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MEDIA BUREAU REMINDS CABLE AND SATELLITE TV PROVIDERS OF COMPLIANCE DATE FOR ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF CERTAIN NOTICES TO BROADCAST TELEVISION STATIONS

MB Docket No. 19-165

On January 30, 2020, the Commission released a *Report and Order (Order)* updating its notification rules for cable operators and direct broadcast satellite (DBS) providers by transitioning certain notices to broadcast television stations from paper to electronic delivery.¹ By this Public Notice, the Media Bureau (Bureau) reminds cable operators and DBS providers that after July 31, 2020, they must use e-mail to deliver covered notices to broadcast television stations.² As discussed in the *Order*, cable operators must use e-mail to deliver the notices required by the following rules: sections 76.64(k) (intent to commence service);³ 76.1601 (deletion or repositioning of broadcast signals);⁴ 76.1607 (changes to principal headend);⁵ 76.1608 (system technical integration requiring uniform election of must carry or retransmission consent status);⁶ 76.1609 (non-duplication and syndicated exclusivity);⁷ and 76.1617 (activation of a cable system).⁸ Similarly, DBS must use e-mail to deliver the notices required by the following rules: sections 76.54(e) and 76.66(d)(5) (intent to retransmit a "significantly viewed" out-of-market station);⁹ 76.66(d)(2) (intent to launch new local-into-local or HD carry-one, carry-all

¹ Electronic Delivery of Notices to Broadcast Television Stations et al., MB Docket No. 19-165 et al., Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 857 (2020).

² The Federal Register published a summary of the *Order* on March 20, 2020. *Electronic Delivery of Notices to Broadcast Television Stations et al.*, 85 Fed. Reg. 15999 (Mar. 20, 2020). The Federal Register summary stated that the revised rules would become effective on April 20, 2020. *Id.* On July 15, 2020, the Commission published a notice in the Federal Register announcing that the Office of Management and Budget had approved the nonsubstantive changes to Paperwork Reduction Act burdens resulting from the *Order*'s revisions to sections 76.54, 76.64, 76.66, 76.1601, 76.1607 through 76.1609, and 76.1617 of the Commission's rules. *Information Collection Approved by the Office of Management and Budget*, 85 Fed. Reg. 42742 (July 15, 2020).

³ 47 CFR § 76.64(k).

⁴ *Id.* § 76.1601.

⁵ *Id.* § 76.1607.

⁶ *Id.* § 76.1608.

⁷ *Id.* § 76.1609.

⁸ *Id.* § 76.1617.

⁹ *Id.* §§ 76.54(e), 76.66(d)(5).

service);¹⁰ 76.66(d)(1)(vi) and (d)(3)(iv) (response to carriage requests);¹¹ 76.66(f)(3)-(4) (location of local receive facility or intent to relocate such facility);¹² and 76.66(h)(5) (deletion of duplicating signal or addition of formerly duplicating signal).¹³

After July 31, 2020, notices to full-power and Class A television stations must be delivered via email to the inbox that the station designates for carriage issues in the Online Public Inspection File (OPIF). Notices to low-power television (LPTV) stations that lack Class A status, and are not subject to the OPIF rules, must be delivered to the e-mail address listed for the licensee of the LPTV station in the Commission's Licensing and Management System (LMS). Notices to qualified noncommercial educational (NCE) television translator stations must be delivered either (*i*) to the e-mail address listed for the licensee of the qualified NCE translator station in LMS, or (*ii*) to the "carriage issues" e-mail address listed in the primary station's OPIF, if the qualified NCE translator station does not have its own e-mail address listed in LMS. NOTE translator station does not have its own e-mail address listed in LMS.

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¹⁰ 47 CFR § 76.66(d)(2).

¹¹ *Id.* § 76.66(d)(1)(vi), (3)(iv).

¹² *Id.* § 76.66(f)(3)-(4).

¹³ *Id.* § 76.66(h)(5).

¹⁴ Id. §§ 76.66(d)(2)(ii); 76.1600(e); Order, 35 FCC Rcd at 860-61, 865, paras. 7, 15-16.

¹⁵ 47 CFR § 76.1600(e); Order, 35 FCC Rcd at 862-64, paras. 11-12.

¹⁶ 47 CFR § 76.1600(e); *Order*, 35 FCC Rcd at 864, para. 13.