

# **ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FCC'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY FOR COMMUNICATIONS IN THE DIGITAL AGE**

September 29, 2003 – February 16, 2005

## **SUMMARY**

The Advisory Committee has taken up 55 matters, as follows:

- Incubated a program (Supplier Diversity) to be operated in the nonprofit sector
- Produced two reports on workplace diversity, which the Commission has under consideration
- Offered two recommendations that the Commission has approved
- Offered 44 policy recommendations that the Commission has under consideration
- Full committee and original four subcommittees are considering six additional matters

A new Education Subcommittee and a new Council of State Commissioners and Regulators were created December 10, 2004. They are beginning work and will consider additional matters not enumerated below.

## **FULL COMMITTEE**

1. A Blueprint for Diversity (under consideration by full committee)

### **FROM THE FINANCIAL ISSUES SUBCOMMITTEE**

1. Tax Incentive Program (adopted 6/14/04); renewed legislative recommendation sought. Pending.
2. Waivers of the structural ownership rules for sales to SDBs (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
3. Waivers of the structural ownership rules for incubators and financing programs (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
4. Waivers of the structural ownership rules for share-times (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
5. Waivers of the attribution rules (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
6. First place in line for future duopolies (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
7. Waivers of the construction permit expiration rule (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
8. Clearinghouse of properties for sale (adopted 6/14/04). Internal appropriation sought. Pending.
9. Create a Fund of Funds (adopted 6/14/04). Coordination with other agencies sought. Pending.
10. Reaffirmation and revision of the Distress Sale Policy (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
11. Foreign broadcast ownership (§310(b)(4) relaxation (adopted 12/10/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.

12. Community Reinvestment Act revisions (adopted 12/10/04). Legislative recommendation sought. Pending.
13. Merger divestitures (adopted 12/10/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.

**FROM THE CAREER ADVANCEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

1. "Workplace Diversity: A Global Necessity and an Ongoing Commitment" (report issued 5/25/04). Promotion of report sought. Pending.
2. "Best of the Best Practices" (report issued 12/10/04). Promotion of report sought. Pending.
3. Online Diversity Resource (adopted 12/10/04). Internal appropriation sought. Pending.
4. Revised EEO Rule – Career Advancement (adopted 12/10/04). NPRM sought. Pending.

**FROM THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES SUBCOMMITTEE**

1. Supplier Diversity Program (concept adopted 6/14/04; initial meeting held under MMTTC's sponsorship 12/9/04). No FCC action required.
2. Loan guarantee program (adopted 6/14/04). Legislative recommendation sought. Pending.
3. Entity to purchase loans in secondary market (adopted 6/14/04). Legislative recommendation sought. Pending.
4. Security interests in FCC licenses (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
5. Expansion and recalibration of the Telecommunications Development Fund (adopted 6/14/04). Legislative recommendation sought. Pending.
6. Auction vouchers or credits for those pledging service to underserved markets (adopted 6/14/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
7. Auction vouchers or credits for those joint venturing with SDBs (adopted 6/14/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
8. Expedited review of transactions where applicant provided public notice to minorities (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
9. Forbear from 310(d) pre-approval for certain telecom or common carrier applications (adopted 6/14/04). Rulemaking decision sought. Pending.
10. Diversity Impact Statement in transfer and assignment applications (adopted 6/14/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
11. Increase spectrum, power levels in Part 15 rules (adopted 6/14/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
12. Fast track equipment certification in Part 15 rules (adopted 6/14/04). Policy statement sought. Pending.
13. Increase terms of experimental licenses and STAs (adopted 6/14/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
14. Increase value of bidding credits (adopted 6/14/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
15. Focus auctions on MSAs and RSAs (adopted 6/14/04). Internal priorities sought. Pending.
16. Forbear from pre-approval for certain spectrum lease agreements (adopted 6/14/04). Rulemaking decision sought. Pending.

17. Public education initiative for emerging technologies, aimed at new entrants (adopted 6/14/04). Interagency coordination sought. Pending.
18. Annual FCC conference on new technologies (adopted 6/14/04). Internal appropriation sought. Pending.
19. Database on license sales, spectrum leasing and other opportunities (adopted 6/14/04). Internal appropriation sought. Pending.
20. Create medium power FM stations (adopted 10/4/04). NOI or NPRM sought. Pending.
21. Replace the FM Table with interference-based allotment criteria (adopted 10/4/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
22. Allow Class A stations to use lower towers and higher power (adopted 10/4/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
23. Conduct a comprehensive channel search for new FM allotments (adopted 10/4/04). NPRM or internal appropriation sought. Pending.
24. Harmonize regional interference protection standards (adopted 10/4/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
25. Repeal the third-adjacent FM contour rules (adopted 10/4/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
26. Relax the community of license and transmitter site rules (adopted 10/4/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
27. Authorize interference agreements (adopted 10/4/04). NPRM sought. Pending.
28. Require same-day upgrades of entitlements to bidding credits in FM Auction 37 (adopted 10/4/04). Procedural clarification sought. **Approved** (PN, DA 04-3252, 10/18/04).
29. Retain Designated Entity Program in Wireless Auction 58 (adopted 10/4/04). Rulemaking decision sought. **Approved** (MO&O, FCC 04-249, 10/15/04).
30. Universal Service Fund recalibration (being considered by subcommittee)
31. Review of auctions' effectiveness in promoting diversity (being considered by subcommittee)
32. DTV transition review – multicast must carry and vouchers (being considered by subcommittee)
33. Migration of AM band (being considered by subcommittee)

**FROM THE TRANSACTIONAL TRANSPARENCY SUBCOMMITTEE**

1. Transparency rule revisions and anti-fraud enforcement in the designated entity program (adopted 6/14/04). NPRM and enforcement actions sought. Pending.
2. Diversity Credits (adopted 6/14/04). Technical advice sought. Pending.
3. Transactional Nondiscrimination Rule (adopted 6/14/04). NPRM or policy statement sought. Pending.
4. Transactional Best Practices review (being considered by subcommittee)

**Revised 2/17/05**

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