CONCURRING STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN

Re: Applications of Kidd Communications for Construction Permit for a New AM Station at Truckee, California and Pamplin Broadcasting-Oregon, Inc. for a Construction Permit for a New AM Station at Jacksonville, Oregon, File Nos. BNP-20000201AFK and BNP-20000131ABP; In the Matter of Royce International Broadcasting, Co., Application for a New AM Broadcast Station at Folsom California and KM Communications

I concur in the two items captioned above, because I question whether a "dispositive" preference in our Section 307(b) determination should have been awarded based solely on the population differential between the competing applications. As I have said before, this practice not only disadvantages broadcasters attempting to provide local service in rural or less populated areas, but it also undermines our localism goals and the clear congressional objective to award broadcast construction permits through auctions and competitive bidding.

In the future, perhaps we should consider whether second local service should be given more weight in our 307(b) analysis, or whether our analysis should de-emphasize new reception service to already abundantly served populations and give greater consideration to disparities in transmission service between competing communities. Each of these factors should have been considered in the matter concerning Truckee, California and Jacksonville, Oregon; and Folsom and Elk Grove, California, respectively.

Accordingly, I concur in the items and I am pleased the Commission is re-examining our licensing and allotment process to ensure that we are meeting our statutory obligation to distribute radio service throughout the United States in a fair, efficient and equitable manner.