

FEB 22 1989

Separate Statement of
Commissioner James H. Quello

Re: Policies to Encourage Interference Reduction
Between AM Broadcast Stations

Generally, I support issuing the Notice of Proposed Rule Making because it has the potential for reducing interference in the AM Band. My support, however, is tempered by several issues that are raised in this proceeding.

As the item correctly notes, the proposal has significant implications for our localism policies as established by Section 307(b) of the Act. We must make sure that service to local communities is not reduced to the point where a community is underserved. Second, the procedural mechanisms contained in the proposal could lay the foundation for a system of negotiated interference rights. I would like commenters to address these specific issues.

On balance, the benefits of potential reduced interference justify issuing a Notice of Proposed Rule Making. I intend to examine this issue closely.

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