



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. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
August 27, 2009

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Matthew Nodine: (202) 418-1646

FCC ANNOUNCES NOTICE OF INQUIRY ON MOBILE WIRELESS COMPETITION

Washington, D.C. – In an effort to obtain data for its next mobile wireless competition report, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) today announced a *Notice of Inquiry* (“*NOI*”) that seeks to enhance its analysis of competitive conditions in the mobile wireless market. The *NOI* also seeks to better understand the net effects on the American consumer.

Wireless mobility has become central to the economic, civic, and social lives of over 270 million Americans. We are now in the midst of a transition from reliance on mobile voice services to increasing use of and reliance on mobile broadband services, which promise to connect American citizens in new and profound ways. A robustly competitive mobile wireless market will be essential to realizing the full benefits to American consumers and channeling investment into vitally important national infrastructure. The FCC is seeking to ensure that competition in the mobile wireless market continues to bring substantial benefits to American consumers.

Today’s *NOI* builds on the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau’s Public Notice on mobile wireless competition, released May 14, 2009, by seeking input on new issues and topics. The FCC said it is seeking to enhance its understanding of the mobile wireless industry in three main ways. First, the FCC inquires about which analytic framework and data sources will most clearly describe competition in the mobile wireless market. Second, it adjusts the inquiry to include new market segments not covered thoroughly in previous reports, such as device and infrastructure segments. Third, it inquires about vertical relationships between “upstream” and “downstream” market segments, and how these relationships affect competition.

The FCC is required to report annually on the state of competition in the “commercial mobile services” market. To reflect an updated view of the mobile wireless market, the FCC intends to name the next report “Annual Report and Analysis of Competitive Market Conditions With Respect to Mobile Wireless including Commercial Mobile Services” (“*Mobile Wireless Competition Report*”). By considering all of the factors that affect competition in the mobile wireless market and applying the best analytic framework to the most robust data available, the FCC seeks to provide a solid foundation for policy making with respect to mobile wireless services.

Action by the Commission August 27, 2009, by Notice of Inquiry (FCC 09-67). Chairman Genachowski, Commissioners Copps, McDowell, Clyburn and Baker with Chairman Genachowski, Commissioners Copps, McDowell, Clyburn and Baker issuing separate statements.

For additional information, contact Chelsea Fallon at (202) 418-7991 or Chelsea.Fallon@fcc.gov. WT Docket No. 09-66.

– FCC –

News and other information about the FCC is available at www.fcc.gov