this Second Further Notice may, if adopted, result in additional reporting, record keeping, or other compliance requirements for telecommunications carriers, including small entities.

Steps Taken To Minimize Significant Economic Impact on Small Entities and Significant Alternatives Considered

14. In this Second Further Notice, we seek to develop a record sufficient to adequately address issues related to developing long-term policies related to collocation. In addressing these issues, we seek to ensure that competing providers, including small entity carriers, obtain access to inputs necessary to the provision of advanced services. We believe that the issues on which we invite comment would impose minimal burdens on small entities, including both telecommunications carriers that request collocation and the incumbent LECs that, under section 251 of the Communications Act, must provide collocation to requesting carriers. As indicated above, both groups of carriers include entities that, for purposes of this SIRFA, are classified as small entities. In framing the issues in this Second Further Notice, we have sought to develop a record on the potential impact our proposed rules could have upon small entities. We thus ask that commenters propose measures to avoid significant economic impact on small business entities.

Procedural Matters

15. Pursuant to sections 1–4, 201, 202, 251–254, 256, 271, and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151–154, 201, 202, 251–254, 256, 271, and 303(r), that the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 98–147 and the Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96–98 (Published elsewhere in this issue) Are Adopted.

16. The Commission's Consumer Information Bureau, Reference Information Center, Shall Send a copy of this Order on Reconsideration and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 98–147 and this Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No., including the Supplemental Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis and the Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–22890 Filed 9–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket No. 96–98; FCC 00–297]

Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document continues the Commission's efforts to facilitate the development of competition in telecommunications services, particularly local telecommunications. The Commission invites comment on whether it should amend its unbundled network element rules to ensure that carriers are able to gain competitive access to subloops and loops as incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs) introduce new network technologies.

DATES: Written comments by the public on the proposed information collections are due October 12, 2000, and reply comments are due on November 14, 2000. Written comments must be submitted by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on the proposed information collection(s) on or before November 7, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street, SW, 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 Judy Boley, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C804, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554, or via the Internet to *jboley@fcc.gov,* and to Edward C. Springer, OMB Desk Officer, 10236 NEOB, 725—17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503 or via the Internet to *Edward.Springer@omb.eop.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Johanna Mikes, Attorney Advisor, Common Carrier Bureau, Policy and Program Planning Division, 202–418–1580. Further information also may be obtained by calling the Common Carrier Bureau's TTY number: 202–418–0484. In addition to filing comments with the Secretary, a copy of any comments on the information collections contained herein should be submitted to Judy Boley, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C804, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554, or via the Internet to jboley@fcc.gov, and to Edward C. Springer, OMB Desk Officer, 10236 NEOB, 725—17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503 or via the Internet to Edward.Springer@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (5th FNPRM) in CC Docket No. 96–98, FCC 00–297, adopted on August 9, 2000, and released August 10, 2000. This 5th FNPRM contains proposed information collection(s) subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). It has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under the PRA. OMB, the general public, and other Federal agencies are invited to comment on the proposed information collections contained in this proceeding. The complete text of this Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Courtyard Level, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, D.C., and also may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services (ITS), CY-B400, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Washington, D.C.

Synopsis of the Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

1. The Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96–98 invites comment on whether the Commission should amend its local competition rules to respond to new network architectures being deployed by incumbent LECs. In the Fifth Further Notice, we invite comment on several issues concerning the deployment of new network architectures, including whether we should modify or clarify our definition of the loop and transport elements to include access for requesting carriers at the wavelength level. We also request comment on the features, functions, and capabilities of the subloop created by the deployment of new network architectures. We invite comment on incumbent LECs' obligations to provide unbundled access to the subloop, particularly the fiber feeder portion, in situations where there is inadequate existing capacity. In addition, we invite comment on whether, as part of their deployment of additional fiber facility, incumbent LECs plan to retire and remove existing copper plant and how that would affect their obligations under our local

competition rules. We seek comment on whether we should change the technically feasible points at which competing carriers may access subloops at remote terminal locations.

Paperwork Reduction Act

2. This 5th FNPRM contains a proposed information collection. The Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, invites the general public and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to comment on the information collection(s) contained in this 5th FNPRM, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Public and agency comments are due at the same time as other comments on this 5th FNPRM; OMB notification of action is due November 7, 2000 of this 5th FNPRM. Comments should address: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

OMB Control Number: None.

