

The Department invites the public to submit written comments in paper or electronic form. Comments may be mailed to Robert Krinsky, Office of Policy Analysis and Development, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4725, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230. In the alternative, comments may be submitted in electronic form to the following electronic mail address: <ruraltv@ntia.doc.gov>.

Submission of Documents

Written Comments

Paper submissions should include three paper copies and a version on diskette in PDF, ASCII, Word Perfect (please specify version) or Microsoft Word (please specify version) format. Diskettes should be labeled with the name of the party, and the name and version of the word processing program used to create the document. Comments and reply comments submitted via email to ruraltv@ntia.doc.gov should also be submitted in the formats specified above.

All comments and reply comments should be captioned "Rural and Small Market Access to Local Television Broadcast Signals—Comment [or Reply Comment], Docket No. 000208032–0032–01." Comments and reply comments should be numbered and organized in response to the questions set forth in this Notice.

Comments and reply comments received will be posted on the NTIA web site at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Krinsky, Office of Policy Analysis and Development, National Telecommunications and Information Administration; telephone (202) 482–1880; or electronic mail <rkrinsky@ntia.doc.gov>.

Media enquiries should be directed to the Office of Public Affairs, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, at (202) 482–7002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Changes in the copyright law brought about by the enactment of the Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act of 1999 (SHVIA) have provided an opportunity for satellite services to deliver local broadcast signals into local markets. Early reports, however, indicate that so-called "local-into-local" service will be offered only in relatively large markets and not available to viewers in rural and small communities. The purpose of this NTIA request for public comment is to explore whether there are other ways to

ensure that viewers in these underserved communities can receive the benefit of access to local programming through new technologies.

Last year Congress examined one proposal, a new loan guarantee program, as a means of promoting the delivery of local broadcast signals in rural and small markets. As a complement to Congressional efforts, NTIA has undertaken this request for public comment on the viability of any means of providing local broadcast television service to rural regions, small markets, and other unserved areas, including any legal, economic, or technological impediments. NTIA will also conduct a public meeting that will feature a roundtable discussion of these issues.

Questions for Public Comment

Interested parties are requested to submit written comments on any issue of fact, law, or policy that may inform the U.S. Department of Commerce on rural and small market access to local television broadcast signals. Specifically, comment is requested on the questions set forth below. These questions are designed to assist the public, however, and should not be construed as a limitation on the issues on which public comment may be submitted. Comments should cite the number of the question(s) addressed. Please provide copies of any studies, research, or other empirical data referenced in the comments.

1. Is it technologically feasible today to deliver local-into-local broadcast service to rural regions, small markets, and other unserved areas? This might include comments on satellite, enhancements to terrestrial digital television, wireless cable, video streaming, wireless packet data, and other technological means.

2. What are the trade-offs between the technology options?

3. Under what circumstances is the use of one technology more appropriate than another?

4. Should multiple technologies be used to accomplish the delivery of local television service to rural regions, small markets, and other unserved areas?

5. What are the economic impediments, if any, to the use of any of the technologies that might be used to facilitate local television service to rural regions, small markets, and other unserved areas?

6. What are the legal impediments, if any, to the use of any of the technologies that might be used to facilitate local television service to rural regions, small markets, and other unserved areas?

7. What legal measures, if any, should be taken to foster the delivery of local

television service to rural regions, small markets, and other unserved areas?

8. What economic and technological policy measures, if any, should be taken to foster the delivery of local television service to rural regions, small markets, and other unserved areas?

Public Participation: The Rural TV Roundtable is open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis and physically accessible to people with disabilities. To facilitate entry into the Department of Commerce building, please have a photo identification available and/or a U.S. Government building pass if applicable. Any member of the public wishing to attend and requiring special services, such as a sign language interpretation or other ancillary aids, should contact Robert Krinsky, Office of Policy Analysis and Development, U.S. Department of Commerce, at least five (5) working days prior to the Rural TV Roundtable, at either telephone number (202) 482–1880 or electronic mail at <rkrinsky@ntia.doc.gov>.

Gregory L. Rohde,

Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information.

