

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

B

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Amendment of Part 73 of the	)	Docket No. 11279
Commission's Rules and Regulations	)	
(Radio Broadcast Services) to	)	
provide for Subscription Television	)	
Service.	)	

FOURTH REPORT AND ORDER

Adopted: ; Released:

By the Commission:

1. The Commission has before it for consideration the Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Notice of Inquiry released in this docket on March 24, 1966, 1/ and comments, reply comments, and technical submissions filed in response thereto.

2. Briefly, the course of events in this proceeding which led to the issuance of that document is as follows: In 1955 the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making 2/ inviting comments to help it decide whether it would be in the public interest to adopt rules authorizing television broadcast stations to transmit programs paid for on a subscription basis. A Notice of Further Proceedings, 3/ released in 1957, announced that although the comments responding to the 1955 Notice had been useful, they did not provide a fully adequate basis for arriving at final decisions on the matter, and that trial demonstrations would be necessary to aid in arriving at conclusions thereon. Later in 1957, the First Report 4/ announced the conditions under which applications for trial operations would be accepted. The Second Report (1958) 5/ gave notice that any such applications filed would not be processed until after the adjournment of the 85th Congress because of the interest and activity of that Congress with regard to subscription television (hereinafter called STV), the delay being for the purpose of affording the Congress an opportunity to consider public policy questions which the subject raised. The Third Report (1959) 6/ made some amendments to the First Report, otherwise readopted and affirmed it, and stated that the Commission was ready to give consideration to applications for trial operations.

1/ FCC 66-268; 31 F.R. 5136, March 30, 1966, 7 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 2d 1501.

2/ FCC 55-165; 20 F.R. 988, February 16, 1955.

3/ FCC 57-530; 22 F.R. 3758, May 29, 1957.

4/ 23 F.C.C. 532, 16 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 1509.

5/ FCC 58-182, 16 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 1539.

6/ 26 F.C.C. 265, 16 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 154a.