



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Telecommunications and Cable

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October 06, 2015

Department of Telecommunications and Cable Regulation Review Pursuant to Executive Order
No. 562 To Reduce Unnecessary Regulatory Burden

NOTICE SEEKING COMMENT **HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION** **220 C.M.R. 2.00 ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS**

By Executive Order No. 562, dated March 31, 2015, the Governor's Office directed each Executive Agency, including the Department of Telecommunications and Cable ("Department"), to undertake an immediate review of its regulations.¹ These reviews must be generally concluded by March 31, 2016, and may result in rescission or revision of certain regulations.² As Title 220 has been assigned to the current Department of Public Utilities ("DPU"), the Department intends to promulgate its own version of the regulations and any revision thereto under Title 207, as appropriate.³ If the Department finds a Title 220 regulation unnecessary to the exercise of its jurisdiction it will not seek to promulgate its own version of the regulation in Title 207.

The Hearing Officer having reviewed 220 C.M.R. 2.00, Adoption of Regulations, the relevant sections of G. L. c. 30A, and 207 C.M.R. 2.01, Petition for Adoption, Amendment, or Repeal of Regulations, recommends that the Department not promulgate its own version of 220 C.M.R. 2.00 *et seq.* in Title 207. 207 C.M.R. 2.01 adequately informs interested persons of the steps the Department will take with regards to petitions to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations in accordance with G. L. c. 30A, § 4. The procedures for adopting, amending, or repealing a regulation and issuing advisory rulings that the Department must follow are detailed in the provisions of G. L. c. 30A.⁴ Accordingly, the Department seeks comment on the Hearing

¹ See Office of the Governor, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Order No. 562 (Mar. 31, 2015) ("Executive Order").

² *Id.*, § 2.

³ See Request for Comment and Notice of Listening Session at 2; n.5. The Department is reviewing each regulation individually and does not preclude the possibility it may be appropriate to retain joint jurisdiction over a regulation under Title 220 and not promulgate its own version under Title 207.

⁴ See G. L. c. 30A, §§ 2, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 5A, 6, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 7, 8.

Officer's recommendation to not promulgate its own version of 220 C.M.R. 2.00, Adoption of Regulations, in Title 207.

The Department seeks comment on these preliminary hearing officer recommendations so that it may address any stakeholder concerns before the Department adopts a formal proposal. Comments should be submitted to the Department on or before **October 20, 2015**. In the interest of efficiency, the Department strongly encourages electronic filing. Interested stakeholders may submit written concerns or recommendations to the assigned Hearing Officer's email address Michael.Scott@state.ma.us and to dtc.efiling@state.ma.us. Comments may also be mailed in hard copy to the Department at:

Sara J. Clark, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Cable
1000 Washington Street, Suite 820
Boston, MA 02118-6500

Submittals should include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. **Please be sure to reference "Department Reg Review" and 220 C.M.R. 2.00 in the subject line of all submissions.** Note that all filings submitted to the Department are subject to disclosure pursuant to G. L. c. 66, § 10, unless protected by statutory exemption. All comments will be posted to the Department's website.

For questions about this Notice, contact Hearing Officer Michael Scott at (617) 368-1114 or Michael.Scott@state.ma.us