

EPA may withdraw from or modify the proposed settlement should such comments disclose facts or considerations which indicate the proposed settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. Copies of the proposed settlement are available from: Ms. Paula V. Batchelor, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV, Program Services Branch, Waste Management Division, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Atlanta, Georgia 30303, (404) 562-8887.

Written comment may be submitted to Mr. Greg Armstrong at the above address within 30 days of the date of publication.

Dated: September 30, 1999.

Franklin E. Hill,

Chief, Program Services Branch.

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EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, October 26, 1999, at 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (Central Time).

PLACE: Harold Washington Social Security Center, First Floor Auditorium, 600 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661.

STATUS: The meeting will be open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Announcement of Notation Votes, and
2. National Origin Discrimination Issues.

Note: Any matters not discussed or concluded may be carried over to a later meeting. (In addition to published notices on EEOC Commission meetings in the **Federal Register** the Commission also provides a recorded announcement a full week in advance on future Commission meetings). Please telephone (202) 663-7100 (voice) and (202) 633-4074 (TDD) at any time for information on these meetings.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Frances M. Hart, Executive Officer on (202) 663-4070.

Dated: October 13, 1999.

Bernadette B. Wilson,

Program Analyst, Executive Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 99-27132 Filed 10-13-99; 2:56 pm]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FCC 99-272]

Year 2000 Network Stabilization Policy Statement

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Policy statement.

SUMMARY: This document states the Commission's awareness of the potential effects on Year 2000 compliance of regulatory actions that require changes to computer systems and networks within the telecommunications industry. The Commission states its intention to consider industry requests for waivers, stays of regulatory requirements, and petitions for extensions as precaution against Year 2000 conversions made by industry in preparation for the Year 2000 rollover.

DATES: Effective October 15, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Jackson, Office of Commissioner Michael Powell, (202) 418-2203 or via the Internet at pjackson@fcc.gov. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Commission's TTY number: 202-418-2989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's FCC 99-272, adopted October 4, 1999, and released October 4, 1999. This document is available for inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Room Cy-A257, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC, and is available on the FCC's Internet site at www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering_Notices/1999/. This document may also be purchased from the Commission's duplication contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc. (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Summary of Policy Statement

1. The Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") considers the Year 2000 ("Y2K") Date Conversion Problem, or so-called Y2K Problem, to be one of the country's most pressing technical concerns. The Commission has worked deliberately and patiently to raise awareness of the Y2K Problem, monitor the efforts of industry to address it effectively, and facilitate the development of contingencies in event of unseen disruption scenarios.

2. In this regard, we are also concerned with the impact any of our regulations may have on the efforts already undertaken by the

communications industry to prepare their systems for the year 2000 date-rollover. Accordingly, we herein adopt this "Year 2000 Network Stabilization Policy Statement" (hereinafter the "Policy Statement"). We believe that by adopting the policies outlined in the statement we will facilitate the ability of all communications providers to establish stable and secure network environments necessary to continue to perform meaningful Y2K tests and to implement appropriate Y2K solutions prior to the January 1, 2000 millennial rollover.

3. The Policy Statement conveys the Commission's intention to consider industry requests for stay of regulatory requirements, where appropriate, as a precaution against potentially disruptive non-Year 2000-related modifications and upgrades made to various systems and networks pursuant to the implementation requirements of Communications Act of 1934 or the Commission's rules. We will consider these requests as they relate to any of the industries over which we have regulatory oversight including the wireline, wireless, radio and television broadcast, cable television, satellite and international telecommunications industries.

Background

4. The Y2K Problem is the inability of some computers and other related automated and intelligent systems to process correctly the millennial date conversion that will occur on January 1, 2000. In the 1950s and 1960s, computer designers and programmers, in order to reduce the need for expensive computer memory and data storage, developed the convention of storing calendar year dates using only the last two digits for the date year. Thus, the calendar year 1967 was represented as "67." As a consequence, computerized systems and networks may erroneously assume "00" to be "1900," not "2000," and thereby not function properly in the year 2000. In some cases, the hardware and software will continue to work, but they will generate and process spurious data that may not be detected for months or even years after.

5. The Y2K Problem also has the potential to affect billions of systems and products that make use of microprocessors and so-called computer "microchips". Microprocessors and microchips can be found in a wide range of consumer products, such as toasters, washing machines, microwave ovens, dishwashers and video cassette recorders. They are used extensively in automobiles, trucks and other transportation vehicles. Microprocessors