



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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CONSUMER AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON TERMINATION OF CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS AS DORMANT

CG Docket No. 20-158

Comment Date: (30 days after date of publication in the Federal Register)
Reply Comment Date: (45 days after date of publication in the Federal Register)

By this Public Notice, the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (“CGB”) seeks comment on whether the referenced 515 docketed Commission proceedings should be terminated as dormant (Attachment).

By Report and Order released on February 4, 2011,¹ the Commission revised portions of its Part 1 practice and procedural rules and its Part 0 organizational rules to increase the efficiency of Commission decision-making, modernize the agency’s processes in the digital age, and enhance the openness and transparency of Commission proceedings for practitioners and the public.² The revised rules delegate authority to the Chief of CGB to periodically review all open dockets and, in consultation with the responsible Bureaus or Offices, to identify those dockets that appear to be candidates for termination.³ The Commission stated that these candidates may include dockets in which no further action is required or contemplated as well as those in which no pleadings or other documents have been filed for several years, but it specified that proceedings in which petitions addressing the merits are pending should not be terminated, absent the parties’ consent.⁴ The termination of a dormant proceeding also includes dismissal as moot of any pending petition, motion, or other request for relief that is procedural in nature or otherwise does not address the merits of the proceeding.⁵

In the *Procedure Order*, the Commission directed that a public notice, identifying dockets under consideration for termination and affording interested parties an opportunity to comment, should be issued before terminating a proceeding.⁶ Since then, the Commission has adopted a series of public notices and related Orders, closing hundreds of dormant proceedings.⁷ Termination of the proceedings in

¹ *Amendment of Certain of the Commission’s Part 1 Rules of Practice and Procedure and Part 0 Rules of Commission Organization*, Report and Order, 26 FCC Rcd 1594 (2011) (*Procedure Order*).

² *Id.* at 1594-95, para. 1.

³ *Id.* at 1604, para. 23.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.* at 1604, para. 24.

⁶ *Procedure Order*, 26 FCC Rcd at 1604, para. 24.

⁷ See *Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Seeks Comment on Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, 27 FCC Rcd 1613 (CGB 2012); *Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, Order, 27 FCC Rcd 11284 (CGB 2012); *Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Seeks Comment on Termination of Certain*

these Orders furthered the Commission's organizational goals of increasing the efficiency of its decision-making, modernizing the agency's processes in the digital age, and enhancing the openness and transparency of Commission proceedings for practitioners and the public. The records in terminated proceedings remain part of the Commission's official records, and the various pleadings, orders, and other documents in these dockets continue to be accessible to the public, post-termination.

CGB, in coordination with the responsible Bureaus and Offices, has once again identified dockets for possible termination.⁸ By this *Eighth Dormant Proceedings Termination Public Notice*, CGB hereby seeks comment from interested parties on the possible termination of the proceedings listed in the Attachment. To the extent that a particular proceeding includes a petition addressing the merits or other pending pleadings, a party's failure to file comments in response to this Public Notice will be construed as consent to termination of that proceeding. A party aggrieved by a docket termination may file a petition for reconsideration with CGB or an application for review with the full Commission.⁹

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Comments and Reply Comments. Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document.¹⁰ Comments may be filed using: (1) the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS); or (2) by filing paper copies. All filings should reference the docket number of this proceeding, CG Docket No. 20-158.

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent 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, D.C. 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes or boxes must be disposed of *before* entering the building.
- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority

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Proceedings as Dormant, 29 FCC Rcd 1604 (CGB 2014); *Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, Order, 29 FCC Rcd 11017 (CGB 2014); *Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Seeks Comment on Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, 29 FCC Rcd 11168 (CGB 2014); *Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, Order, 29 FCC Rcd 16059 (CGB 2014); *Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Seeks Comment on Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, 31 FCC Rcd 1205 (CGB 2016); *Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, Order, 31 FCC Rcd 7584 (CGB 2016); *Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Seeks Comment on Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, 32 FCC Rcd 369 (CGB 2017); *Termination of Certain Proceedings as Dormant*, Order, 33 FCC Rcd 53 (CGB 2018).

⁸ The list of proceedings is sorted by responsible Bureau or Office and Proceeding Number.

⁹ See *Procedure Order*, 26 FCC Rcd at 1604, para. 24, n.76.

¹⁰ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.415, 1.419.

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, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554.
- Effective March 19, 2020, and until further notice, the Commission no longer accepts any hand or messenger delivered filings. This is a temporary measure taken to help protect the health and safety of individuals, and to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19. *See* FCC Announces Closure of FCC Headquarters Open Window and Change in Hand-Delivery Policy, Public Notice, DA 20-304 (March 19, 2020), <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcccloses-headquarters-open-window-and-changes-hand-delivery-policy>.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

Ex Parte Rules. This proceeding shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.¹¹ Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b).¹² In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (*e.g.*, .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf).¹³ Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.

Additional Information. For further information, contact Zac Champ of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-1495 or Zac.Champ@fcc.gov.

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¹¹ *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

¹² 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).

¹³ 47 C.F.R. § 1.49(f).

ATTACHMENT