



NEWS

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).

February 19, 2002

OPEN PROCEEDINGS

The following is a listing of current FCC Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRMs) and Notices of Inquiry (NOIs) open for public comment; however, routine petitions to amend the Table of Allotments are not included. This listing also includes pertinent Public Notices (PNs) announcing comment subjects and dates. For additional information, contact Marilyn Abraham (202) 418-2374 in the Consumer Information Bureau. Please note: as comment and reply comment periods expire, they are deleted from this listing. An asterisk (*) indicates that the comment period deadline has past, but the reply comment period is still open.

CABLE SERVICES BUREAU

CS 01-348; PN 12/21/01 and 01/15/02; DA 01-3005

Echostar Communications Corporation, General Motors Corporation, and Hughes Electronics Corporation Seeks FCC Consent for a Proposed Transfer of Control.

The Commission seeks comment on this proceeding. Petitions/Comments due February 4*; oppositions/replies due February 25. Contact: Marcia Glauberman at (202) 418-7046 (voice) or Linda Senecal at (202) 418-7044 (voice).

COMMON CARRIER BUREAU

CC 96-45; PN 10/12/01; FCC 01J-2

Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Seeks Comment on Review of Lifeline and Link-Up Service for All Low-Income Consumers.

The Joint Board seeks comment regarding its review of Lifeline/Link-Up, two federal support programs that are used to preserve and advance universal service and to ensure that quality telecommunications and information services are available to low-income consumers at just, reasonable and affordable rates, as required by the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Comments due 60 days from publication in the Federal Register; replies due 120 days from publication in the Federal Register. Contact: Anita Cheng or Dana Bradford at (202) 418-7400 (voice), (202) 418-0484 TTY.

CC 96-45; PN 12/07/01; DA 01-2841

Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on Pine Belt Cellular and Pine Belt PCS Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Alabama.

On November 26, 2001, Pine Belt Cellular and Pine Belt PCS filed a petition under section 214(e)(6) seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier to receive federal universal service support for service offered in Alabama. Comments due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register. Contact: Richard Smith or Anita Cheng at (202) 418-7400 (voice), (202) 418-0484 TTY.

CC 96-45; PN 12/11/01; DA 01-2869

Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on IT&E Overseas, Inc. Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Territory of Guam.

On December 6, 2001, IT&E Overseas, Inc. filed a petition under section 214(e)(6) seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier to receive federal universal service support for service offered in Guam. 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 (voice), (202) 418-0484 TTY.

CC 256, 96-45; PN 12/17/01; DA 01-2916

Limited Extension of Time for Filing Comments and Replies in Rate-of-Return Access Charge Reform Proceeding (MAG Proceeding).

The Commission granted the National Rural Telecom Association, the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies, and the United States Telecom Association a limited extension of time due to the complexity of issues and diversity of interests involved in the proceeding. Comments due February 14*; replies due March 18. Contact: Marvin Sacks at (202) 418-2017 (voice).

CC 80-286; PN 12/20/01; DA 01-2973

Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on "Glide Path" Policy Paper Filed by State Members of the Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations.

The Commission seeks comment on the Public Notice on the glide path paper. Comments due January 22*; replies due March 8. Contact: Sheryl Todd at (202) 418-7400 (voice), (202) 418-0484 TTY.

CC 01-337; NPRM 12/20/01 (adopted 12/12/01); FCC 01-360

In the Matter of Review of Regulatory Requirements for Incumbent LEC Broadband Telecommunications Services.

The Commission seeks comment on the nature and scope of the market for domestic broadband services. In addition, the Commission seeks comment on the relevant market dynamics – including intermodal competition and the nascent stage of market development for residential broadband services – affecting the provision of domestic broadband services. Finally, the Commission requests comment on the appropriate regulatory requirements under Title II of the Act for the provision of broadband services by incumbent LECs given current market conditions. Comments due 45 Days after publication in the Federal Register.

CC 01-338, 96-98, 98-147; NPRM 12/20/01 (adopted 12/12/01); FCC 01-361

Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers; Implementation of the Local Competition Provision of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications.

