



PUBLIC NOTICE

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COMMISSION LIFTS THE FREEZE ON THE FILING OF CERTAIN CLASS A TELEVISION APPLICATIONS EFFECTIVE AUGUST 4, 2008

On August 3, 2004, the Media Bureau imposed a freeze on requests from full power and Class A television stations to maximize facilities or change DTV channels.¹ With respect to Class A television, the Media Bureau froze the filing of Class A station displacement applications and applications for coverage changes that would serve any area that was not already served by that Class A station's authorized facilities (Class A expansion applications).² As an exception to this freeze, on-air Class A stations demonstrating that they faced imminent disruption of service were permitted to request Special Temporary Authority to continue operations. The Media Bureau also stated that displacement applications filed by out-of-core LPTV stations that were deemed Class A-eligible requesting to move to an in-core channel where Class A authority could be granted would not be acted on during this freeze.³ For such stations, immediate non-Class A LPTV displacement relief could be requested through an STA.

The freeze provided a stable database during the channel election process and the initial processing of applications for full power stations' post-transition digital facilities.⁴ The Commission recently lifted the freeze on the filing of maximization applications by full power television stations.⁵ Given that action, we find it appropriate to lift the freeze on the aforementioned types of Class A station applications. Effective August 4, 2008, we lift the freeze on the filing of Class A displacement applications and Class A expansion applications.

Beginning August 4, 2008, we will accept Class A displacement and expansion applications on a "first-come, first-serve" basis and such applications will be treated for cut-off purposes on the date they are filed. In

¹ See "Freeze on the Filing of Certain TV and DTV Requests for Allotment or Service Area Changes, *Public Notice*, 19 FCC Rcd 14810 (MB 2004).

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ See *Second Periodic Review of the Commission's Rules and Policies Affecting the Conversion to Digital Television*, 19 FCC Rcd 18308 (2004).

⁵ See "Commission Lifts the Freeze on the Filing of Maximization Applications and Petitions for Digital Channel Substitutions, Effective Immediately," *Public Notice*, DA 08-1213, released May 30, 2008.

addition, Class A displacement and expansion applications that were filed prior to August 4, 2008, and that requested a waiver of the filing freeze, will be treated for cut-off purposes as being filed on August 4, 2008.

Class A displacement applications and Class A expansion applications must be filed using FCC Form 301-CA. FCC Form 301-CA must be filed electronically using the Commission's Consolidated Database System ("CDBS") Electronic Filing system via the Internet from the Media Bureau's Web site at: <http://www.fcc.gov/mb/cdbs.html> or http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/prod/cdbs/forms/prod/cdbs_ef.htm.

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