**DA 17-1221**

**December 19, 2017**

 **ZOO COMMUNICATIONS, LLC AND ANCO MEDIA GROUP, LLC SEEK FOREIGN OWNERSHIP RULING PURSUANT TO SECTION 310(b)(4) OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED**

**PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED**

**MB Docket No. 17-359**

**Comments Due: January 18, 2018**

**Replies Due:** **February 2, 2018**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Zoo Communications, LLC (Zoo) and Anco Media Group, LLC (Anco Media) (collectively, the Petitioners) have filed a petition for declaratory ruling (Petition) with the Commission requesting that the Commission find, pursuant to Section 310(b)(4) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,[[1]](#footnote-3) the Commission’s recent *Foreign Ownership Order*,[[2]](#footnote-4) and Section 1.5000(a)(1) of the FCC’s rules,[[3]](#footnote-5) that it would serve the public interest to permit Anco Media, a Florida limited liability company owned by four Italian members, to acquire a 100 percent voting and equity interest in the licensee, Zoo.

 The Petition is filed in connection with an application, filed on November 28, 2017, seeking Commission consent to the transfer of control of Zoo, the licensee of four Florida stations (2 FMs and 2 FM translators)[[4]](#footnote-6) from the four current members, including Italian Claudio Castiglioni Dompe, to Anco Media.[[5]](#footnote-7) Anco Media is a Florida limited liability company owned by four members, who are citizens of Italy: Claudio Castiglioni Dompe (40 percent voting and equity interest); Marco Mazzoli (40 percent voting and equity interest); Claudia Castiglioni Dompe (10 percent voting and equity interest); and Stefania Pittaluga (10 percent voting and equity interest).[[6]](#footnote-8) The Petitioners assert that grant of the Petition would serve the public interest because it would facilitate foreign investment from a new source of capital “to a recent entrant in an important U.S. broadcast radio market, which listenership is composed of a substantial number of minority individuals.”[[7]](#footnote-9)

 In support of the Petition, Zoo and Anco Media note that Marco Mazzoli currently serves as General Manager and Marketing Director for Zoo’s stations, programs a popular radio show he created in Italy (The 105 Zoo) on the stations for his Italian audience, and thus, is the “creative genius behind the success of the company’s stations.”[[8]](#footnote-10) The Petitioners maintain that Italian ownership poses no national security or other threat to the United States, given the “friendly, non-threatening relationship between the United States and Italy over the past 60 years.”[[9]](#footnote-11) Further, the Petitioners contend that grant of the Petition would further the Commission’s goals of encouraging foreign investment and ownership diversity in U.S. broadcast stations while also potentially encouraging reciprocal investment opportunities for U.S. companies in foreign markets.[[10]](#footnote-12) Finally, the Petitioners assert that it would not implicate any homeland security issues or concerns to allow the indirect ownership of stations by only four Italian citizens, “including one who stands ready and able to operate the stations based on his knowledge and expertise in broadcasting achieved over a lifetime, … [and] immediate experience successfully operating these very stations.”[[11]](#footnote-13)

**II**. ***EX PARTE* STATUS OF THIS PROCEEDING**

Pursuant to Section 1.1200(a) of the Commission’s rules,[[12]](#footnote-14) the Commission may adopt modified or more stringent *ex parte* procedures in particular proceedings if the public interest so requires. We announce that this proceeding will be governed by permit-but-disclose *ex parte* procedures that are applicable to non-restricted proceedings under Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s rules.[[13]](#footnote-15)

 Parties making oral *ex parte* presentations are directed to the Commission’s *ex parte* rules. Parties are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain the presentation’s substance and not merely list the subjects discussed.[[14]](#footnote-16) More than a one- or two-sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required.[[15]](#footnote-17) Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in Section 1.1206(b) as well.[[16]](#footnote-18)

**III. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Petition has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing. The Commission may require Zoo and Anco Media to submit additional documents or statements of fact that in its judgment may be necessary, or to amend the underlying application so as to make it “more definite and certain.”[[17]](#footnote-19) The Commission also reserves the right to return the Petition if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission’s rules or policies.

 Interested parties must file comments no later than January 18, 2018. Persons and entities that file comments become parties to the proceeding. They may participate fully in the proceeding, including seeking access to any confidential information that may be filed under a protective order, seeking reconsideration of decisions, and filing appeals of a final decision to the courts. Replies to such pleadings must be filed no later than February 2, 2018. All filings concerning matters referenced in this Public Notice should refer to MB Docket No. 17-359.

To allow the Commission to consider fully all substantive issues regarding the applications in as timely and efficient a manner as possible, commenters should raise all issues in their initial filings. New issues may not be raised in responses or replies.[[18]](#footnote-20) A party or interested person seeking to raise a new issue after the pleading cycle has closed must show good cause why it was not possible for it to have raised the issue previously. Submissions after the pleading cycle has closed that seek to raise new issues based on new facts or newly discovered facts should be filed within 15 days after such facts are discovered. Absent such a showing of good cause, any issues not timely raised may be disregarded by the Commission.

