

# The Great Interconnection Debate

7/24/01

# Satellite Interconnection

- GE Lease expires in 2006
- Intent to renew in 2004
- Request for funds in 2002
- Established Task Force to consider options in 2000
- Preliminary report to Interconnection Committee
- New PBS position – Director of Interconnection Planning

# Satellite Distribution

- Efficient for “From several to many”
- Very efficient for “From one to many”
- Transparent technology – Use any analog or digital encoding
- Most used form of distribution
- Mature and proven technology
- High reliability – no “back hoe” problems
- Perfect fit for present distribution needs
- Multiple vendors drives prices down

# Future Distribution

- Future similar to present
- Abundant transponder capacity
- Existing assets in place
- Other uses beyond station interconnection will require continued satellite use

# IP / Internet 2

- IP Based Intranet
- Cost is fixed and not dependent on file size
- Internet Protocol is common standard
  - ◆ Flexible
  - ◆ Inexpensive
  - ◆ Ubiquitous
  - ◆ Easy to Maintain

# IP / Internet 2

- Fiber has practically unlimited bandwidth and capacity is increasing with technology advances
- Internet 2 is available for education, therefore available for public television

# Satellite Internet Protocol

- Best combination of satellite and IP
- Reliable
- Common IP standard
- Efficient
- No Re-feeds!

# Maybe the Future Will Be Different

- Program distribution by file transfer
- Virtual real time
- Combined master controls
- Storage capacity will increase
- Storage costs will decrease
- Terrestrial Fiber Costs will decrease
- Maybe hybrid model