

Advocacy Commends the FCC's Consideration of Regulatory Relief for Small Cable Operators

On April 25, 2008, The Office of Advocacy, U.S. Small Business Administration ("Advocacy") sent a letter to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or "Commission") commending them for considering a proposal to grant regulatory relief to small cable providers. The FCC is considering a proposal that would exempt these small providers from transmitting high-definition broadcast feeds that would burden their cable capacity.

- Advocacy urged the Commission to exempt the smallest cable operators from the requirements of the rule to allow them to continue to carry and distribute analog channels while they build the infrastructure necessary to go digital.
- Advocacy encouraged the Commission to continue to work with representatives of small cable providers in drafting its proposal, to best understand how the rule will economically impact their operations. Further, Advocacy pledged to work closely with the Commission and industry on this and other issues of concern to small businesses.

Information on the proposed rule can be found on the FCC website at: www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/.

A complete copy of Advocacy's letter may be accessed at: <http://www.sba.gov/advo/laws/comments/>.

For more information, visit Advocacy's website at: <http://www.sba.gov/advo/> or contact Assistant Chief Counsel Cheryl Johns by e-mail at: cheryl.johns@sba.gov, or by phone at: (202) 205-6949.