



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 13-2324

Released: December 5, 2013

COMMENT DEADLINES ANNOUNCED FOR NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING ON IMPROVING WIRELESS FACILITIES SITING POLICIES

WT Docket No. 13-32; WT Docket No. 13-238; WC Docket No. 11-59

Comments Due: February 3, 2014
Reply Comments Due: March 5, 2014

On September 26, 2013, the Commission released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in WT Docket Nos. 13-238 and 13-32 and WC Docket No. 11-59, taking additional steps to reduce barriers to wireless infrastructure deployment.¹ The *NPRM* seeks comment on expediting the Commission's environmental review process, including review for effects on historic properties, in connection with proposed deployments of small cells, Distributed Antenna Systems, and other small-scale wireless technologies that may have minimal effects on the environment. In addition, the *NPRM* proposes a narrow exemption from the Commission's pre-construction environmental notification requirements for certain temporary towers. The *NPRM* also seeks comment on rules to clarify and implement the requirements of Section 6409(a) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, and on certain issues regarding a 2009 declaratory ruling, often called the Shot Clock Order, which established presumptively reasonable time periods for local review of wireless facility siting applications under Section 332(c)(7) of the Communications Act. The *NPRM* set deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 60 and 90 days after publication in the Federal Register.

On December 5, 2013, the Office of the Federal Register published a summary of the *NPRM* and associated comment and reply comment dates.² Accordingly, comments must be filed on or before February 3, 2014, and reply comments must be filed on or before March 5, 2014. The *NPRM* sets forth the comment filing instructions.

¹ In the Matter of Acceleration of Broadband Deployment by Improving Wireless Facilities Siting Policies; Acceleration of Broadband Deployment: Expanding the Reach and Reducing the Cost of Broadband Deployment by Improving Policies Regarding Public Rights of Way and Wireless Facilities Siting; 2012 Biennial Review of Telecommunications Regulations, WT Docket No. 13-238, WC Docket No. 11-59, WT Docket No. 13-32, *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 13-122 (rel. Sept. 26, 2013) (*NPRM*). For an electronic copy of the *NPRM*, see http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-13-122A1.docx.

² 78 Fed. Reg. 73144 (Dec. 5, 2013). The summary is also available at <https://federalregister.gov/a/2013-28349>.

For further information regarding this proceeding, contact Peter Trachtenberg, at (202) 418-7369, or by email at Peter.Trachtenberg@fcc.gov, or Mania Baghdadi, at (202) 418-2133, or by email at Mania.Baghdadi@fcc.gov.

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