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AUCTION NO. 81 SETTLEMENT PERIOD EXTENDED TO AUGUST 23, 2001

On May 25, 2001, the Mass Media Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureaus) released a *Public Notice*¹ providing a list of all proposals received during the Auction No. 81 low power television, television translator and Class A Television limited auction filing window that were deemed to be mutually exclusive (MX) with other proposals submitted in the filing window. The Bureaus also announced a 60-day settlement period ending July 24, 2001, for parties with proposals in the MX groups to enter into settlement agreements or otherwise resolve their mutual exclusivities by means of engineering solutions.

The Bureaus have received a number of identical pleadings from applicants and their consulting engineers asking that the settlement window either be extended an additional 30 days to August 23, 2001, or an additional 60 days to September 22, 2001.² The requesting parties state that, given the large number of MX groups, and the complexity of many of the MX groups, it is not possible to identify possible settlement solutions within the time period.

We find that the requesting parties have justified a brief extension of the Auction No. 81 settlement window period. We therefore extend the settlement window 30 days to August 23, 2001. However, in order to ensure the timely initiation and completion of the

¹ "Low Power Television Auction No. 81 - Mutually Exclusive Proposals Subject to Auction," *Public Notice*, DA 01-1289, released May 25, 2001.

² The following parties requested an extension of 30 days: Byron W. St. Clair, Smith and Fisher, Donald G. Everist, and Venture Technologies Group, LLC. The following parties requested an extension of 60 days: International Executive Consultants, Inc., and Tiger Eye Broadcasting Corporation.

auction process in this case, we deny the requests to further extend the settlement period. No further extensions will be considered.

For additional information or questions on this matter, please contact Shaun Maher of the Video Services Division, Mass Media Bureau at 202-418-1600.