

Public Participation - Rapid City, South Dakota Localism Field Hearing

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and its Localism Task Force (LTF) welcome you to the third field hearing on broadcast localism. The purpose of these hearings is to solicit input from citizens, civic organizations, and industry on broadcasting and localism.

We look forward to hearing from you about your broadcasters' responsiveness to community needs and interests. What are your broadcasters doing well? Are there any kinds of local programming that you would like to see more of? Are there any segments of the local community that you believe are not being adequately served? What, if anything, should the FCC do to promote more localism in broadcasting? Viewers and listeners in South Dakota can share their views with the FCC in several ways:

▪ **Open Microphone**

The Open Microphone segment of today's hearing has been designed to maximize the number of individuals who can speak. We will use two levels of random selection so that while it may not be possible for everyone to speak, each person will have an equal opportunity to do so.

Each person who attends the hearing will be asked to draw a random group number to facilitate participation in the Open Microphone segment. (Example: "Group 25") Each group has 10 people. Group numbers will be selected randomly and then displayed on television screens at the front of the room. Individuals holding those group numbers may then be heard. As individuals from the first randomly selected group speak, another group number will be randomly selected and displayed on the television screens. In order to accommodate as many speakers as possible, we kindly request that you follow the instructions below:

Open Microphone Instructions

- ❶ If you would like to speak during Open Microphone, please check the television screens to see whether your group is being taken. More than one group number may be shown at the same time. (Example: "Groups 1 and 30") If your group number is displayed, you are eligible.
- ❷ When your group number is displayed, you should move from your seat to the Open Microphone Check-In Area at the back of the room. An FCC staff person will direct you to one of the microphones at the appropriate time.
- ❸ Please keep your remarks brief — to no more than two (2) minutes. We encourage all speakers to expand on their oral comments by submitting written comments (a short letter is all that is needed) to the FCC's Localism Task Force, electronically or by mail (see below). All written comments are read by FCC staff, are available to the public on the FCC's website, and become part of the formal record.

▪ **Written comments to the Commission**

If you are not able to (or prefer not to) speak during the Open Microphone segment, you may also send written comments to the Commission.

- *Electronic submission:* Instructions for submitting comments electronically using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (or ECFS) are available on the LTF's Web site, www.fcc.gov/localism.
- *By mail:* You may also submit your comments via U.S. mail addressed to Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. Please reference RM-10803. Additional instructions for submitting comments by mail are available on the LTF's Web site or by calling the LTF at (202) 418-7777.

Questions? If you have questions about submitting comments or other matters, please contact the LTF at (202) 418-7777 or localism@fcc.gov.

