



NEWS

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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).

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FCC ISSUES INQUIRY FOR ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON VIDEO COMPETITION

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) today released a *Notice of Inquiry* for its Annual Assessment of the Status of Competition in the Market for the Delivery of Video Programming, as required by Congress.

The *Notice of Inquiry*, which seeks comment and information on competition in the video programming market, is designed to assist the FCC with its annual Video Competition Report. In the annual Video Competition Report, the FCC expects to report on changes in the competitive environment over the last year. The *Notice* seeks information that will allow the FCC to evaluate the status of competition in the video marketplace, changes in the market since the 2005 Video Competition Report, prospects for new entrants, factors that have facilitated or impeded competition, and the effect these factors are having on consumers' access to video programming.

The *Notice* solicits comment and information on video programming distributors, including cable systems, direct broadcast satellite ("DBS") services, large home satellite dish ("C-Band") providers, broadband service providers ("BSPs"), private cable operators ("PCOs"), also called satellite master antenna television systems, open video systems ("OVS"), wireless cable systems using frequencies in the broadband radio and educational broadband services, local exchange carrier ("LEC") systems, utility-operated systems, commercial mobile radio services ("CMRS") and other wireless providers, and over-the-air broadcast television stations. In addition, the FCC seeks information on video programming distributed over the Internet and via Internet Protocol ("IP") networks, as well as that disseminated through home video sales and rentals.

The *Notice* also requests:

- Data that will allow the FCC to evaluate horizontal concentration in the video marketplace, vertical integration between programming distributors and programming services, and other issues relating to the programming available to consumers.
- Information on technical issues, including equipment and emerging services.

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