



PUBLIC NOTICE

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ORDER IMPLEMENTING NEW RETRANSMISSION CONSENT PROVISIONS IN TELEVISION VIEWER PROTECTION ACT BECOMES EFFECTIVE ON JULY 20, 2020

MB Docket No. 20-31

On May 13, 2020, the Commission issued a *Report and Order*¹ revising section 76.65 of its rules, which governs good faith negotiation of retransmission consent, to implement provisions in section 1003 of the Television Viewer Protection Act of 2019 (TVPA).² Section 1003 requires the Commission to adopt rules that provide for negotiation of retransmission consent between “qualified multichannel video programming distributor [MVPD] buying group[s]” and “large [broadcast] station group[s]” as those terms are defined in the TVPA.³ In the *Order*, the Commission adopted rules that: (i) define the term “large station group” as used in section 1003 to mean, in relevant part, an entity whose individual television broadcast station members *collectively* have a national audience reach of more than 20 percent;⁴ (ii) define the term “qualified MVPD buying group” as used in section 1003 to mean, in relevant part, an entity that negotiates on behalf of MVPDs that collectively serve no more than 25 percent of all households receiving service from *any* MVPD in a given local market;⁵ (iii) codify in section 76.65 of its rules the provisions governing negotiation of retransmission consent between qualified MVPD buying groups and large station groups, as well as the definitions of “local market” and “multichannel video programming distributor” set forth in section 1003(b)(3);⁶ and (iv) make minor conforming changes to section 76.65.⁷

The Commission stated that those rules would become effective thirty days after publication of the *Order* in the Federal Register.⁸ The Federal Register published a summary of the *Order* on June 18, 2020.⁹ Accordingly, the rules adopted in the *Order* will take effect on July 20, 2020.

¹ *Implementation of Section 1003 of the Television Viewer Protection Act of 2019*, MB Docket No. 20-31, Report and Order, FCC 20-63 (rel. May 13, 2020) (*Order*).

² The Television Viewer Protection Act of 2019, Pub. L. No. 116-94, 133 Stat. 2534, 3198 (2019) (amendments codified at 47 U.S.C. § 325).

³ 47 U.S.C. § 325(b)(3)(C)(vi) (as added by section 1003(a)(3) of the TVPA).

⁴ *Order* at para. 6.

⁵ *Id.* at para. 7.

⁶ *Id.* at para. 8.

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.* at para. 13.

⁹ See <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/18/2020-11130/implementation-of-provisions-of-the-television-viewer-protection-act-of-2019-governing-negotiation>.

For additional information on this proceeding, contact Raelynn Remy of the Media Bureau, Policy Division, at Raelynn.Remy@fcc.gov or (202) 418-2120.

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