



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. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 2, 2008

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STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER ROBERT MCDOWELL

I am so pleased that PBS, the Association of Public Television Stations (APTS) and DirecTV have reached an agreement to make available PBS's HD content and standard definition multicast channels to DirecTV customers. Like the agreement PBS and APTS reached with NCTA, this deal demonstrates that programmers with compelling content will obtain carriage for their HD and multicast offerings in the marketplace. The innovative agreement also provides that the parties will work cooperatively to offer viewers a vast library of on demand content from local stations across the country. Through local public television stations, PBS provides some of the best children's, news and public affairs programming on television. I commend PBS and APTS for their efforts to provide quality content over a broad range of video platforms and DirecTV for bringing this valuable programming to its subscribers.