access and transport area boundaries to provide two-way, non-optional expanded local calling service between the following exchanges: Fairplay and Bailey; Fairplay and Deckers; and Bailey and Woodland Park. Comments due March 9\*; replies due March 16. Contact: Alan Thomas at (202) 418-2320, TTY: (202) 418-0484.

**PN 02/23/01; DA 01-574**

**Comment Sought on Southwestern Bell Requests for Limited Modification of LATA Boundaries to Provide Expanded Local Calling Service Between Certain Exchanges in Texas file no. NSD-L-01-30, pleading cycle established.**

On January 31, 2001 Southwestern Bell Telephone Company filed a petition requesting modification of local access and transport area boundaries to provide two-way, flat-rated, non-optional expanded local calling service between the Hilltop Lakes and Jewett exchanges in Texas. Comments due March 9\*; replies due March 16. Contact: Alan Thomas at (202) 418-2320, TTY: (202) 418-0484.

**PN 02/28/01; DA 01-522**

**TruCom Corporation and BridgeCom International, Inc., Seek Consent to Transfer Control of the Domestic Telecommunications lines Held by Trucom to Bridgecom. Pleading Cycle Established.**

TruCom Corporation and BridgeCom International, Inc. have filed a joint application pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, requesting Federal Communications Commission approval for BridgeCom to acquire and operate domestic transmission lines held by TruCom. Comments due March 14; replies due March 21. Contact: Aaron Goldberger at (202) 418-1580.

**CC 96-45; PN 03/02/01; DA 01-566**

**Madison Telephone Company and Gallatin River Communications, LLC Seek a Waiver of the Definition of "Study Area" In Part 36 of the Commission's Rules. Pleading Cycle Established.**

On February 28, 2001, Madison Telephone Company and Gallatin River Communications, LLC filed a joint petition for waiver of the definition of "study area" as set forth in Part 36 of the Commission's rules. Comments due: March 22; replies due April 2. Contact: Adrian Wright at (202) 418-7400, TTY: (202) 418-0484.

**PN 03/05/01; DA 01-568**

**Comments Invited on E\*Link Corporation Application to Discontinue Providing Domestic Services.**

On December 26, 2000, E\*Link Corporation filed an application requesting authority under section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue its non-dominant resale common service. Comments due March 19. Contact: Marty Schwimmer 202-418-2320.

**PN 03/05/01; DA 01-569**

**Comments Invited on Application of GST Telecommunications, Inc. and its Subsidiaries to Discontinue Domestic Services.**

On January 31, 2001, GST Telecommunications, Inc. and its subsidiaries filed an application requesting authority under section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue providing U.S. domestic telecommunications services on the following dates: GST Home (cable, long distance and local services) in Arizona and Utah on or about February 26, 2001; Centrex (local service and enhanced business features) and Centrex Resale in Idaho, New Mexico and Oregon on or about March 13, 2001, and in California and Washington on or about March 19, 2001; Hospitality (operator and long distance service) on or about February 26, 2001; and dedicated long distance service on or about March 8, 2001. Comments due March 15. Contact: Marty Schwimmer 202-418-2320.

**ETC 01-04; PN 03/05/01; DA 01-570**

**FELHC, Inc. Seeks Commission Determination of "Exempt Telecommunications Company" Status Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act.**

On January 18, 2001, FELHC, Inc. pursuant to section 34(a)(1) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as added by section 103 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-104, filed an application requesting a Commission determination that it is an exempt telecommunications company. Comments due March 9\*; replies due March 16. Contact: Marty Schwimmer at (202) 418-2320.

**CC 96-45; PN 03/07/01; DA 01-584**

**State of Alaska Seeks a Declaratory Ruling and Waiver of Section 54.504(B)(2)(II) of the Commission's Rules.**



On January 30, 2001, the State of Alaska, on behalf of its rural school districts and libraries, filed a petition for waiver of section 54.504(b)(2)(ii) of the Commission's rules, which requires that the services funded by the schools and libraries universal service support program are used solely for educational purposes. Comments due April 6; replies due May 7. Contact: Adrian Wright at (202) 418-0854.

## **INTERNATIONAL BUREAU**

**IB 00-248; NPRM 12/14/00; (adopted 12/11/00); FCC 00-435**

**2000 Biennial Regulatory Review -- Streamlining and Other Revisions of Part 25 of the Commission's Rules et al.**

The Commission is seeking comment on steps to facilitate licensing of earth stations. Comments due March 26; replies due April 23.

**PN 03/02/01; DA 01-554**

**International Bureau Seeks Comment on a Proposal by City of Laredo, Texas, and City of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, to Create a Cross-Border Local Calling Area.**

On November 30, 2000, the City Manager of the City of Laredo, Texas filed with the Commission a copy of a "*Collaborative Agreement between the Municipality of Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas (Mexico) and the City of Laredo, Texas.*"

The Commission is seeking comment on the *Collaborative Agreement* and its proposed cross-border calling area. Comments due April 16; replies due April 30. Contact: John Copes at (202) 418-1478, TTY: (202) 418-2555.

