

4. Consideration of Consensus Views, Proposals, or Option Papers
5. Future Meetings
6. Other Business.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-12607 Filed 5-11-98; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

May 7, 1998.

OPEN COMMISSION MEETING: Thursday, May 14, 1998.

The Federal Communications Commission will hold an Open Meeting

on the subjects listed below on Thursday, May 14, 1998, which is scheduled to commence at 9:30 a.m. in Room 856, at 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Item No.	Bureau	Subject
1	Common Carrier	Title: Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities. Summary: The Commission will consider action to amend its rules governing Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS).
2	Wireless Telecommunications	Title: Implementation of Section 6002(b) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993; Annual Report of Analysis of Competitive Market Conditions With Respect to Commercial Mobile Services. Summary: The Commission will consider a Report fulfilling the requirement of 47 U.S.C. Section 332(c)(1)(c) (the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Pub. L. No. 103-66, Title VI, Section 6002(b)), which directs the Commission to annually report on the state of competition with respect to commercial mobile radio services.
3	Office of Engineering and Technology; Common Carrier and International.	Title: 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review—Amendment of Part 2 of the Commission's Rules to Further Streamline the Equipment Authorization Process for Radio Frequency Equipment and to Implement Mutual Recognition Agreements; Amendment of part 68 of the Commission's Rules to Modify the Equipment Authorization Process for Telephone Terminal Equipment and to Implement Mutual Recognition Agreements; and Amendment of Part 25 of the Commission's Rules to Begin Implementation of the Global Mobile Personal Communications for Satellite (GMPCS) Arrangements. Summary: The Commission will consider proposed rules to 1) further streamline the equipment authorization process for radio frequency and telephone terminal equipment; 2) implement a Mutual Recognition agreement with the European Community and allow for similar agreements with other foreign governmental parties; and 3) set standards for the approval of equipment used in the Global Mobile Personal Communications by Satellite (GMPCS) service.

Additional information concerning this meeting may be obtained from Maureen Peratino or David Fiske, Office of Public Affairs, telephone number (202) 418-0500; TTY (202) 418-2555.

Copies of materials adopted at this meeting can be purchased from the FCC's duplicating contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS, Inc.) at (202) 857-3800; fax (202) 857-3805 and 857-3184; or TTY (202) 293-8810. These copies are available in paper format and alternative media, including large print/type; digital disk; and audio tape. ITS may be reached by e-mail; its_inc@ix.netcom.com. Their Internet address is <http://www.itsi.com>.

This meeting can be viewed over George Mason University's Capitol Connection. For information on this service call (703) 993-3100. The audio portion of the meeting will be broadcast live on the Internet via the FCC's Internet audio broadcast page at <http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio/>. The meeting can also be heard via telephone, for a fee, from National Narrowcast Network, telephone (202) 966-2211 or fax (202) 966-1770; and from Conference Call USA (available only outside the Washington, D.C.

metropolitan area), telephone 1-800-962-0044. Audio and video tapes of this meeting can be purchased from Infocus, 341 Victory Drive, Herndon, VA 20170, telephone (703) 834-0100; fax number (703) 834-0111.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-12758 Filed 5-8-98; 3:13 pm]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 98-808]

Waiver of Business and Industrial/Land Transportation Channel Construction Requirements

1. On February 20, 1998, Southern Company (Southern) filed a Request for Waiver of Section 90.629 of the Commission's Rules to further extend the extended implementation period for its Business and Industrial Land Transportation (I/LT) Category channels that Southern has converted to commercial use. Southern, an electric utility holding company, operates an 800 MHz Specialized Mobile Radio

(SMR) system on Business and I/LT channels, and on a small number of SMR and General Category channels.¹ The channels were licensed between 1992 and 1994, and Southern received a five-year extended implementation period. In 1995, Southern, apparently by means of intercategory sharing, converted the Business and I/LT channels to commercial use. It has constructed and placed in operation all of the base stations, and sixty-five percent of the channels, for which it is licensed. Southern seeks to extend the implementation period for its Business and I/LT channels, which expires on May 20, 1999, for an additional five years or until the Commission auctions those channels, whichever is sooner.

2. In its Request for Waiver, Southern asserts that a further extension of the implementation period is necessary because the current implementation period is unduly burdensome, frustrates the purpose of our rules, and is contrary

¹ Pursuant to the recently completed auction of licenses for the upper 200 channels of the SMR Service in the 800 MHz band, on March 9, 1998, Southern was conditionally granted licenses for frequency block A in BEAs 74, 75, and 78-82. See FCC Announces the Corrected Conditional Grant of 800 MHz SMR Licenses, Public Notice No. DA 98-482 (released March 10, 1998).

to the public interest. Southern's system, which has a service area of over 120,000 square miles in the southeastern United States, provides internal communications for Southern's operating companies and provides service to a large external customer base, including public utilities, federal, state, and local governments, and emergency management agencies, such as sheriffs' departments and ambulance services. The system provides voice dispatch service, full-duplex telephone interconnection, short message service (similar to alphanumeric paging), and data transmission capabilities. Southern states that the continued operation of its system is necessary to maintain competition in the urban dispatch service market, and to maintain dispatch and telephone interconnection service in rural areas. It also states that it is at a severe disadvantage with respect to other Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) providers because the subsequently-adopted CMRS construction requirement based on channel usage and population coverage is more flexible than the requirement for Business and I/LT channels.

