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DA 97-2352

November 10, 1997

LMDS AUCTION POSTPONED UNTIL FEBRUARY 18, 1998 FCC Postpones Auction No. 17

Report No. AUC-97-17-C (Auction No. 17)

In an effort to provide a greater opportunity for prospective applicants to participate in the upcoming Local Multipoint Distribution Service ("LMDS") auction, the Commission is postponing the LMDS auction, originally scheduled to begin on December 10, 1997, until February 18, 1998. This postponement will further opportunities for businesses to access additional sources of capital to further the advent of new competition in the cable television and local telephony marketplaces.

In addition, applicants will be able to take advantage of the World Trade Organization agreement to pursue additional sources of financing and investment. The Commission has proposed amendments to its rules in response to the WTO agreement. Rules and Policies on Foreign Participation in the U.S. Telecommunications Market, *Order and Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, 12 FCC Rcd 7847 (rel. June 4, 1997). Once the Commission has adopted final rules in this proceeding, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau will release a public notice explaining how these amendments will affect LMDS applicants.

Except for the filing dates and auction schedule, information provided in previous public notices and the LMDS Bidder Information Package remains unchanged. The new

schedule is as follows:

FCC Form 175 filing: 5:30 p.m., ET Tuesday, January 20, 1998	
Upfront Payments:	6:00 p.m. ET, Monday, February 2, 1998
Mock Auction:	9:00 a.m. ET - 3:00 p.m. ET, Friday, February 13, 1998
Auction Begins:	9:00 a.m. ET Wednesday, February 18, 1998

For further information, please contact Louis Sigalos of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Auctions and Industry Analysis Division, at (202) 418-0660.

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