Title: Proposed Demographic Information and Notifications, Second FNPRM, CC Docket No. 98–147, and Fifth FNPRM, CC Docket No. 96–98.

Form No.: N/A.

Type of Review: New Collections.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 1400.

Estimated Time Per Response: 2 hours.

Total Annual Burden: 2800 hours.

Cost to Respondents: $0.

Needs and Uses: The Commission seeks comment on whether incumbent LECs are required under section 251(c)(5) or any other provision of the Act to notify competing carriers of where they are deploying fiber facilities in the loop. Competing carriers would use this information in planning their networks. The Commission also seeks comment on whether incumbents should provide notice to competitors before retiring and removing copper facilities. Competing carriers would use this information to ensure that such retirements and removals do not prevent them from delivering advanced services to their customers.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (FRFA)

3. As required by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), an Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (IRFA) was incorporated in the Advanced Services Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking 63 FR 45140, August 24, 1998, in CC Docket 98–147. The Commission sought written public comment on the proposals in the Notice, including comment on the IRFA. We received no comments specifically directed toward the IRFA. In addition, we incorporated the Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (FRFA) into the Advanced Services First Report and Order and received no petitions for reconsideration specifically directed toward the FRFA. This Supplemental Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (SFRFA) conforms to the RFA.

Need for and Objectives of this Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

4. This 5th FNPRM continues the Commission's efforts to facilitate the development of competition in telecommunications services, particularly local telecommunications. The Commission invites comment on whether we should amend our unbundled network element rules to ensure that carriers are able to gain competitive access to transport, subloops, and loops as incumbent LECs introduce new network technologies. Specifically, the Commission seeks comment on the legal and policy bases for amending its local competition unbundling rules to ensure that competitors will have competitive access to transport, subloops, and loops as new network technologies are deployed.

Summary of Significant Issues Raised by Public Comments in Response of the FRFA

5. In the IRFA, we stated that any rule changes would impose minimum burdens on small entities and solicited comments on alternatives to our proposed rules that would minimize the impact that might have on small entities. In the Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (FRFA), we discussed the impact on small entities of the rules adopted in the Advanced Services First Report and Order 63 FR 45133, August 24, 1998. As noted, we have received no comments or petitions specifically directed to the IRFA or the FRFA. In making the determinations reflected in the Order, however, we have considered the impact of our actions on small entities.

Description and Estimate of the Number of Small Entities Affected by the Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

6. In the IRFA to the Advanced Services Order and NPRM, we adopted the analysis and definitions set forth in determining the small entities affected by this Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for purposes of this SFRFA. The RFA directs agencies to provide a description of and, where feasible, an estimate of the number of entities that will be affected by the rules. The RFA generally defines ''small entity'' as having the same meaning as the term ''small business,'' ''small organization,'' and ''small governmental jurisdiction.'' In addition, the term ''small business'' has the same meaning as the term ''small business concern'' under the Small Business Act, unless the Commission has developed one or more definitions that are appropriate to its activities. Under the Small Business Act, a ''small business concern'' is one that: (a) is independently owned and operated; (b) is not dominant in its field of operation; and (c) meets any additional criteria established by the Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA has defined a small business for Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) categories 4812 (Radiotelephone) to be small entities when they have no more than 1,500 employees. We first discuss the number of small telephone companies falling within these SIC categories, then attempt to refine further those estimates to correspond with the categories of telephone companies that are commonly used under our rules.

7. The most reliable source of information regarding the total numbers of common carrier and related providers nationwide, as well as the numbers of commercial wireless entities, appears to be data the Commission publishes annually in its Carrier Locator report, derived from filings made in connection with the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS). According to data in the most recent report, there are 4,144 interstate carriers. These carriers include, inter alia, LECs, wireline carriers and service providers, interexchange carriers, competitive access providers, operators services providers, pay telephone operators, providers of telephone toll service, providers of telephone exchange service, and resellers.

