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FCC Invites Public Comments on its New 5-Year Plan

Washington, D.C., July 1, 2002 -- The Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) announced today that it has issued its Strategic Plan for 2003-2008 (“Strategic Plan”).

In the Strategic Plan, the FCC identifies six core goals: (1) to establish regulatory policies that promote competition, innovation, and investment in broadband services and facilities deployment of broadband services in the United States and abroad; (2) to encourage efficient use of spectrum domestically and internationally in order to encourage the growth and rapid adoption of new technologies; (3) to revise media regulations and media ownership rules to encourage the development and delivery of new technologies, promote competition, and facilitate the migration to digital modes of delivery; (4) to work to strengthen the nation’s communications infrastructure to ensure that it can be rapidly restored in the event of disruption, and that essential public health and safety personnel have effective communications services available in cases of emergency; (5) to ensure the maintenance of a competitive framework within which the communications markets can continue to develop and provide meaningful consumer choice and promote equal access; and, last but not least, (6) to modernize the FCC’s operations to meet the regulatory challenges of changing telecommunications markets.

According to the FCC, the Strategic Plan has been revised in compliance with the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993.

The FCC has identified three main areas on which it would comments:

1. The strategic direction proposed in the document as embodied in the general goals and objectives;
2. Providing additional contextual information not covered in the document’s text; and
3. The means and strategies that the FCC should undertake to accomplish its goals.

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The FCC stated that while the revised draft of the Strategic Plan is a “work-in-progress,” it believes that it is complete enough to permit the initiation of a public review and comment period. Those interested in submitting comments to the FCC should do so by August 2, 2002.

If you would like a copy of the Strategic Plan or if you are interested in submitting comments, please feel free to contact us.

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Technology Law Group is a telecommunications law firm serving the distinctive strategic, regulatory, litigation and transactional issues faced by growing telecommunications and technology companies. TLG is dedicated to personal service and to providing high quality legal and consulting services that enable clients meet their business objectives.

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