Under the Commission’s current procedures for the submission of filings and other documents,[[19]](#footnote-21) submissions in this matter may be filed electronically though the Commission’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.

* **If filed by ECFS**,[[20]](#footnote-22) comments shall be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket number.
* **If filed by paper**, the original and one copy of each filing must be filed by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission’s Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission. All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission’s Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET). All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

One copy of each pleading must be delivered electronically, by e-mail or facsimile, or if delivered as paper copy, by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (according to the procedures set forth above for paper filings), to: (1) Peter Doyle, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at peter.doyle@fcc.gov or (202) 418-1410 (facsimile); (2) Lisa Scanlan, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at lisa.scanlan@fcc.gov (202) 418-1410 (facsimile); (3) Rolanda F. Smith, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at rolanda-faye.smith@fcc.gov or 202 418-1410 (facsimile); and (4) Amy Van de Kerckhove, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at amy.vandekerckhove@fcc.gov or (202) 418-1410 (facsimile). Any submission that is e-mailed to Peter Doyle, Lisa Scanlan, Rolanda F. Smith, and Amy Van de Kerckhove should include in the subject line of the e-mail: (1) MB Docket No. 17-359; (2) the name of the submitting party; and (3) a brief description or title identifying the type of document being submitted (*e.g*., MB Docket No. 17-359, [name of submitting party], Comments).

Copies of the Petition and any subsequently-filed documents in this matter are available for public inspection and copying during normal reference room hours at the following Commission office: FCC Reference Information Center, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition, the Petition is available electronically through the Media Bureau’s Consolidated Database System (CDBS), which may be accessed on the Commission’s Internet website.[[21]](#footnote-23)

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice) or (202) 418-0432 (TTY). Contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations for filing comments (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.) by email: FCC504@fcc.gov; phone: (202) 418-0530 or TTY: (202) 418-0432.

For further information, contact Rolanda F. Smith, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at (202) 418-2054, Lisa Scanlan, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at (202) 418-2700, or Amy Van de Kerckhove, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at (202) 418-2726. Press inquiries should be directed to Janice Wise, Media Bureau, (202) 418-8165 or (888) 835-5322.

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1. 47 U.S.C. § 310(b)(4); *see also Commission Policies and Procedures Under Section 310(b)(4) of the Communications Act, Foreign Investment in Broadcast Licensees*, Declaratory Ruling, 28 FCC Rcd 16244 (2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
2. *Review of Foreign Ownership Policies for Broadcast, Common Carrier, and Aeronautical Radio Licensees Under Section 310(b)(4) of the Communications Act of 1934*, *as Amended*, Report and Order, 31 FCC Rcd 11272 (2016) (*Foreign Ownership Order*). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
3. 47 CFR § 1.5000(a)(1). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
4. Zoo is the licensee of stations WZFL(FM), Islamorado, Florida, WBGF(FM), Belle Glade, Florida, W228BV, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and W228BY, Miami, Florida. *See* File No. BTCH-20171128AAW, WZFL(FM), Islamorado, Florida, et seq. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
5. Claudio Castiglioni Dompe, a current 20 percent owner of Zoo, founded Anco Media with Marco Mazzoli in 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
6. Claudia Castiglioni Dompe is the daughter of Claudio Castiglioni Dompe; Stefania Pittaluga is the wife of Marco Mazzoli. *See* Petition at 10. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
7. Petition at 19. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
8. *Id.* at 8. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
9. *Id.* at 18. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
10. *Id.* at 20. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
11. As noted above, Marco Mazzoli created the radio show “Lo Zoo di 105” (The 105 Zoo), which became “the most popular radio show in Italy, achieving the highest ratings in Italian radio history” and has extensive experience in producing radio and television shows. Petition at 12. Mr. Mazzoli holds permanent residence status in the United States, along with his wife Stefania Pittaluga, since moving back to the states in 2011 to create his own studio to broadcast The 105 Zoo for his Italian audience. *Id.* at 11-12. Claudio Castiglioni Dompe has been a “successful businessman,” founding both an insurance brokerage firm, which “developed rapidly and became an industry leader,” and a real estate investment and consulting company. *Id.* at 14. Claudia Castiglioni Dompe has “considerable business experience” in real estate investment and sales and currently attends the Miami Ad School as a full-time student “in order to improve her marketing skills.” *Id.* at 15. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
12. 47 CFR § 1.1200(a). [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
13. 47 CFR § 1.1206. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
14. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1206(b)(1). [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
15. *See id*. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
16. 47 CFR § 1.1206(b). [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
17. 47 CFR § 73.3514(b); *see also BBC License Subsidiary, L.P.,* Order, 10 FCC Rcd 2458, 2461 (MMB 1994). [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
18. *See* 47 CFR § 1.45(c). [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
19. *See* *FCC* *Announces* *Change in* *Filing* *Location for* *Paper* *Documents*, Public Notice, 24 FCC Rcd 14312 (2009). [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
20. *See* *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998). [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
21. Petitioners filed the Petition with the Office of the Secretary and as an exhibit to the transfer of control application. *See* lead application File No. BTCH-20171128AAW. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)