## **MASS MEDIA BUREAU**

**MM 00-39; R&O and FNPRM 01/19/01 (adopted 01/18/01) FCC 01-24**

**Review of the Commission's Rules and Policies Affecting the Conversion to Digital Television.**

The Commission resolved several issues crucial to the rapid conversion of the nation's broadcast television system from analog to digital. Comments due April 6; replies due May 7. Contact: Roger Holberg at (202) 418-2134.

## **OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**

**ET 98-206; 1st R&O 12/8/00 and FNRPM 12/8/00 (adopted 11/29/00); FCC 00-418**

**Amend. of Parts 2 and 25 of Rules to Permit Operation of NGSO FSS Systems Co-Frequency with GSO and Terrestrial Systems in the Ku-Band.**

Permitted non-geostationary satellite orbit fixed-satellite service providers to operate in certain segment of the Ku-band and adopted rules and policies to govern operations. Comments due 45 days and replies 60 days after Federal Register publication. Contact: Tom Mooring at (202) 418-2450

**ET 00-47; NPRM 12/08/00 (adopted 12/07/00) FCC 00-430**

**Authorization and Use of Software Defined Radios.**

Proposed amending Part 2 of rules to streamline the equipment authorization procedures for software defined radios. Comments due 75 days and replies due 135 days from publication in the Federal Register.

**ET 98-153; PN 01/24/01; DA 01-171**

**Comments Requested on Test Data Submitted by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Regarding Potential Interference from Ultra-Wide Band and Transmission Systems.**

On January 18, 2001, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration released two reports containing analyses of data it collected regarding the potential for ultra-wideband transmission systems to cause harmful interference to U.S. Government radio operations between 400 MHz and 6000 MHz. Comments due February 23\*; replies due March 12. Contact: John Reed at (202) 418-2455.

**ET 00-221; ORDER 2/16/01 (adopted 2/15/01) DA 01-451**

**Reallocation 27 MHz of Spectrum.**

The Commission granted an extension of time to file comments in the above captioned proceeding to 60 days the comment filing deadline and by 30 days the reply comment deadline. Comments due March 8\*; replies due April 9.

**OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL**

**NPRM 12/15/00 (adopted 10/30/00); FCC 00-392**

**Amendment of Section 1.1204 of the Commission's Ex Parte Rules.**

The Commission proposed modifying one of the rules governing the permissibility of Ex Parte presentations in FCC proceedings. Comments due 30 days and replies 45 days after publication in the Federal Register. Contact: David Senzel at (202) 418-1720

## **WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU**

**WT 96-86; 4<sup>th</sup> R&O and 5<sup>th</sup> NPRM 01/17/01 (adopted 01/11/01) FCC 01-10**

### **In the Matter of the Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirements for Requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Communication Requirements through the Year 2010.**

Adopted various technical and operational rules and policies regarding the use of frequencies in the 764-776 MHz and 794-806 MHz bands designated for interoperability uses. The Commission is seeking comments on the NCC's recommendations and certain related issues. Comments due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

**PN 02/06/01; DA 01-295**

### **Repeater Communications Corporation and Nextel Communications, Inc. Seek Consent to Assign 800 MHz SMR Licenses**

Repeater Communications Corporation and Nextel Communications of Texas, Inc., have filed applications under Section 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, seeking Commission approval to assign 23 licenses in the 800 MHz Specialized Mobile Radio service held by Repeater Communications Corporation to Nextel. Comments due: March 9\*; replies due March 19. Contact: Monica Desai, Susan Singer or John Branscome at (202) 418-7240.

**PN 02/14/01; DA 01-393**

### **800 MHz Specialized Mobile Radio (SMR) Service Frequencies in the Lower 80 Channels. Pleading Cycle Established.**

The long-form applications for 800 MHz SMR Service Frequencies in the Lower 80 Channels licenses have been accepted for filing. Petitions to deny the applications must be filed no later than February 26, 2001. See 47 C.F.R. § 1.2108(b). Oppositions to the petition must be filed no later than March 5, 2001. See 47 C.F.R. § C.F.R. 1.2108(c). Replies to oppositions must be filed no later than March 12, 2001. Contact: Gary Oshinsky at (202) 418-7240.

**PN 02/23/01; DA 01-477**

### **Auction of Licenses for the VHF Public Coast and Location and Monitoring Services Spectrum Scheduled for JUNE 6, 2001. (Auction No. 39).**

The Commission is seeking comment on a modified version of the simultaneous stopping rule. The modified stopping rule would close the auction for all licenses after the first round in which no bidder submits a proactive waiver, a withdrawal, or a new bid on any license on which it is not the standing high bidder. Comments due March 9\*; replies due March 16. Contact: Kenneth Burnley at (202) 418-0660.

**PN 02/26/01; DA 01-499**

**Arch Wireless, Inc. and Nextel Communications, Inc. Seek Consent to Assign 900 MHz SMR Licenses. Pleading Cycle Established.**

AWI Spectrum Co. LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Arch Wireless, Inc., and ACI 900, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nextel Communications, Inc., have filed an application under Section 310 (d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, seeking Commission approval to assign 150 licenses in the 900 MHz Specialized Mobile Radio service held by Arch to Nextel. Comment due March 21; replies due April 2. Contact: Lauren Kravetz, Monica Desai, Susan Singer, or John Branscome at (202) 418-7240.