Limited Low Power Television/Television Translator/Class A Television Auction Filing Window Partially Extended to August 31, 2000

*** Deadline for FCC Form 175 Submissions Remains August 4, 2000 ***

On May 1, 2000, the Mass Media Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (the Bureaus) announced that they were scheduling a limited auction filing window for certain low power television, television translator, and Class A television broadcast stations.\(^1\) In a subsequent Public Notice released June 23, 2000, the Bureaus set forth the notice and filing requirements for this limited auction filing window.\(^2\) The June 23\(^{rd}\) Public Notice instructed parties that were interested in filing during the window to electronically submit an FCC Form 175 beginning July 31, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) and no later than August 4, 2000. In addition to the FCC Form 175 submission, interested parties were also instructed to submit paper copies of portions of either FCC Form 301-CA (for Class A television facilities) or FCC Form 346 (for low power television and television translator facilities) with the Secretary of the Commission beginning 9:00 a.m. EST July 31, 2000, and no later than August 4, 2000. Each FCC Form 301-CA or 346 was to include a printed copy of the electronically filed FCC Form 175.

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The Commission has received a Petition for Reconsideration with respect to the June 23rd Public Notice filed jointly by a number of New Mexico television licensees (petitioners). The petitioners state that additional time is necessary for engineers to perform channel studies and coordination efforts in order to propose technical facilities that would maximize the use of available spectrum. The petitioners request that the auction filing window either be delayed or extended an additional 30 days.

We acknowledge the concerns of the petitioners that additional time is necessary for all parties interested in participating in the limited auction filing window to develop and coordinate proposed facilities and prepare and file the necessary portions of FCC Forms 301-CA or 346. Therefore, we will partially extend the auction filing window as follows: The filing window for the submission of FCC Form 175, which does not require identification of proposed facilities, will commence at 9:00 a.m. EST on July 31, 2000 and continue to 6:00 p.m. EST on August 4, 2000. Late-filed FCC Form 175’s will not be considered. However, we will extend the deadline for the submission of the portions of FCC Forms 301-CA or 346 from August 4, 2000, to 7:00 p.m. EST August 31, 2000. This partial extension should allow adequate time for interested parties to prepare and file the paper copies of the necessary FCC Forms 301-CA or 346. We remind interested parties that a paper copy of the electronically filed FCC Form 175 must be included with each of the FCC Form 301-CA or 346 filings submitted from July 31st through August 31st.

For further information, contact Shaun Maher of the Video Services Division at 202-418-2324.

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3 Those licensees include: Raycom Media, Inc.; Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc.; Regents of the University of New Mexico; Hearst-Argyle Properties, Inc.; New Mexico Broadcasting Co., Inc.; Eastern New Mexico University; and New Mexico State University.

4 The original deadline of 5:30 p.m. on August 4, 2000, has been adjusted slightly to 6:00 p.m on August 4, 2000, to correspond with other FCC Form 175 filing windows.