8. We have included small incumbent LECs in this present RFA analysis. As noted above, a ''small business'' under the RFA is one that, inter alia, meets the pertinent small business size standard (*e.g.*, a telephone communications business having 1,500 or fewer

employees), and ''is not dominant in its field of operation.'' The SBA's Office of Advocacy contends that, for RFA purposes, small incumbent LECs are not dominant in their field of operation because any such dominance is not ''national'' in scope. We have therefore included small incumbent LECs in this RFA analysis, although we emphasize that this RFA action has no effect on FCC analyses and determinations in other, non-RFA contexts.

9. *Total Number of Telephone Companies Affected.* The United States Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) reports that, at the end of 1992, there were 3,497 firms engaged in providing telephone services, as defined therein, for at least one year. These firms include a variety of different categories of carriers, including LECs, interexchange carriers, competitive access providers, cellular carriers, mobile service carriers, operator service providers, pay telephone operators, PCS providers, covered SMR providers, and resellers. It seems certain that some of those 4,144 telephone service firms may not qualify as small entities or small incumbent LECs because they are not ''independently owned and operated.'' For example, a PCS provider that is affiliated with an interexchange carrier having more than 1,500 employees would not meet the definition of a small business. It seems reasonable to conclude, therefore, that fewer than 4,144 telephone service firms are small entity telephone service firms or small incumbent LECs that may be affected by the decisions and rules that potentially could be adopted based upon this Fifth Further Notice.

10. *Wireline Carriers and Service Providers.* SBA has developed a definition of small entities for telephone communications companies other than radiotelephone companies. The Census Bureau reports that, there were 2,321 such telephone companies in operation for at least one year at the end of 1992. According to SBA's definition, a small business telephone company other than a radiotelephone company is one employing no more than 1,500 persons. All but 26 of the 2,231 non-radiotelephone companies listed by the Census Bureau were reported to have fewer that 1,000 employees. Thus, even if all 26 of those companies had more than 1,500 employees, there would still be 2,295 non-radiotelephone companies that might qualify as small entities or small incumbent LECs. Although it seems certain that some of these carriers are not independently owned and operated, we are unable at this time to estimate with greater precision the number of wireline carriers and service providers that would qualify as small business concerns under SBA's definition. Consequently, we estimate that there are fewer than 2,295 small entity telephone communications companies other than radiotelephone companies that may be affected by the decisions and rules that could potentially result from this 5th FNPRM.

11. *Local Exchange Carriers.* The Commission has not developed a special size definition of small LECs or competitive LECs. The closest applicable definition for these types of carriers under SBA rules is, again, that used for telephone communications companies other than radiotelephone (wireless) companies. The most reliable source of information regarding the number of these carriers nationwide of which we are aware appears to be the data that we collect annually in connection with the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS). According to our most recent data, there are 1,348 incumbent LECs, 212 competitive LECs, and 442 resellers. Although it seems certain that some of these carriers are not independently owned and operated, or have more than 1,500 employees, we are unable at this time to estimate with greater precision the number of these carriers that would qualify as small business concerns under SBA's definition. Consequently, we estimate that there are no more than 1,348 small entity incumbent LECs, 212 competitive LECs, and 442 resellers that may be affected by the decisions and rules that could result from this Fifth Further Notice.

Description of Projected Reporting, Record Keeping, and other Compliance Requirements

12. In the 5th FNPRM in CC Docket No. 96–98, we invite comment on several issues concerning the deployment of new network architectures. We ask, for instance, whether we should modify or clarify our definition of the loop to include access for requesting carriers at the wavelength level. We request comment on the features, functions, and capabilities of the subloop created by the deployment of new network architectures. We invite comment on incumbent LECs' obligations to provide unbundled access to the subloop, particularly the fiber feeder portion, in situations where there is inadequate existing capacity. We also seek comment on whether we should change the technically feasible points at which competing carriers may access subloops at remote terminal locations. We further invite comment on whether, as part of their deployment of additional fiber facility, incumbent LECs plan to retire and remove existing copper plant and how that would affect their obligations under our local competition rules. Finally, we inquire about whether we should alter our definition of the transport element in view of new network architectures being deployed by carriers.