3. We also note that on April 22, 1998, the Land Mobile Communications Council filed a Petition for Rule Making regarding the allocation of spectrum for the Private Mobile Radio Services. We anticipate that the Commission will resolve the matters raised therein in another proceeding, but we invite comments on how the LMCC Petition and the Southern waiver request relate to issues the Commission is likely to consider with regard to implementation of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (the Act). The Act, which mandates that most mutually exclusive license applications be resolved by competitive bidding, gives rise to such issues as whether geographic area licensing for Business and I/LT channels serves the public interest, how to define bidder eligibility for auctions held to award mutually exclusive licenses for these channels, how to define the class of land mobile licensee that is exempt from licensing by auction, and whether the existence of the Southern Request for Waiver and a number of other applications requesting large numbers of channels in the I/LT and Business Categories should be considered when developing rules for future licensing of these channels.²

² The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has pending before it a number of applications filed by single users for large numbers of 800 MHz I/LT and Business channels. The applicants' individual communications requirements do not appear sufficient to require such large numbers of

4. Interested parties may file comments on Southern's Request for Waiver on or before May 28, 1998. Parties interested in submitting reply comments must do so on or before June 12, 1998. All comments should reference Southern's Request for Waiver with the designated DA number, and should be filed with the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M St., N.W., Room 222, Washington, D.C. 20554. A copy of each filing should be sent to International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS), 1231 20th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 857-3800, and to Scot Stone, Federal Communications Commission, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Public Safety and Private Wireless Division, 2025 M St., N.W., Room 8010G, (202) 418-0680 or via e-mail to ssstone@fcc.gov.

5. The full text of the Request for Waiver, comments, and reply comments are available for public inspection and duplication during regular business hours in the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 2025 M St., N.W., Room 8010, Washington, D.C. 20554. Copies also may be obtained from ITS, 1231 20th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 857-3800.

6. For further information, contact Scot Stone of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau at (202) 418-0680 or via e-mail to ssstone@fcc.gov.

Federal Communications Commission.

Rosalind Allen,

Deputy Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

[FR Doc. 98-12606 Filed 5-11-98; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Agreement(s) Filed

The Commission hereby gives notice of the filing of the following agreement(s) under the Shipping Act of 1984.

Interested parties can review or obtain copies of agreements at the Washington, DC offices of the Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Room 962. Interested parties may submit comments on an agreement to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission,

channels. The Bureau continues to maintain these applications in pending status until the Act is fully implemented.

Washington, DC 20573, within 10 days of the date this notice appears in the **Federal Register**.

Agreement No.: 217-011620.

Title: Hapag-Lloyd/P&O Nedlloyd Slot Exchange Agreement.

Parties:

Hapag-Lloyd Container Linie GmbH ("Hapag")

Treated as a single party, referred to as ("PONL") P&O Nedlloyd Limited, P&O Nedlloyd B.V.

Synopsis: The proposed Agreement authorizes PONL and Hapag to exchange slots on vessels owned, operated or utilized by them in the trade between North Europe and the U.S. Atlantic and gulf Coasts, and to engage in a limited range of related cooperative arrangements in the trade. The parties have requested a shortened review period.

Agreement No.: 217-011621.

Title: Hapag-Lloyd/P&O Nedlloyd/Sea-Land Space Charter Agreement.

Parties:

Hapag-Lloyd Container Linie GmbH ("Hapag")

Treated as a single party, referred to as ("PONL") P&O Nedlloyd Limited, P&O Nedlloyd B.V. Sea-Land Service, Inc. ("Sea-Land")

Synopsis: The proposed Agreement authorizes PONL and Sea-Land to charter space to Hapag and authorizes the parties to enter into a limited range of related cooperative arrangements in the trade between North Europe and the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf Coasts. The parties have requested a shortened review period.

Agreement No.: 224-200870-001.

Title: Port of Oakland/Marine Terminals Corporation Management Agreement.

Parties:

Port of Oakland
Marine Terminals Corporation ("MTC").

Synopsis: The proposed Agreement reduces the annual crane guarantee by 750 hours in MTC's Management Agreement with the Port for the Port's Seventh Street Marine Container Terminal. It also provides that the use of Crane No. X-423 by MTC shall not count towards MTC's annual crane guarantee, and that MTC may use Crane No. X-423 until such time as the Port elects to remove it from the facilities.

Agreement No.: 224-201051.

Title: Atlantic Coast Public Marine Terminal Discussion Agreement.

Parties:

Georgia Ports Authority
Maryland Port Administration
North Carolina State Ports Authority