



# NEWS

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

News media Information 202 / 418-0500  
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830  
TTY 202/418-2555  
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>  
<ftp.fcc.gov>

---

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).

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 6, 2003

NEWS MEDIA CONTACTS:  
Michelle Russo 202-418-2358  
David Fiske 202-418-0513

## **FCC Chairman Michael Powell Announces Opening of Application Window for AM Radio Service**

### *Powell Highlights Strengthening of Minority-Owned AM Stations*

Government is at its best when it creates opportunities for more voices in the marketplace of ideas. Today I announce an important step in the FCC's continuing effort to ensure the diversity of voices available to the American people. I have directed the FCC's Media Bureau to open an application filing window relating to AM radio service. Due to current transmitter locations, AM station signals often reach only part of their target audiences. By opening this filing window, we will enable all AM radio station licensees, many of whom represent minority interests, to apply for approval to move their transmitters to locations that better serve their local communities. Better signal coverage will increase the diversity of radio options available to listeners and will enhance the viability of AM stations.

We must continue to look for more ways to enhance diversity in the media. It was for this reason that I created the Federal Advisory Committee On Diversity in the Digital Age. I look forward to creative suggestions from that committee and strongly encourage them to develop new, legally sustainable approaches that will improve employment and ownership opportunities for minorities and women in the media and telecommunications industries.