

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

In the Matter of)
)
Revision of the Commission's Program Access) MB Docket No. 12-68
Rules)

ORDER

Extended Comment Date: December 14, 2012
Extended Reply Comment Date: January 14, 2013

Adopted: November 19, 2012

Released: November 19, 2012

By the Chief, Media Bureau:

1. On October 5, 2012, the Commission released a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“*FNPRM*”) on revisions to the program access rules.¹ The *FNPRM* set deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 30 and 45 days, respectively, after publication of the *FNPRM* in the *Federal Register*.² A summary of the *FNPRM* was published in the *Federal Register* on October 31, 2012.³ Accordingly, the filing dates were initially established as November 30, 2012 for comments and December 17, 2012 for reply comments.

2. On November 14, 2012, the National Cable & Telecommunications Association (“*NCTA*”) filed a request to extend the comment and reply comment deadlines to December 14, 2012 and January 14, 2013, respectively.⁴ *NCTA* states that Hurricane Sandy has disrupted business operations along the northeast corridor, thereby hindering the ability of some of its members to gather information and prepare comments for this proceeding.⁵ We grant the requested extension. As set forth in Section 1.46 of the Commission’s rules,⁶ 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 comment periods is warranted to provide commenters with sufficient time to prepare comments and reply comments in response to the *FNPRM*.

¹ See *Revision of the Commission’s Program Access Rules*, MB Docket No. 12-68, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 12-123 (2012) (“*FNPRM*”).

² See *id.* at 1.

³ See *Revision of the Commission’s Program Access Rules*, 77 Fed. Reg. 66052 (Oct. 31, 2012).

⁴ See *NCTA*, Motion for Extension of Time, MB Docket No. 12-68 (filed Nov. 14, 2012).

⁵ See *id.* at 1. Accordingly, *NCTA* requests a two-week extension of the comment deadline to December 14, 2012. Because an identical two-week extension of the reply comment deadline would require reply comments to be filed during the last week of December in the middle of the holiday season, *NCTA* requests a four-week extension of the reply comment deadline. See *id.*

⁶ 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 **IS GRANTED**, and the deadlines to file comments and reply comments in this proceeding are extended to December 14, 2012 and January 14, 2013, respectively.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

William T. Lake
Chief, Media Bureau