

TABLE 1

Total accumulated landings as of the effective date of this AD	Initial inspection
Less than 35,000.	Prior to the accumulation of 36,500 total landings, or within 1,500 landings after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.
35,000 or more.	Within 300 landings after the effective date of this AD; or within 3,500 landings after accomplishing the last inspection performed in accordance with AD 89-16-12; whichever occurs later.

(1) **OPTION I:** Accomplish the requirements of paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii), and (a)(1)(iii) of this AD.

(i) Conduct a low frequency eddy current inspection to detect cracks of the side areas above the floor between longerons 7 and 17 on fuselage left and right sides. Repeat this inspection at intervals not to exceed 1,500 landings.

(ii) Conduct an optically aided detailed visual inspection to detect cracks of the top and lower areas from longeron 7 left side to longeron 7 right side, and on the lower fuselage from longeron 17 to longeron 20 on fuselage left and right sides. Repeat this inspection thereafter at intervals not to exceed 1,500 landings.

(iii) Conduct an optically aided detailed visual inspection to detect cracks of the bottom area from longeron 20 left side to longeron 20 right side. Repeat this inspection thereafter at intervals no to exceed 3,500 landings.

(2) **OPTION II:** Conduct both a high frequency and a low frequency eddy current inspection for cracks around the entire periphery of the fuselage from the forward side of the bulkhead. Repeat these inspections at intervals not to exceed 2,500 landings.

(b) If any cracked tee section is found during any inspection required by this AD, prior to further flight, accomplish the requirements of either paragraph (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this AD, in accordance with the procedures specified in McDonnell Douglas Alert Service Bulletin A53-232, Revision 2, dated April 28, 1995:

(1) Replace the cracked tee section with a new like part. Once that replaced part has accumulated 35,000 landings, repeat the inspections required by paragraph (a) of this AD.

(2) Replace the cracked tee section with an improved part, as specified in the alert service bulletin. Such replacement constitutes terminating action for the repetitive inspections of that section of the tee only.

(c) Replacement of all six aft pressure bulkhead tee sections with new improved parts, in accordance with McDonnell Douglas Alert Service Bulletin A53-232, Revision 2,

dated April 28, 1995, constitutes terminating action for the inspections required by this AD.

(d) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Los Angeles ACO.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Los Angeles ACO.

(e) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on March 6, 1996.

Darrell M. Pederson,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 96-5855 Filed 3-11-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Chapter I

[MM Docket No. 95-176, FCC 96-71]

Closed Captioning and Video Description of Video Programming

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of time.

SUMMARY: Section 305 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 adds a new section 713, Video Programming Accessibility, to the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. Section 713 requires the Commission to conduct inquiries and report to Congress on the availability of video programming with closed captioning and video descriptions. Prior to the enactment of Section 713 on February 8, 1996, the Commission initiated a Notice of Inquiry addressing the issues and seeking information on closed captioning and video description, as is now required by Section 713. This Order announces the Commission's intent to use the comments in the existing proceeding to implement Section 713 and to extend the comment dates to ensure that sufficient time is provided to respond to the legislative directive.

DATES: Comments are due on or before March 15, 1996, and reply comments are due on or before April 1, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marcia A. Glauberman, Cable Services Bureau, (202) 416-0800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Order in MM Docket No. 95-176, FCC 96-71, adopted February 27, 1996, and released on February 27, 1996. The full text of the Order is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20554, and may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service ("ITS, Inc."), (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037.

Synopsis of the Order

1. Section 305 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996), adds a new section 713, Video Programming Accessibility, to the Communications Act of 1934, as amended ("Act"). Section 713(a) requires the Commission to complete an inquiry within 180 days of the date of enactment (February 8, 1996) to ascertain the level at which video programming is closed captioned. A report on the results of this inquiry shall be submitted to Congress. Within 18 months of enactment, the Commission is required to establish regulations and implementation schedules to ensure that video programming is fully accessible through closed captioning consistent with Section 713 (b) through (e). Section 713(f) requires the Commission to commence an inquiry within six months after the date of enactment to examine the use of video descriptions on video programming to ensure the accessibility of video programming to persons with visual impairments.

2. Prior to the date of enactment, the Commission issued a Notice of Inquiry ("Notice"), summarized at 60 FR 65052 (December 18, 1995), seeking comment on a wide range of issues relating to closed captioning and video description of video programming. Since the existing Notice addresses the issues that the Commission must explore in the inquiries required by Section 713, the Commission has determined that separate proceedings are unnecessary to implement these provisions of the Act.

3. The Order announces the Commission's intent to use the

comments in the existing proceeding to implement Section 713. It also extends the comment period until March 15, 1996, and the reply comment period until April 1, 1996, to provide parties with an opportunity to refine their comments and to focus on the specific information needed to implement Section 713 of the Act.

