

- Send two copies of your letter to: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas Group 2.
- Reference Docket No. CP98-150-002.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before September 8, 2000.

In addition to or in lieu of sending written comments, we invite you to attend the public scoping meeting the FERC will conduct in the project area. The location and time for this meeting are listed below:

Date and time	Location
August 29, 2000, 7 p.m. ....	Croton-on-Hudson Municipal Building, Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, New York, 914-271-4781.

The public meeting is designed to provide you with another opportunity to offer your comments on the proposed amendment to the Millennium Pipeline Project. Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend the meeting and to present comments on the environmental issues they believe should be addressed in the SDEIS. A transcript of the meeting will be made so that your comments will be accurately recorded.

Our staff will also be visiting some project areas on August 30 and 31, 2000. Anyone interested in participating in the site visit may contact the Commission's Office of External Affairs, as identified, below, for more details. You must provide your own transportation.

If you do not want to send comments at this time but still want to remain on our mailing list, please return the Information Request (appendix 2). If you do not return the Information Request, you will be taken off the mailing list.

**Becoming an Intervenor**

In addition to involvement in the EIS scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor". Intervenor have a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 3). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately

represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC website ([www.ferc.fed.us](http://www.ferc.fed.us)) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-20632 Filed 8-14-00; 8:45 am]

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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**[FRL-6852-2]**

**Notice of Availability for Draft Guidance on Design of Flexible Air Permits (White Paper Number 3)**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** As part of EPA's ongoing efforts to improve implementation of the air permitting programs, we are making available for public review a draft of our pending guidance on the design of flexible air permits (White Paper Number 3). This document provides guidance to State and local permitting authorities on how they can choose to design air permits that provide sources with more operational flexibility while

ensuring that they still meet all substantive and procedural requirements of title V of the Clean Air Act and the operating regulations EPA promulgated at part 70 of title 40, chapter I of the Code of Federal Regulations. While not mandatory, we would encourage permitting authorities to use this guidance where allowed by their regulations and as their resources and needs dictate.

In no instance would this guidance allow sources to not comply fully with any applicable requirement; it only presents more flexible approaches for doing so. Where State regulations allow, the guidance is potentially useful in designing permits for sources that make frequent operational changes which must be made in a timely manner, generally to meet changing demands in the marketplace. We believe that the draft will also advance high priority goals within the Agency to: Encourage pollution prevention; assure adequate public participation; promote equal or better environmental protection; and facilitate opportunities for sources to comply in a smarter, more efficient fashion.

A draft of this guidance is available for public review for downloading off the internet (see **ADDRESSES**). We do not intend to respond to individual comments, but rather to consider comments and information from the public in the preparation of a final guidance document. In addition to comments about the appropriateness of the guidance itself, we welcome ideas about how to communicate its approaches in a clear, concise way. We recognize that this guidance addresses issues of a very complex nature and will work, where possible, to incorporate more plain language concepts in the final version.

**DATES:** The review period for this document will close on September 14, 2000. Any comments on the draft guidance must be submitted to EPA by that date.

**ADDRESSES:** The draft guidance can be accessed at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/>. Comments should be sent to

Michael Trutna, Information Transfer and Program Integration Division (MD-12), U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, telephone 919-541-5345, telefax 919-541-4028, or E-mail [trutna.mike@epa.gov](mailto:trutna.mike@epa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Michael Trutna at the above address or Roger Powell, Information Transfer and Program Integration Division (MD-12), U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, telephone 919-541-5331, telefax 919-541-5509, or E-mail [powell.roger@epa.gov](mailto:powell.roger@epa.gov).

Dated: August 7, 2000.

**John S. Seitz,**

Director, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards.