[FR Doc. 00–3402 Filed 2–11–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–60–P

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Notice of the First Renewal of the Global Markets Advisory Committee

SUMMARY: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission has determined to renew the charter of its "Global Markets Advisory Committee." As required by Sections 9(a)(2) and 14(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, 9(a)(2) and 14(a)(2)(A), and 41 C.F.R. 101–6.1007 and 101–6.1029, the Commission has consulted with the Committee Management Secretariat of the General Services Administration. The Commission certifies that the renewal of this advisory committee is necessary and is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Commission by the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C. 1, *et seq.*, as amended. This notice is published pursuant to Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, 9(a)(2), and 41 C.F.R. 101–6.1015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George G. Wilder, Legal Counsel to Commissioner Barbara P. Holum, at 202–418–5142, or Marcia K. Blase,

Committee Management Officer, at 202-418-5138. Written comments should be submitted to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20581.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The globalization of the futures and options markets has been a principal development of the past decade. Such global expansion is characterized by:

- An increasing number of futures markets being established internationally,
- The increasingly multinational nature of regulated U.S. firms,
- The increasing presence of foreign competitors in the U.S.,
- The international linking of markets,
- Concerns about international market risk, and
- An increased demand by U.S. market users for global brokerage services. Markets are inextricably linked through common products and related market participants. Events that occur in one market can and frequently do cause global regulatory and business concerns.

The Global Markets Advisory Committee's charter directs the committee to assist the Commission in gathering information concerning the regulatory challenges of a global marketplace, including: (1) Avoiding unnecessary regulatory or operational impediments faced by those doing global business, such as differing and/or duplicative regulatory frameworks, lack of transparency of rules and regulations and barriers to market access, while preserving core protections for markets and customers; (2) setting appropriate international standards for regulating futures and derivatives markets and intermediaries; (3) assessing the impact on U.S. markets and firms of the Commission's international efforts and the initiatives of foreign regulators and market authorities; (4) achieving continued global competitiveness of U.S. markets and firms; and (5) identifying methods to improve domestic and international regulatory structures.

The Commission has actively worked with foreign regulators to address global market issues. Recent global initiatives have been designed to enhance international supervisory cooperation and emergency procedures, to establish concrete standards of best practices that set international benchmarks for regulating futures and derivatives markets, to encourage improved transparency in those markets, to improve the quality and timeliness of

international information sharing and to encourage jurisdictions around the world to remove legal or practical obstacles to achieving these goals.

The Commission anticipates that the Global Markets Advisory Committee will provide a valuable forum for information exchange and advice on these matters. The reports, recommendations and general advice from the committee will enable the Commission to assess more effectively the need for possible statutory, regulatory, policy or programmatic initiatives to address the challenges posed by the globalization of the marketplace.

Commissioner Barbara P. Holum will serve as Chairman and Designated Federal Official of the advisory committee. The committee's membership will be composed of representatives of the markets, firms and market users most directly involved in and affected by the globalization of the industry, and will include, but not be limited to, representatives of U.S. and foreign exchanges, regulators and self-regulators, financial intermediaries, market users, traders and academics. The advisory committee's membership will be balanced in terms of point of view.

The Commission has found that advice on specialized matters of the sort described above is best obtained through the advisory committee framework rather than through other, more costly, less flexible and less efficient means of assembling persons from all sectors of the financial services industry. The Commission has also found that the Global Markets Advisory Committee will not duplicate the functions of the Commission, another existing advisory committee, or other means such as public hearings. The Commission has concluded, therefore, that the renewal of the Global Markets Advisory Committee is essential to the accomplishment of its mission and is in the public interest.

Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, a copy of the first renewal charter of the Global Markets Advisory Committee will be filed with the Chairman of the Commission, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry and the House Committee on Agriculture. A copy of the first renewal charter will be furnished to the Library of Congress and to the Committee Management Secretariat and will be posted on the Commission's website at <http://www.cftc.gov>.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on February 8, 2000, by the Commission.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 00-3299 Filed 2-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Board of Visitors Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Defense Acquisition University.

ACTION: Board of visitor meeting.

SUMMARY: The next meeting of the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Board of Visitors (BoV) will be held at the Packard Conference Center, Building 184, Ft. Belvoir, Virginia on Wednesday, March 1, 2000 from 0900 until 1500. The purpose of this meeting is to report back to the BoV on continuing items of interest. The agenda will also include presentations by two of the FY 1999 DAU External Acquisition Research Program recipients.

The meeting is open to the public; however, because of space limitations, allocation of seating will be made on a first-come, first served basis. Persons desiring to attend the meeting should call Mr. John Michel at 703-845-6756.

Dated: February 8, 2000.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate, OSD Federal Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 00-3349 Filed 2-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Science Board Meeting

ACTION: Notice of cancellation of Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Defense Science Board was scheduled to meet in closed session at the Pentagon, Arlington, VA, on January 26-27, 2000. However, due to severe weather conditions, the meeting was cancelled and has not been rescheduled. Notice of this meeting was published in the **Federal Register** on November 24, 1999 (Volume 64, Number 226, Page 66173).

Dated: February 8, 2000.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 00-3351 Filed 2-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-10-M