



NEWS

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
1919 M STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

News media information 202 / 254-7674
Recorded listing of releases and texts
202 / 632-0002

07403

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. 1975).

Report No. 16202

ACTION IN DOCKET CASE

February 25, 1981-BC

CERTAIN CLASS II STATIONS TO BE ALLOWED TO COMMENCE
PRESUNRISE OPERATION AT 6 A.M. LOCAL TIME
(BC DOCKET NO. 80-244)

The Commission has amended its rules to permit Class II stations located outside the service areas of co-channel Class I-B clear channel stations to begin presunrise operation at 6 A.M. local time, with power reduced to protect the signals of both Class I-B stations.

This action was proposed in a notice released June 10, 1980.

The current rules permit these Class II stations to begin presunrise operation at sunrise at the co-channel Class I-B station located to the east with power reduced to protect the signal of the clear channel station to the west. At local sunrise, the Class II station would then commence operation with its daytime mode.

The Commission noted that in 1967 it adopted rules permitting nearly all Class III (regional) stations to operate with 500 watts commencing at 6 A.M. local time. The Commission also decided, at that time, to take a relatively conservative approach in regard to Class II stations to avoid further compromising early morning clear channel service to remote areas and populations.

Since that time, the Commission said its experience with Class III stations indicated that early morning presunrise broadcast service had not, in fact, caused the substantial early morning interference to fulltime stations originally feared but, rather, had benefited the listeners of the approximately 2,500 stations authorized to operate from 6 A.M.

Similarly, the Commission said, it appeared that the presently authorized presunrise operations by Class II stations have not caused detrimental cumulative skywave interference to clear channel service in remote areas and populations and, therefore, it would expand presunrise service by authorizing a uniform 6 A.M. sign-on time for certain Class II stations.

Action by the Commission by Report and Order (FCC 81-80). Commissioners Lee (Acting Chairman), Quello, Washburn, Fogarty and Jones, with Chairman Ferris not participating.

-FCC-

For more information contact Robert Hayne at 202-632-6485.