

1960

Legislation to give the FCC regulatory authority over cable is sent back to committee where the bill dies. (S. 2653, 86th Congress, 1st Session) The industry is divided on the issue, with a number of operators supporting FCC licensing and protection similar to that for broadcasters.

1962

The FCC rules that CATV systems could use microwave relay systems to bring broadcast signals from distant cities only by showing that there would be no economic impact to broadcasters. ((*Carter Mountain Transmission Corp.*, 32 FCC 459, *aff'd*, 341 F.2d 359 (D.C. Cir.). *cert. denied*, 375 U.S. 951 (1963)).

1963

The U.S. Court of Appeals affirms the FCC position in *Carter Mountain Transmission Corp. v. FCC*. The decision is the foundation of the FCC's "economic impact" rules that restrain cable's growth in the next decade. (321 F.2d 359 (D.C. Cir))

1965

The First Report and Order by the FCC, based on the *Carter Mountain* decision, begins regulation of all cable systems receiving distant broadcast signals by microwave, including must-carry and non-duplication requirements. (Dockets 14895 and 15233, 38 FCC 683).

1966

The FCC extends regulation to all cable systems and requires systems in the top 100 television markets to obtain FCC approval to import distant signals via microwave. (Second Report and Order in Dockets 14895, 15233 and 15971, 2 FCC 2d 725, *aff'd*, 399 F.2d 65 (8th Cir. 1968)).

The FCC grants the first Community Antenna Relay Service (CARS) license to Santa Maria Valley Cable TV.

1968

The U.S. Supreme Court in *Fortnightly Corp v. United Artists* upholds the master antenna concept. The ruling affirms that cable operators are not responsible for paying copyright fees under the 1909 copyright law to producers, artists and actors for programming carried cable systems. (392 U.S.390)

In *United States v. Southwestern Cable Corporation*, the U.S. Supreme Court upholds the FCC's jurisdiction over cable television as being "reasonably ancillary to the effective performance of the Commission's" responsibility for regulating broadcasting. (392 U.S. 157)

1968

The FCC rules, under Section 214 of the Communications Act, that telephone companies must file for a Certificate of Public Convenience before building cable facilities, eliminating a strong competitive advantage of the telcos over cable companies. (13 FCC 2d 448)

The FCC freezes development of cable systems in the top 100 markets with an "anti-leapfrogging" notice that cable systems have to obtain permission of any distant station before importing it; cable systems in 35 mile radius of TV stations in smaller markets have to carry nearest network, independent and public stations; while it considers new rules for cable (Community Antenna Television Systems, Inc.,15 FCC 2d 417).

1969

The FCC requires cable systems with more than 3,500 subscribers to provide local origination programming. (First Report and Order in Docket 18397,20FCC 2d 201)

1969

The U.S. Supreme Court affirms the FCC "Section 214" ruling which requires telephone companies to file for Certificates of Public Convenience before building cable facilities. (396 U.S. 888)

The U.S. District Court in Nevada rules that Nevada can regulate cable through the Public Utilities Commission.

