



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).

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FCC STARTS WITH A CLEAN SLATE FOR NEXT BROADBAND REPORT TO CONGRESS

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission today begins its sixth inquiry for Congress into the state of broadband in the U.S. – an inquiry that this year is intertwined with the agency’s larger effort to create a National Broadband Plan.

In the Notice of Inquiry released today, the Commission starts with a clean slate against a backdrop of statutory and policy changes. Those changes include Congress’s requirement that the FCC develop a comprehensive National Broadband Plan by Feb. 17, 2010, that it improve its broadband data collection, and the Commission’s own efforts to collect broadband data on a more granular basis.

A report based on the inquiry, commonly known as the “706 Report” after the section of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 mandating it, must be delivered to Congress on Feb. 3, 2010. Comments and other materials received for the National Broadband Plan relevant to the inquiry will be incorporated in the upcoming 706 Report.

Action by the Commission, July 31, 2009, by Notice of Inquiry (FCC 09-65). Chairman Genachowski, Commissioner Copps, and Commissioner McDowell. Chairman Genachowski, Commissioners Copps and McDowell issuing separate statements.

Docket Nos.: 09-137, 09-51

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