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PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Released: August 7, 2007

REPLY COMMENT DATE EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 7, 2007, ON PROPOSED RULES PERMITTING ANTENNA MODELING TO VERIFY AM DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA PERFORMANCE

MM Docket No. 93-177

On May 23, 2007, the Media Bureau released a *Public Notice*¹ seeking comment on a proposal by an *ad hoc* technical group of radio broadcasters, equipment manufacturers, and broadcast consulting engineers, acting collectively as the AM Directional Antenna Performance Verification Coalition ("Coalition"). The Coalition has proposed rule changes to permit applicants to use moment method computer modeling² to demonstrate that AM directional antennas perform as authorized. The proposed rules also would permit use of moment method modeling to assess the effects of tower construction in proximity to AM antennas.

Following the comment period, the Coalition requested extension of the reply comment deadline "in order to afford the Coalition adequate time to complete its review of the comprehensive comments filed in response to the Public Notice, respond to the issues raised in those comments, and coordinate with the members of the Coalition."³ The request submits that the extension would not disadvantage any party, and would serve the public interest. We agree, and therefore extend the deadline for reply comments to September 7, 2007.

For additional information or questions on this matter, please contact Susan Crawford or Ann Gallagher of the Audio Division, Media Bureau, at 202-418-2700.

By: Chief, Media Bureau

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¹ *Public Notice*, "Comment Sought on Proposed Rules Permitting Antenna Modeling to Verify AM Directional Antenna Performance," 22 FCC Rcd 9279 (2007).

² Computer programs to predict antenna performance are generically referred to as "moment method" or "NEC" programs. NEC programs are based on the Numerical Electromagnetics Code moment method of analysis developed at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, Livermore, California.

³ See "Request for Extension of Reply Comment Deadline," (Aug. 2, 2007).