The Commission seeks comment on how to apply the section 251(d)(2) analysis in a manner that is faithful to the Act and promotes its goals. Comments due 60 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 105 days after publication in the Federal Register.

CC 96-98, CC 99-200; PN 01/15/02; DA 02-108

Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on Numbering Audit Program.

The Commission seeks comment on the Numbering Audit Program. Comments due February 15*; replies due March 1. Contact: Diana Lee at (202) 418-0843 (voice) or Anthony Dale at (202) 418-2260 (voice).

CC 01-337; PN 01/15/02; DA 02-116

Comments Sought on Commission's Examination of Regulatory Treatment of Incumbent Carriers' Broadband Telecommunications Services.

The Commission seeks comment on what changes it should make to its traditional regulatory requirements for incumbent LECs' provision of broadband services. Comments due March 1; replies due April 1. Contact: Alex Johns at (202) 418-1580 (voice).

CC 02-7, PN 01/17/02; DA 02-111

Comment Requested on Application by Verizon for Authorization Under Section 271 to Provide In-Region InterLATA Service in the State of Vermont.

On January 17, 2002, Verizon New England Inc., Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. (d/b/a Verizon Long Distance), NYNEX long Distance Company (d/b/a Verizon Enterprise Solutions), Verizon Global Networks Inc. and Verizon Select Services Inc. (collectively, Verizon) filed an application for authorization to provide in-region, interLATA service in the State of Vermont, pursuant to section 271 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 271. Comments due February 6*; replies due March 1. Contact: Janice Myles at (202) 418-1558 (voice).

CC 02-4; PN 01/18/02; DA 02-164

Pleading Cycle Established for Comments on @Communications, Inc. Petition for Declaratory Ruling.

On January 9, 2002, @Communications, Inc. filed a Petition for Declaratory Ruling requesting that the Commission affirm that its existing rules require incumbent local exchange carriers to bear cost responsibility on their side of the interconnection points between @Communications' network and Sprint's network; or, alternatively, that cost responsibility for the ILEC facilities be apportioned according to percent originating use without regard to the location of Ips. Comments due February 19; replies due March 6. Contact: Janice Myles at (202) 418-1580 (voice).

CC 96-45,97-21; ORDER 01/18/02 (adopted 01/17/02); DA 02-139

Albany County School District, Laramie WY, et. al.

The Commission extended for 30 days the deadline for resolution of the captioned requests for review.

CC 96-45, 97-21, ORDER 01/18/02 (adopted 01-17-02); DA 02-140

Alliance Group Service, Inc., Kalamazoo, MI, et. al.

The Commission extended for 60 days the deadline for resolution of the captioned requests for review.

CC 96-150, ORDER 01/18/02 (adopted 01/18/02); DA 02-166

Accounting Safeguards Under The Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The Commission granted an extension of time until March 21, 2002 for submitting comments on Verizon's section 272(d) biennial audit report.

CC 02-1; PN 01/28/02; DA 02-211

Comments Requested on Domestic Section 214 Application Filed by Mutual Telephone Company and Northern Iowa Telephone Company for Transfer of Control.

On December 31, 2001, Mutual Telephone Company and Northern Iowa Telephone Company pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 63.01 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.01, filed an application for consent to transfer control to Mutual of Domestic, interstate operations of Northern Iowa and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Webb-Dickens Telephone Corporation and Vernon Communications and TV, Inc. Petitions to deny due 30 days after the release of the Public Notice. Final action will be taken on the applications 31 days following the date of the Public Notice. Contact: Tracey Wilson at (202) 418-1394 (voice) or Bill Dever at (202) 418-1578 (voice).

CC 02-17; PN 01/28/02; DA 02-213

Pleading Cycle Established for Comments for Verizon Petition for Waiver.

On January 11, 2002, the Verizon telephone companies filed a petition for waiver of the comparably efficient interconnection requirements to allow Verizon to provide operator-assisted and electronic reverse directory assistance services on an integrated basis without complying with those requirements. Comments due February 27; replies due March 14. Contact: William Kehoe or Janice Myles at (202) 418-1580 (voice).

