

**§ 300–80.8 What is the maximum duration of test programs?**

Each test program may be continued for a period of up to 24 months from the date the test is authorized to begin.

**§ 300–80.9 What reports are required for a test program?**

Two reports are required:

(a) The Administrator of General Services must submit a copy of an approved test program to Congress at least 30 days before the effective start date of the authorized test program.

(b) The agency authorized to conduct the test program must submit a report on the results of the test program to the Administrator of General Services and to Congress within 3 months after completion of the program.

**§ 300–80.10 When does the authority of GSA to authorize test programs expire?**

The authority to conduct test programs expires on October 20, 2005.

Dated: January 26, 1999.

**G. Martin Wagner,**

Associate Administrator, Office of Governmentwide Policy.

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**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION****47 CFR Part 73**

[MM Docket Nos. 91–221 and 87–8; DA 99–281]

**En Banc Hearing Regarding Local Television Ownership Rules**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission will hold an *en banc* hearing concerning the issues raised in connection with the Commission's pending review of its local television ownership rules. The purpose of the hearing is to educate and inform the Commissioners, FCC staff, and the public about differing perspectives on whether the Commission's local television ownership rules should be modified to respond to ongoing changes in the mass media industry.

**DATES:** Friday, February 12, 1999, from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

**ADDRESSES:** The Commission's new headquarters building at 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554, Room TW–C305.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Robert Somers, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Communications Commission will hold an *en banc* hearing on Friday, February 12, 1999, from 9:30 a.m. to noon in the Commission meeting room, Room TW–C305 of the Commission's new headquarters building located at 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. The hearing will concern issues raised in connection with the Commission's pending review of its local television ownership rules.

The purpose of this *en banc* hearing is to educate and inform the Commissioners, FCC staff, and the public about differing perspectives on whether the Commission's local television ownership rules should be modified to respond to ongoing changes in the mass media industry. The Commission's pending proceeding on this issue is part of a larger examination of these and other broadcast media ownership rules first initiated by the Commission in 1991, and more recently guided by the statutory directives of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

In its pending Local Ownership proceeding, the Commission has proposed modifying the "TV duopoly" rule, which prohibits the common ownership of more than one TV station in a local market, and the radio-television cross-ownership rule, which prohibits the common ownership of radio and TV stations in a local market. It has also sought comment on the appropriate grandfathering policy for TV local marketing agreements ("LMAs") that may become attributable under the Commission's proposed revisions of the rules which govern attribution of broadcast ownership interests.

The hearing will consist of presentations to the Commission by two panels. The first panel will be composed of legal scholars, economists, political scientists, and Wall Street observers. This panel will provide the Commission with a general perspective on the relevant trends in the mass media industry, the purposes for a free over-the-air broadcasting system, the future consequences of economic changes, and the role of the FCC in regulating broadcast ownership. The second panel will focus more specifically on the proposed rule modifications with perspectives from parties who have been actively involved in these issues. Although there are other ownership issues currently pending before the Commission, this hearing will focus solely on the issues raised by the "TV

duopoly" and radio-television cross-ownership rules and the related TV LMA grandfathering policy.

The *en banc* is open to the public, and seating will be available on a first come, first served basis. A transcript of the *en banc* will be available 10 days after the event on the FCC's Internet site. The URL address for the FCC's Internet Home Page is <<http://www.fcc.gov>>.

The *en banc* will also be carried live on the Internet. Internet users may listen to the real-time audio feed of the *en banc* by accessing the FCC Internet Audio Broadcast Home Page. Step-by-step instructions on how to listen to the audio broadcast, as well as information regarding the equipment and software needed, are available on the FCC Audio Broadcast Home Page. The URL address for this home page is <<http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio/>>

Federal Communications Commission.

**Charles W. Logan,**

Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

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BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****National Highway Traffic Safety Administration****49 CFR Part 571****Denial of Petition for Rulemaking; Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards**

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Denial of petition for rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** This document denies a petition for rulemaking submitted by the Coalition of Small Volume Automobile Manufacturers (COSVAM). COSVAM requested that small volume automobile manufacturers be given additional time to comply with the phase-in of the upper interior head protection requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 201, *Occupant Protection in Interior Impact*. Specifically, COSVAM requested that the agency initiate a rulemaking proceeding to create alternative compliance dates to address concerns of manufacturers producing or importing 10,000 vehicles per year or less. The petitioner based its request on the argument that compliance costs for such manufacturers would be disproportionately burdensome. NHTSA denies this petition because the agency