Steps Taken to Minimize Significant Economic Impact on Small Entities and Significant Alternatives Considered

13. In the 5th FNPRM, we seek to develop a record sufficient to adequately address issues related to developing long-term policies for ensuring that competitive carriers have access to unbundled network elements as changes are made to traditional telephone networks. In addressing these issues, we seek to ensure that competing providers, including small entity carriers, obtain access to inputs necessary to the provision voice and advanced telecommunications services. We believe that the issues on which we invite comment could impose minimal burdens on small entities, including both telecommunications carriers that request unbundled network elements and the incumbent LECs that, under section 251 of the Communications Act, must provide unbundled network elements to requesting carriers. As indicated, both groups of carriers include entities that, for purposes of this SIRFA, are classified as small entities. In framing the issues in this Fifth Further Notice, we have sought to develop a record on the potential impact our proposed rules could have upon small entities. We thus ask that commenters propose measures to avoid significant economic impact on small business entities.

Procedural Matters

14. Pursuant to sections 1–4, 201, 202, 251–254, 256, 271, and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151–154, 201, 202, 251–254, 256, 271, and 303(r), that the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in (Published elsewhere in this issue) CC Docket No. 98–147 and the Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96–98 Are Adopted.

15. The Commission's Consumer Information Bureau, Reference Information Center, *Shall Send* a copy of this Order on Reconsideration and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Published elswhere in this issue) in CC Docket No. 98–147 and this Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No., including the Supplemental Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis and the Initial

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–22891 Filed 9–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[Report No. 2435]

Petition for Reconsideration of Action in Rulemaking Proceeding

September 1, 2000.

Petition for Reconsideration has been filed in the Commission's rulemaking proceeding listed in this Public Notice and published pursuant to 47 CFR Section 1.429(e). The full text of this document is available for viewing and copying in Room CY–A257, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC or may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, ITS, Inc. (202) 857–3800. Oppositions to this petition must be filed by September 25, 2000. See Section 1.4(b)(1) of the Commission's rules (47 CFR 1.4(b)(1)). Replies to an opposition must be filed within 10 days after the time for filing oppositions has expired.

Subject: Amendment of Section 73.202(b) Table of Allotments FM Broadcast Stations to allot Channel 278A to Centerville, Texas (MM Docket No. 99–257, RM–9683)

Number of Petitions Filed: 1.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–23014 Filed 9–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–M

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting; Announcing an Open Meeting of the Board

TIME AND DATE: 3 p.m., Tuesday, September 19, 2000.

PLACE: Board Room, Second Floor, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006.

STATUS: The entire meeting will be open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED DURING PORTIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Discussion: FHLBank Capital Structure Prototypes.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Elaine L. Baker, Secretary to the Board, (202) 408–2837.

James L. Bothwell,

Managing Director.

[FR Doc. 00–23274 Filed 9–6–00; 3:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 6725–01–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at www.ffiec.gov/nic/.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than October 2, 2000.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (A. Linwood Gill, III, Vice President), 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261–4528:

1. Marathon Financial Corporation, Winchester, Virginia, to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Rockingham Heritage Bank, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Phillip Jackson, Applications Officer), 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690–1414:

1. Alpena Banking Corporation, Alpena, Michigan; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of The Bank of Alpena (in formation), Alpena, Michigan.

C. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President), 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63166–2034:

1. First Banks, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri, and its subsidiary, First Banks America, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Commercial Bank of San Francisco, San Francisco, California.

D. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Maria Villanueva, Consumer Regulation Group), 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105–1579:

1. Wells Fargo & Company, San Francisco, California; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Brenton Banks, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Brenton Bank, Des Moines, Iowa.

In connection with this application, Applicant also has applied to acquire Brenton Investments, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa, and thereby engage in offering retail investment brokerage products and services, pursuant to § 228.25(b)(7) of Regulation Y; Brenton Insurance, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa, and thereby engage in offering insurance products to Applicant's customers, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(11)(vii) of Regulation Y; Brenton Savings Bank, FSB, Ames, Iowa, and thereby engage in operating a savings association, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(4) of Regulation Y, and thereby indirectly acquire Brenton Mortgages, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa, and thereby engage in mortgage banking services, pursuant to § 228.25(b)(1) of Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, September 1, 2000.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 00–23017 Filed 9–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–P

FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 9 a.m. (EDT); September 11, 2000.

PLACE: 4th Floor, Conference Room, 1250 H Street, NW., Washington, DC

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Approval of the minutes of the August 14, 2000, Board member meeting.