**DA 18-159**

**Released: February 16, 2018**

**media bureau Announces comment dates for NPRM proposing to eliminate paper filing requirement for broadcast station contracts**

**MB Docket Nos. 18-4, 17-105**

**Comment Date: March 19, 2018**

**Reply Comment Date: April 2, 2018**

On January 30, 2018, the Commission released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (*NPRM*) that tentatively concluded that the Commission should eliminate the decades-old requirement that broadcasters routinely file paper copies of station contracts and certain other documents with the Commission.[[1]](#footnote-3) The *NPRM* set deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 30 and 45 days, respectively, after publication in the Federal Register.[[2]](#footnote-4)

A summary of the *NPRM* was published in the Federal Register on February 15, 2018.[[3]](#footnote-5) Thus, comments must be submitted no later than March 19, 2018; reply comments must be submitted no later than April 2, 2018. Complete filing instructions are provided in the *NPRM* and the Federal Register.[[4]](#footnote-6)

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1. *Amendment of Section 73.3613 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Filing of Contracts*, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 18-8 (rel. Jan. 30, 2018) (*NPRM*). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
2. *Id.* at 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
3. FCC, Amendment of Section 73.3613 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Filing of Contracts; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative, Proposed Rule, 83 Fed. Reg. 6823 (Feb. 15, 2018) (*Amendment of Section 73.3613 NPRM Summary*). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
4. *NPRM* at 9-10, para. 22; *Amendment of Section 73.3613 NPRM Summary*, 83 Fed. Reg. at 6823-24, 6827. The *NPRM* is available on the Commission’s website at <https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-18-8A1.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)