

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of
Standardizing Program Reporting Requirements
for Broadcast Licensees
MB Docket No. 11-189

ORDER

Extended Comment Date: January 27, 2012
Extended Reply Comment Date: February 9, 2012

Adopted: January 6, 2012

Released: January 6, 2012

By the Chief, Media Bureau:

1. On December 15, 2011, the Federal Register published a Notice of Inquiry ("NOI") in the above-captioned proceeding. That NOI established a comment deadline of January 17, 2012 and a reply comment deadline of January 30, 2012. On January 4, 2012, the Named State Broadcasters Associations ("Named State Broadcasters") filed a motion requesting that the comment date in this proceeding be extended to February 7, 2012, and that the reply comment deadline be extended to February 21, 2012. Named State Broadcasters argues that additional time is necessary, in part, because the filing deadlines in this proceeding are close to the deadlines in the related online public file proceeding, and because of 2011 end of year holiday season travel absences. On January 5, 2012, the Radio Television Digital News Association ("RTDNA") filed a motion requesting a similar extension of both the comment and reply comment dates, to February 7, 2012 and February 21, 2012, respectively. RTDNA states that it has recently undergone a restructuring and named a new Executive Director, whose tenure effectively began on January 1, 2012. As a result of these changes, RTDNA requests additional time to gather and synthesize information from the association's membership in order to provide input in this proceeding. On January 6, 2012, the Public Interest Public Airwaves Coalition ("PIPAC") filed an opposition to the requests for extension of time, arguing that parties have already had a considerable amount of time to consider the issues in this proceeding and noting that the existing comment deadline is more than two

1 Standardizing Program Reporting Requirements for Broadcast Licensees, 76 Fed. Reg. 77999-01 (Dec. 15, 2011).

2 Joint Motion for Extension of Deadlines for Filing Comments and Reply Comments, Named State Broadcasters Associations, filed January 4, 2012 ("Named State Broadcasters Motion").

3 See Standardized and Enhanced Disclosure Requirements for Television Broadcast Licensee Public Interest Obligations, Report and Order, MM Docket No. 00-168, FCC 11-162 (rel. Oct. 27, 2011). Comments in this proceeding were due January 6, 2012, and reply comments are now due January 17, 2012.

4 See Named State Broadcasters Motion at 1-2.

5 Motion for Extension of Deadlines for Filing Comments and Reply Comments, Radio Television Digital News Association, filed January 5, 2012.

6 Id. at 1-2.

weeks removed from the January 2 federal holiday.⁷ PIPAC argues, in the alternative, that if the Commission extends the deadlines in this proceeding, it should limit any extension to the reply portion of the comment cycle and grant only a seven day extension of the current reply comment deadline.⁸ We grant the Named State Broadcasters and RTDNA's requests in part.

2. The Commission's policy, as set forth in Section 1.46(a) of the Commission's Rules,⁹ is that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted. Given the importance of the issues in this proceeding and in the interest of encouraging thoughtful consideration of these issues, however, we believe that a partial grant of the requests by the Named State Broadcasters and RTDNA will facilitate the development of a full record. We recognize PIPAC's concern that this proceeding move forward expeditiously. We believe, however, that a brief extension of time will ensure the development of a more comprehensive record in this proceeding without causing undue delay. While an extension is warranted here, we find that the request for an additional 21 days in which to file comments and replies is unnecessarily long. Instead, we grant a 10-day extension of both the current comment and reply comment deadlines, which will establish January 27, 2012 as the new comment deadline and February 9, 2012 as the new reply comment deadline.

3. Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that, pursuant to Section 4(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 154(i), and Sections 0.61, 0.283, and 1.46 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.61, 0.283, and 1.46, the motions for extension of time filed by the Named State Broadcasters and RTDNA are granted in part, and the deadline to file comments in this proceeding is extended to January 27, 2012, and the deadline to file reply comments is extended to February 9, 2012.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

William T. Lake
Chief, Media Bureau

⁷ Opposition to Requests for Extension of Deadlines for Filing Comments and Reply Comments, Public Interest Public Airwaves Coalition, filed January 6, 2012, at 2-3.

⁸ *Id.* at 3-4.

⁹ 47 C.F.R. § 1.46.