

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

In the Matter of)
)
Advanced Television Systems And Their Impact) MB Docket No. 87-268
Upon The Existing Television Broadcast Service)
)
)
)

ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FILING COMMENTS AND REPLY
COMMENTS

Adopted: January 9, 2007

Released: January 9, 2007

Revised date for filing Comments: January 25, 2007
Revised date for filing Reply Comments: February 26, 2007

By the Chief, Media Bureau:

1. On October 20, 2006, the Commission adopted a *Seventh Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 06-150, proposing a new Digital Television Table of Allotments providing all eligible stations with channels for digital television (“DTV”) operations after the DTV transition (“Further Notice”).¹ Comments on the Further Notice were initially due on January 11, 2007, and reply comments were initially due on February 12, 2007.

2. On December 29, 2006, the Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers (AFCCE) filed a request for a 30 day extension of time to file comments in this proceeding. AFCCE argues that additional time is needed to complete the engineering analysis necessary to prepare comments.

3. As set forth in Section 1.46 of the Commission’s rules,² it is our policy that extensions of time for filing comments in rulemaking proceedings shall not be routinely granted. Moreover, the initial comment period in the proceeding was longer than usual. However, in view of the circumstances outlined by AFCCE, we believe a 14 day extension for the comment and reply period is warranted to facilitate the development of a complete record. This extension allows parties ample time to develop and provide technical analyses during the comment and reply period, which we hope will reduce the time needed later in this rulemaking process for further adjustments and filings. It is essential, however, that the industry and Commission remain on track to complete this transition by the statutory deadline for the final transition for full power stations from analog to digital television on February 17, 2009.³ Accordingly, we decline to grant the full 30 day extension AFCCE requested.

¹ See *Seventh Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, 21 FCC Rcd. 12100 (2006) (“Further Notice”).

² 47 C.F.R. § 1.46.

³ See Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-171, 120 Stat. 4 (2006) (amending Section 309(j) (14) and Section 337(e) of the Communications Act, as amended).

4. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that the Request for Extension of Time filed in MB Docket No. 87-268 by the AFCCE is GRANTED to the extent detailed above.

5. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the time for filing comments in the above captioned proceeding is EXTENDED to **January 25, 2007** and the time for filing reply comments is EXTENDED to **February 26, 2007**.

6. This action is taken pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i), 4(j), and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j), and 303(r) 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.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Donna C. Gregg
Chief, Media Bureau