CCB/CPD 02-03; PN 01/29/02; DA 02-214

Pleading Cycle Established for Petition for Pricing Flexibility for Special Access and Dedicated Transport Services Filed by Pacific Bell Telephone Company.

On January 25, 2002, Pacific Bell Telephone Company filed a petition for pricing flexibility for dedicated transport and special access services pursuant to sections 1.774 and 69.701 et seq. of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.774 and 69.701 et seq. Comments due February 11*; replies due February 21. Contact: Calvin Osborne at (202) 418-1530 (voice).

PN 02/04/02; DA 02-258

Ambient Corporation Seeks Commission Determination of "Exempt Telecommunications Company" Status under the Public Utility Holding Company Act.

On January 14, 2002, Ambient Corporation filed an application requesting a determination by the Commission that it is an "exempt telecommunications company pursuant to section 34(a)(1) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 as amended by section 103 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Comments due: February 19; replies due February 26. Contact: Carmell Weathers at (202) 418-2325 (voice) or Jon Minkoff at (202) 418-2353 (voice), (202) 418-0484 TTY.

CC 99-273, 92-105, 92-237; ORDER 02/05/02 (adopted 02/04/02); DA 02-263

Provision of Directory Listing Information Under the Communications Act of 1934, as Amended, the Use of N11 Codes and Other Abbreviated Dialing Arrangements, Administration of the North American Numbering Plan.

The Commission extended by 15 days the comment and reply periods in the above-captioned proceeding. Comments due 45 days and replies due 75 days after publication of the Notice in the Federal Register.

CC 02-9; PN 02/06/02; DA 02-273

Commission Seeks Comments on Application for Consent to Transfer of Control Filed by MCT, Inc. and Telephone and Data Systems, Inc.

On January 10, 16, and 17, 2002, MCT, Inc. and Telephone and Data Systems, Inc. filed applications pursuant to section 214 and 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended 47 U.S.C. §§ 214, 310(d), requesting Commission approval to transfer control to TDS of Commission licenses and authorizations held by MCT and its subsidiaries to provide domestic and international telecommunications services pursuant to parts 22, 63, and 90 of the Commission's rules. Comments due March 8; replies/oppositions due March 18. Contact: Aaron Goldberger at (202) 418-1580 (voice).

CC 99-200; PN 02/06/02; DA 02-274

Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on the Petition of the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control for Delegated Authority to Implement Transitional Service-Specific and Technology-Specific Overlays.

The Commission seeks comment on the Connecticut Commission's petition to implement transitional SOs in the 203 and 860 NPAs. Comments due February 26; replies due March 8. Contact: Jennifer Gorny at (202) 418-2320 (voice), (202) 418-0484 TTY.

CC 90-571; PN 02/08/02; DA 02-310

Supplemental Submission for the Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS) Fund Year July 2001 Through June 2002.

On January 4, 2002, the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. filed a supplemental submission proposing to modify the reimbursement rates for traditional TRS, video relay service, and speech-to-speech relay service. Comments due February 22; replies due March 1. Contact: Sanford Williams at (202) 418-2320 (voice), (202) 418-0484 TTY.

CC 02-2; PN 02/12/02; DA 02-330

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed by Conectiv Communications Inc. to Transfer Control to New RC, Inc.

On December 28, 2001, New RC, Inc. and Conectiv pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 63.01 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.01, filed an application for consent to transfer control of authorized carrier Conectiv Communications, Inc. a subsidiary of Conectiv. to New RC. Petitions to deny due within 30 days following the release of the Public Notice. Final action will not be taken earlier than 31 days following the date of the Public Notice. Contact: Tracey Wilson at (202) 418-1394 (voice) or Bill Dever at (202) 418-1578 (voice).