Ordering Clauses

4. It is ordered, that the time for filing comments in the above-captioned proceeding is extended to March 15, 1996, and the time for filing reply comments is extended to April 1, 1996.

5. This action is taken pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154(i) and 303(r), and Section 305 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996).

Federal Communications Commission.

William F. Caton,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-5823 Filed 3-11-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

47 CFR Parts 1 and 73

[MM Docket No. 96-16, FCC 96-49]

Revision of Broadcast EEO Rule and Policies

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This *Order and Notice of Proposed Rule Making* (NPRM) in MM Docket No. 96-16 seeks comment regarding various proposals to streamline the Commission's Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) requirements with respect to certain broadcasters whose circumstances may justify this type of relief, while, at the same time, maintaining an effective EEO program for the broadcast industry. These proposals include alternatives for reducing paperwork burdens, new incentives for the establishment of joint recruitment efforts, and revisions to the test by which stations are permitted to rely on an alternative labor force when analyzing their EEO efforts. The Commission also seeks comment on a proposal to adopt guidelines for imposing sanctions for EEO violations to increase predictability for broadcasters and to facilitate the processing of renewal applications.

DATES: Initial comments due April 30, 1996; reply comments due May 30, 1996. Written comments by the public on the proposed and/or modified

information collections are due April 30, 1996. Written comments must be submitted by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on the proposed and/or modified information collections on or before May 13, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition to filing comments with the Secretary, a copy of any comments on the information collections contained herein should be submitted to Dorothy Conway, Federal Communications Commission, Room 234, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20554, or via the Internet to dconway@fcc.gov, and to Timothy Fain, OMB Desk Officer, 10236 NEOB, 725 - 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503 or via the Internet to fain_t@al.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hope G. Cooper, Mass Media Bureau, Enforcement Division. (202) 416-1450. For additional information concerning the information collections contained in this NPRM, contact Dorothy Conway at 202-418-0217, or via the Internet at dconway@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Order and Notice of Proposed Rule Making in MM Docket No. 96-16, adopted February 8, 1996, and released February 16, 1996.

The complete text of this NPRM, which was adopted in MM Docket No. 96-16, is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW., Washington, DC, and also may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc., at (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, NW, Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037.

Synopsis of Order and Notice of Proposed Rule Making

1. In the NPRM, the Commission seeks comment regarding various proposals to streamline the Commission's Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) requirements with respect to certain broadcasters whose circumstances may justify this type of relief, while, at the same time, maintaining an effective EEO program for the broadcast industry. These proposals included alternatives for reducing paperwork burdens, new incentives for the establishment of joint recruitment efforts, and revisions to the test by which stations are permitted to rely on an alternative labor force when analyzing their EEO efforts. The Commission also seeks comment on the proposal to adopt guidelines for imposing sanctions for EEO violations

to increase predictability for broadcasters and to facilitate the processing of renewal applications.

2. The Commission's broadcast EEO Rule requires broadcast licensees to establish and maintain an EEO program designed to provide equal employment opportunities for minorities and women in all aspects of their employment policies and practices. The objective of the EEO program is twofold: to promote programming that reflects interests of minorities and women in the local community in addition to those of the community at large and to deter discriminatory employment practices. A basic rationale underlying the broadcast EEO Rule has been that a broadcaster can more effectively fulfill its duty to serve the needs of the entire community if it makes a good faith effort to employ qualified women and minorities.

3. The Commission uses an efforts-based approach to assessing EEO compliance. The Commission focuses on a station's equal employment opportunity program, its consistent efforts to contact sources likely to refer qualified female and minority applicants and self-analysis of its outreach program. Broadcast stations with five or more full-time employees are required to file general information regarding recruitment and hiring practices as part of their license renewal application and workforce data as part of their annual employment reports. In order to comply with the requirement of self-assessing their outreach efforts, the Commission also requires broadcasters to keep records of their EEO efforts and the results of those efforts.

4. The Commission seeks comment as to which categories of stations might qualify for reduced recordkeeping and filing requirements or, in some cases, be exempted from these duties altogether. Categories being considered include station staff size, market size, and size of the local minority labor force. The Commission also seeks comment on possible options for relief for qualifying stations. Under one approach, stations would only have to certify that they meet the qualifying factor or factors and would then be exempt from further reporting requirements. Under another approach, the Commission would maintain reporting requirements but allow broadcasters a choice among possible recruitment options, one of which might be participation in recruiting events like job fairs. The Commission also asks for comment on an industry proposal to permit broadcasters not to retain detailed job-by-job recruitment records if their employment profiles meet certain benchmarks.