

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Promoting Diversification in the Broadcasting Services)	MB Docket No. 07-294
)	
Amendment of Part 1 of the Commission's Rules, Concerning Practice and Procedure, Amendment of CORES Registration System)	MD Docket No. 10-234
)	
)	

ORDER

Adopted: December 20, 2016

Released: December 20, 2016

By the Chief, Media Bureau:

1. On January 8, 2016, the Commission adopted a *Report and Order, Second Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration (Report and Order)* in the above-captioned proceedings.¹ In pertinent part, the *Report and Order* adopted revisions to FCC Form 323-E, Ownership Report for Noncommercial Broadcast Stations, and the relevant Commission rules to conform the ownership reporting requirements for noncommercial educational (NCE) broadcast stations more closely to those for commercial broadcast stations.² Those changes included substituting a uniform biennial filing deadline for the current system of rolling filing deadlines tied to a station's renewal anniversary.³ Pursuant to the revised reporting requirements, licensees of NCE stations and entities with attributable interests in such stations will be required to file biennial ownership reports on the revised version of Form 323-E—FCC Form 2100, Schedule 323-E—on or before December 1, 2017, with information current as of October 1, 2017, and to file biennially thereafter.⁴

2. On our own motion, we are suspending the existing biennial filing requirement for NCE licensees and entities that would otherwise be required to file biennial ownership reports on Form 323-E

¹ *Promoting Diversification of Ownership in the Broadcasting Services, Report and Order, Second Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration*, 31 FCC Rcd 398 (2016) (*Report and Order*).

² *Id.* at 420-28, 432-33, paras. 43-55, 66. In addition to revising the reporting requirements for NCE stations, the *Report and Order* also revised FCC Form 323, Ownership Report for Commercial Stations, and the relevant Commission rules to improve the ownership information that the Commission collects from commercial broadcast stations. *Id.* at 412-20, 428-39, paras. 25-42, 56-84.

³ The Commission also adopted a number of other significant revisions to Form 323-E, as set forth in the *Report and Order*. *Id.* at 420-28, 432-38, paras. 43-55, 66-79.

⁴ 47 CFR § 73.3615(d). The Commission released a draft of Form 2100, Schedule 323-E, as Appendix E of the *Report and Order*. OMB has approved the revised form, and we will announce the effective date of FCC Form 2100, Schedule 323-E—and the associated rule sections—once the form is online. See Office of Management and Budget, Notice of Office of Management and Budget Action, ICR Reference No. 201609-3060-006, OMB Control No. 3060-0084 (Nov. 25, 2016), https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=201609-3060-006# (select the “Retrieve Notice of Action (NOA)” hyperlink).

between the date of this Order and the deadline for filing biennial ownership reports on Form 2100, Schedule 323-E.⁵ Accordingly, NCE licensees and other filing entities are not required to biennially file the existing Form 323-E on February 1, April 1, June 1, August 1, or October 1.⁶ We believe that it is in the public interest to relieve filers of the burden of filing biennial ownership reports on the existing Form 323-E within the year prior to the new December 1 filing requirement. On balance, we believe that the burden of requiring licensees and other entities to file biennial reports twice within the same year outweighs the benefit of receiving the biennial ownership information.

3. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED, that, pursuant to Sections 4(i) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i) and 303(r), and authority delegated to the Media Bureau pursuant to Sections 0.204 and 0.283 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR §§ 0.204, 0.283, a suspension of the filing requirements as described above IS GRANTED, *sua sponte*.

4. For additional information, please contact Christopher Clark, Industry Analysis Division, Media Bureau, at (202) 418-2330.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

William T. Lake
Chief, Media Bureau

⁵ This suspension applies only to biennial filings of the existing Form 323-E and does not apply to any other required filings of the existing Form 323-E or to any required filings of Form 323.

⁶ These are the renewal anniversary dates that fall between the date of this Order and the December 1, 2017, deadline for filing biennial ownership reports under the revised reporting requirements.