CONSUMER INFORMATION BUREAU

CI 02-22; PN 02/06/02; DA 02-271

Pleading Cycle Established for Comments on Joint Petition for Expedited Rulemaking Filed by AARP, Consumer Action, Consumer Federation of America, Consumers Union, the Massachusetts Union on Public Housing Tenants, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, The National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators, et al.

On October 29, 2001, nine petitioners filed a Joint Petition requesting the Commission to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to establish a minimum notice requirement for recently detariffed domestic toll services. Comments due March 11; replies due March 26. Contact: Renee Owusu at (202) 418-0221 (voice).

ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

ORDER 02/05/02 (adopted 02/04/02); DA 02-259

Informal Complaints Filed by Independent Payphone Service Providers against Various Local Exchange Carriers Seeking Refunds of End User Common Line Charges.

The Commission extended the deadline until September 9, 2002 for converting End User Common Line informal complaints into formal complaints.

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

IB 02-10; NOI 02/04/02 (adopted 01/23/02); FCC 02-18

Procedures to Govern the Use of Satellite Earth Stations on Board Vessels in Bands Shared With Terrestrial Fixed Service.

The Commission seeks comment on a variety of issues related to the authorization of satellite earth stations on board vessels. Comment due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 60 days after publication in the Federal Register.

IB 02-18; NPRM 02/13/02 (adopted 01/30/02): FCC 02-28

Enforcement of Other Nations' Prohibitions Against the Uncompleted Call Signaling Configuration of International Call-back Service Petition for Rulemaking of the Telecommunications Resellers Association to Eliminate Comity-Based Enforcement.

The Commission granted the petition filed by Telecommunications Resellers Association and adopted the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to review the Commission's international call-back Policy. Comments due April 14, 2001; replies due May 14, 2001.

MASS MEDIA BUREAU

MM 99-325; PN 12/19/01; DA 01-2932

Comment Sought on National Radio Systems Committee DAB Subcommittee's "Evaluation of the IBIQUITY Digital Corporation IBOC System."

The Commission seeks comment on the NRSC report, conclusions, and recommendations concerning the iBiquity hybrid mode FM IBOC DAB system, and the iBiquity FM IBOC test results, with respect to the Commission's stated DAB policy goals and selection criteria. Comments due February 19; replies due March 21. Contact: Peter Doyle at (202) 418-2700 (voice).

MM 98-204; 2nd NPRM 12/21/01 (adopted 12/12/01); FCC 01-363

Review of the Commission's Broadcast and Cable Equal Employment Opportunity Rules and Policies.

The Commission seeks comment concerning a new broadcast equal employment opportunity rule and policies consistent with the decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in *MD/DC/DE Broadcasters Association v. FCC*, 236 F3d 13, rehearing den. 253 F3d 732 (D.C. Cir. 2001), *pet for cert. filed*, *MMTC v. MD/DC/DE Broadcasters Association*, No. 01-639 (October 17, 2001) ("*Association*"). Comments due 60 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 90 days after publication in the Federal Register.

PN 01/15/02

Comment Deadlines for EEO Rule Making.

On December 21, 2001, the Commission released its Second Notice of Proposed Rule Making requesting comments concerning proposed Equal Employment Opportunity rules applicable to broadcasters and cable entities. Comments due March 15; replies due April 15. Contact: EEO Staff at (202) 418-1450 (voice).

MM 01-317, 00-244; ORDER 01/23/02 (adopted 01/23/02) DA 02-156

Rules and Policies Concerning Multiple Ownership of Radio Broadcast Station in Local Markets.

The Commission granted extension of time for filing comments in this proceeding until March 13; replies due April 10.

OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

ET 01-278; NPRM 10/15/01 (adopted 10/02/01); FCC 01-290

Review of Part 15 and other Parts of the Commission's Rules.

The Commission seeks comment on the above-captioned proceeding. Comments due 75 days from date of publication in the Federal Register; replies due 105 days from date of publication in the Federal Register.

ET 02-16; NPRM & ORDER 02/07/02 (adopted 01/30/02); FCC 02-27

Amendment of Parts 2, 73, 74, 80, 90 and 97 of the Commission's Rules to Implement Decisions from World Radiocommunication Conferences Concerning Frequency Bands Below 28000 kHz.

