

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

MM Docket No. 95-92

Roy J. Stewart
Chief, Mass Media Bureau

In the Matter of

Review of the Commission's
Regulations Governing Programming
Practices of Broadcast Television
Networks and Affiliates

47 C.F.R. § 73.658(a), (b), (d),
(e) and (g)

**ORDER DENYING EXTENSION OF TIME
FOR FILING REPLY COMMENTS**

Adopted: November 24, 1995; Released: November 24, 1995

By the Chief, Mass Media Bureau:

1. On June 15, 1995, the Commission initiated a rulemaking proceeding reexamining the Commission's rules governing programming practices of networks and their affiliates -- specifically the right to reject rule, the time option rule, the exclusive affiliation rule, the dual network rule and the network territorial exclusivity rule. *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* in MM Docket No. 95-92, FCC 95-254 (released June 15, 1995). Comments were due August 28, 1995, and reply comments were due September 27, 1995.

2. Since that time, in response to numerous requests, we have extended the deadlines, so that comments were due October 28, 1995, and reply comments are due November 26, 1995.

3. On November 21, 1995, Southern Broadcast Corporation of Sarasota ("SBC") filed a motion to extend the reply comment date in this proceeding to December 18, 1995. SBC argued that it sought this time extension to prepare a reply that fully addresses the comments of other parties on the network territorial exclusivity rule. No other party has filed a similar request.

4. As set forth in Section 1.46 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.46, it is our policy that extensions of time for filing comments in rulemaking proceedings shall not be routinely granted. Upon reflection, we believe that period of time provided for filing of reply comments in this proceeding is adequate and do not believe that SBC has provided sufficient reason to justify postponement of the reply comment date in this proceeding.

5. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that the Motion for Extension of Time filed in MM Docket No. 95-92 by Southern Broadcast Corporation of Sarasota IS DENIED.

6. This action is taken pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i) and 303(r), and Sections 0.204(b), 0.283, and 1.45 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.204(b), 0.283, and 1.45.