

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

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Revision of the Commission's Program Carriage Rules	)	MB Docket No. 11-131
	)	

**ORDER**

**Extended Reply Comment Date:      January 11, 2012**

**Adopted: December 15, 2011**

**Released: December 15, 2011**

By the Chief, Media Bureau:

1.        On August 1, 2011, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“*NPRM*”) on revisions to the program carriage rules.<sup>1</sup> The *NPRM* set deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 60 and 90 days, respectively, after publication of the *NPRM* in the *Federal Register*.<sup>2</sup> A summary of the *NPRM* was published in the *Federal Register* on September 29, 2011.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, the filing dates were initially established as November 28, 2011 for comments and December 28, 2011 for reply comments.

2.        On December 13, 2011, the National Cable & Telecommunications Association (“*NCTA*”), Media Access Project, and Public Knowledge filed a joint request to extend the reply comment deadline by two weeks, until January 11, 2012.<sup>4</sup> They claim that the comments filed in response to the *NPRM* reflect divergent views and opposing arguments on virtually every issue and note further that the current reply comment deadline falls in the middle of the holiday season.<sup>5</sup> We grant the requested extension. As set forth in Section 1.46 of the Commission’s rules,<sup>6</sup> the Commission’s policy is that extensions of time for filing comments in rulemaking proceedings shall not be routinely granted. In this case, however, an extension of the reply comment period is warranted to enable commenters to adequately review and respond to the comments filed in response to the *NPRM*.

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<sup>1</sup> See *Revision of the Commission’s Program Carriage Rules*, MB Docket No. 11-131, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 26 FCC Rcd 11494 (2011) (“*NPRM*”).

<sup>2</sup> See *id.* at 11494.

<sup>3</sup> 76 FR 60675 (Sept. 29, 2011).

<sup>4</sup> See *NCTA et al.*, Motion for Extension of Time, MB Docket No. 11-131 (filed Dec. 13, 2011).

<sup>5</sup> See *id.* at 1.

<sup>6</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.46.

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 Motion for Extension of Time filed by NCTA, Media Access Project, and Public Knowledge **IS GRANTED**, and the deadline to file reply comments in this proceeding is extended to January 11, 2012.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

William T. Lake  
Chief, Media Bureau