The Commission proposed amending Parts 2, 73, 74, 80, 90, and 97 of its rules to implement domestically various allocation decisions from International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conferences concerning the frequency bands below 28000 kilohertz ("kHz"). Comments due 30 days from publication in the Federal Register; replies due 60 days from publication in the Federal Register.

WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

WT 01-289; NPRM 10/16/01 (adopted 10/10/01) FCC 01-303

Review of Part 87 of the Commission's Rules Concerning the Aviation Radio Service.

The Commission proposed consolidating, revising and streamlining the rules in the above captioned-proceeding. Comments due 90 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 120 days after publication in the Federal Register.

WT 01-339; NPRM 12/20/01 (adopted 12/12/01); FCC 01-366

Garmin International, Inc. to Authorize Manufacture, Sale and use of GPS Transmission Enhanced Family Radio Service.

The Commission seeks comment on a proposal to amend Sections 95.193(a), 95.193(b), and 95.631(d) of its rules to authorize Family Radio Service (FRS) units to transmit and additional emission type and to revise the permissible communications rule that applies to FRS units. Comments due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

PR 92-257; FOURTH NPRM 12/28/01 (adopted 12/11/01); FCC 01-358

In the Matter of Amendment of the Commission's Rules Concerning Maritime Communications.

The Commission seeks comment on its rules concerning Maritime Communications. Comments due 60 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies due 90 days after publication in the Federal Register.

WT 99-217; PN 01/16/02; DA 02-67

Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Extends Deadline for Comments on Current State of the Market for Local and Advanced Telecom Services in Multitenant Environments.

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau extends the deadline for comments in this proceeding until March 8. Contact: Leon. Jackler at (202) 418-0946 (voice).

WT 02-11; PN 01/25/02; DA 02-201

Commission Seeks Comment on Applications for Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations Held by Affiliates of Conestoga Enterprises, Inc. to Affiliates of D&E Communications, Inc.

On December 26, 27, and 28, 2001, the Conestoga Telephone and Telegraph Company, CEI Networks, Inc., Conestoga Enterprises, Inc., Buffalo Valley Telephone Company, Conestoga Mobile Systems, Inc., Conestoga Wireless, Inc., and D&E Acquisition Corp. collectively filed Applications 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 to transfer control to of Commission licenses and authorizations held directly or indirectly by Conestoga Enterprises, Inc. to provide domestic and international telecommunications services pursuant to parts 22, 24, 63, and 90 of the Commission's rules to D&E Communications, Inc. the parent company of D&E Acquisition Corp. Comments due February 25; replies due March 7. Contact: Lauren Kravetz Patrich at (202) 418-7240 (voice).

PN 02/01/02; DA 02-240

Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on Cingular Wireless LLC's Request for Waiver of the Cellular Vertical Wave Polarization Requirement.

The Commission seeks comment on Cingular Wireless's request for waiver of section 22.367(a)(4) so that it can utilize diversity (dual-polarization) antenna arrays. Comments due February 11*; replies due February 19. Contact: Nicole McGinnis at (202) 418-0317 (voice).

PN 02/04/2002; DA 02-260

Auction of Licenses in the 747-762 and 777-792 MHz Bands Scheduled for June 19, 2002.

The Commission seeks comment on the potential inclusion of 24 additional licenses in Auction No. 31 and potential modifications of previously announced procedures for Auction No. 31. Comments due February 19; replies due February 26. Contact: Howard Davenport, Craig Bomberger, Martha Stancill or Karen Wrege at (202) 418-0660 (voice).

PN 02/05/02; DA 02-265

Auction of Cellular Licenses for Rural Service Areas Scheduled for MAY 29, 2002.

The Commission seeks comment on a variety of auction-specific procedures. Comment due February 19; replies due February 26. Contact: Denise Coca at (202) or Jeff Crooks at (202) 418-0660 (voice).