

Firm Advisory

April 26, 2007

**FCC LAUNCHES MULTIPLE PROCEEDINGS TO
EVALUATE BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT
AND INDUSTRY PRACTICES**

*COMMENTS SOUGHT ON A WIDE ARRAY OF ISSUES
CONCERNING BROADBAND COMPETITION AND DEPLOYMENT*

On April 16th, the FCC announced three proceedings concerning broadband deployment and broadband industry practices, recognizing “the critical importance of broadband services to the nation’s present and future prosperity.” As part of these proceedings, which are described below, the FCC seeks comments from interested parties on a wide array of issues concerning broadband competition and deployment.

I. Broadband Data Collection

First, the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) exploring ways to collect information needed to set future policy. The information collected will assist the FCC to understand, among other things, how subscriber choice among services affects the federal universal service fund contribution and how subscriber ship to interconnected VoIP is affecting local competition. The NPRM seeks comment on:

- How can data collected on wireless broadband Internet access service be improved?
- How can the FCC best collect information on subscriber-ship to interconnected VoIP service?
- How can the FCC develop a more accurate picture of current broadband deployment?
- How can the FCC best collect information on price and other factors that affect consumer uptake of broadband services?

This Advisory is provided for general informational purposes as a courtesy to clients and friends of the firm. While it is not intended to be and should not be relied upon as legal advice, we would be pleased to provide additional details or advice regarding specific facts and circumstances.

