

includes direct broadcast satellite ("DBS") and home satellite dish ("HSD" or "C-Band") services. Are there identifiable differences between consumers who choose to subscribe to DBS rather than cable or another video programming distributor? How many or what percentage of households cannot receive DBS service because they are not within the line-of-sight of the satellite signal? We seek comment on the geographic locations of DBS and HSD subscribers, by state and type of area (i.e., urban, suburban, rural). To what extent do DBS subscribers reside in areas not passed by cable systems?

18. We request information on the number of markets where local-into-local television service is offered, or will be offered in the near future, pursuant to Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act of 1999 ("SHVIA"), including the number and affiliation of the stations carried. What percentage of DBS subscribers are opting for local programming packages where available? In cases in which additional equipment is needed to receive a full complement of local signals, what percentage of subscribers is obtaining this additional equipment? We also request information on the impact on DBS subscribership and penetration as well as its effect on the video programming market generally. What percentage of DBS subscribers continues to subscribe to cable in order to receive local broadcast signals?

19. We request current and historical data that will allow us to compare DBS and cable rates for programming packages and equipment. What is the typical cost of DBS equipment and installation? We request information regarding DBS operator equipment leasing program options, including the monthly rates charged for leasing equipment. To what extent do satellite operators subsidize equipment costs in order to attract subscribers? Have DBS rates for some programming packages increased over the last year? What factors affect changes in DBS prices?

20. We seek information on the status of Internet access services offered by the DBS industry. We seek information regarding other advanced services offered or co-marketed by DBS operators. To what extent are DBS operators offering programming in HDTV format? What marketing arrangements have non-DBS video programming distributors entered into to provide DBS service to their customers?

Broadcast Television Service

21. We seek information on the role of broadcast television in the market for

the delivery of video programming. We request information on the number and percentage of MVPD subscribers who rely on off-air reception for local broadcast service on one or more television sets, by type of MVPD service. In addition, what percentage of households has only over-the-air broadcast television reception on all television sets?

22. We request information regarding the amount and type of programming (e.g., network, local, syndicated) being broadcast on digital channels, including the extent to which DTV channels are being used for HDTV, the extent to which they are being used for multichannel program offerings ("multicasting"), and the extent to which they are being planned as ancillary and supplementary services such as subscription services. We also seek information on DTV carriage agreements between broadcasters and cable operators and the status of any such negotiations. In addition, we request information on the sales of DTV consumer equipment and the factors affecting consumer adoption of DTV equipment.

Wireless Cable Systems

23. We seek information regarding the previously identified trend towards declining subscribership for wireless cable, also referred to as MMDS-provided video. What factors affect the health and viability of the MMDS industry? We seek information about the availability of advanced services, such as digital video, high-speed Internet access services, and telephony. Where are consumers able to access these services via MMDS and how does the availability of these services affect competition?

Private Cable Operators

24. We request current and historical information on the types of services offered by private cable operators, also known as SMATV systems. We request data for private cable systems, including subscribership levels, service areas, and the identities of the largest operators. How do the programming packages offered and the price of SMATV service compare to those of incumbent cable operators? Are there services that private cable operators provide their subscribers that cable, DBS, and other technologies do not?

Local Exchange Carriers and Utilities

25. We seek information, both current and historical, regarding local exchange carriers ("LECs"), long distance telephone companies, and utility companies that provide video services.

We request information on franchised cable systems operated by LECs, both within their telephone service areas and outside those regions. To what extent are LEC video programming services being bundled with telephone, Internet, or other utility services?

Broadband Service Providers, Open Video System Operators, and Overbuilders

26. We seek current and historical information regarding the provision of video, voice, and data services by broadband service providers ("BSPs"), open video system ("OVS") operators, and overbuilders. We ask commenters to provide information regarding the video service packages that are offered and the rates charged for the various packages. Are video services offered in combination with telephone and high speed Internet access? We further seek comment on the current, historical, and potential effect of BSPs, OVS operators, and overbuilders on the status of video competition. What are the technical and economic obstacles to the successful operation of systems of this type?

Home Video Sales and Rentals

27. We seek information regarding the home video sales and rental market. We request data on the number or percentage of households with videocassette recorders, laser disc players, DVD players, and personal video recorders ("PVRs"). We request information on the amount of programming available in VCR, DVD, and laser disc formats for sale and rental, the cost of rentals, and how this compares to the cost of pay-per-view, video-on-demand, or near video-on-demand movies. We seek information on the development of the Internet as a means through which some video retailers are selling their videos. Further, we seek information on the development of companies offering PVR services in conjunction with video programming distributors, equipment manufacturers, advertisers, and programmers.

Internet Video

28. We seek information on the types of video services currently being offered over the Internet and fact-based projections of when Internet video will become a viable competitor in the market for the delivery of video programming. We also solicit information on the technological, legal, and competitive factors that may promote or impede the provision of video over the Internet.