[FR Doc. 00-20791 Filed 8-14-00; 8:45 am]

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**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

[CS Docket No. 00-132, FCC 00-270 ]

**Annual Assessment of the Status of Competition in Markets for the Delivery of Video Programming**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of inquiry.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is required to report annually to Congress on the status of competition in markets for the delivery of video programming. On July 25, 2000, the Commission adopted a *Notice of Inquiry* to solicit information from the public for use in preparing the competition report that is to be submitted to Congress in December 2000. The *Notice of Inquiry* will provide parties with an opportunity to submit comments and information to be used in conjunction with publicly available information and filings submitted in relevant Commission proceedings to assess the extent of competition in the market for the delivery of video programming.

**DATES:** Comments are due by September 8, 2000, and reply comments are due by September 29, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Marcia Glauberman or Donnaje Ward, Cable Services Bureau, (202) 418-7200 or TTY (202) 418-7172.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's *Notice of Inquiry* in CS Docket No. 00-132, FCC 00-270, adopted July 25, 2000, and

released August 1, 2000. The complete text of this *Notice of Inquiry* is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room CY-A257) at its headquarters, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554, and may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, or may be viewed via internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/csb/>.

**Synopsis of Notice of Inquiry**

Section 628(g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, directs the Commission to annually report to Congress on the status of competition in the market for the delivery of video programming. This *Notice of Inquiry* ("Notice") is designed to assist the Commission in gathering data and information on the status of competition in markets for the delivery of video programming for our seventh annual report ("2000 Competition Report"). The Commission will report on the current state of competition and report on changes in the competitive environment since our 1999 *Competition Report* was submitted to Congress.

We seek information that will allow us to evaluate the status of competition in the video marketplace, prospects for new entrants to that market, and its effect on the cable television industry and consumers. We are interested in evaluating the extent to which consumers have choices among video programming distributors and delivery technologies. We seek to compare video distribution alternatives available to consumers. In particular, we seek data that will allow us to compare video programming offerings, prices for programming services and associated equipment, and any other services provided (e.g., telephony, data access). Industry members, interested parties, and members of the public should submit information, comments, and analyses regarding competition in markets for the delivery of video programming.

In order to facilitate our analysis of competitive trends over time, we request data as of June 30, 2000, and ask parties, to the extent feasible, to submit data and information that is current as of that date. Comments submitted in this proceeding will be augmented with information from publicly available sources. In addition, we expect to use data collected in recent Commission proceedings and reports such as the broadband inquiry pursuant to Section 706, the annual report of cable

television systems (Form 325), and the annual report on cable industry prices.

Video distributors using both wired and wireless technologies serve the market for the delivery of video programming. Video programming distributors include cable systems, direct broadcast satellite ("DBS") service, home satellite dish ("HSD") service, private cable or satellite master antenna television ("SMATV") systems, open video systems ("OVS"), multichannel multipoint distribution service ("MMDS"), and over-the-air broadcast television service.

We seek to evaluate video programming distributors in the context of an overall video programming marketplace. For this assessment, we solicit data and information that will show how broadcast television, cable television, telephone, satellite, equipment suppliers and other competitors compare in terms of relative size and resources (e.g., revenues) and indicate the extent to which participants have the ability to enter each others' markets. We request data that measures the audience reach of large video programming distribution firms as well as their control over the video market and information on the ability of video distributors to expand into new markets such as local telephony and data services.

Congress and the Commission have sought to eliminate barriers to competitive entry and establish market conditions that promote competition to foster more and better options for consumers at reasonable prices. Beginning with the 1992 Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 ("1992 Act"), Congress removed several barriers to competition. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act") seeks to extend the pro-competitive provisions of the 1992 Act and to establish a "pro-competitive de-regulatory national policy framework" for the telecommunications industry by increasing opportunities for firms not traditionally associated with the provision of video services to enter into the video marketplace. The 1996 Act repealed the prohibition against an entity holding attributable interests in a cable system and a local exchange carrier ("LEC") with overlapping service areas as well as removing regulatory barriers to the entry of public utility holding companies into telecommunications, information services.

For this year's report, we seek comment and information on the extent to which changes in the Communications Act and the