



NEWS

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

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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
February 7, 2005

News Media Contact:
Rebecca Fisher (202) 418-2359

FCC Takes Steps Toward Implementation of SHVERA

Washington, DC -- The Federal Communications Commission today released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (NPRM) that continues the implementation of the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004 (SHVERA). The NPRM initiates the proceeding that enables satellite carriers to offer FCC-determined “significantly viewed” signals of out-of-market broadcast stations to subscribers. The NPRM includes the list of stations currently deemed Significantly Viewed.

The SHVERA bill, passed by Congress and enacted in December of last year, directs the FCC to (1) publish and maintain a list of stations and communities eligible for “significantly viewed” status, and (2) commence a rulemaking proceeding to implement SHVERA, both within 60 days of the bill’s enactment. Significantly viewed signals have significant over-the-air non-cable viewing in a particular community.

The Commission’s rules relating to carriage of significantly viewed signals have been applied to the cable industry for more than 30 years, and the SHVERA bill applies those rules to satellite providers.

In addition, the NPRM proposes several other rules required by the SHVERA including publication of the significantly viewed list, establishing subscriber eligibility to receive the significantly viewed signals and satellite carrier responsibilities.

The Notice will be available online at www.fcc.gov.

Action by the Commission, February 4, 2005, by Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 05-24)

-FCC-