FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73
[MB Docket No. 16–29, RM–11758; DA 16–139]

Television Broadcasting Services; Scottsbluff, Nebraska and Sidney, Nebraska

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission has before it a petition for rulemaking filed by Gray Television License, LLC, proposed assignee of KDUH–TV, Scottsbluff, Nebraska and New Rushmore Radio, Inc., the licensee of station KDUH–TV, channel 7, Scottsbluff, Nebraska (collectively “Petitioners”), requesting an amendment of the DTV Table of Allotments to delete channel 7 at Scottsbluff and substitute channel 7 at Sidney, Nebraska. While the Commission instituted a freeze on the acceptance of full power television rulemaking petitions requesting channel substitutions in May 2011, Petitioners are seeking a waiver asserting that because the proposed change in community of license does not involve any proposed change in technical facilities, grant of the petition would not impact on the Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments. Petitioners believe that a waiver here would serve the public interest and that community in Sidney would remain well-served after reallocation.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before March 21, 2016, and reply comments on or before April 4, 2016.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Adrienne Y. Denysyk, adrienne.denysyk@fcc.gov, Media Bureau, (202) 418–2561.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission’s Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MB Docket No. 16–29, adopted February 8, 2016, and released February 8, 2016. The full text of this document is available for public inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC’s Reference Information Center at Ports II, CY–A257, 445 12th Street SW., Washington, DC 20554. This document will also be available via ECFS (http://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/). (Documents will be available electronically in ASCII, Word 97, and/or Adobe Acrobat.). To request this document in accessible formats (computer diskettes, large print, audio recording, and Braille), send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Commission’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice), (202) 418–0432 (TTY). This document does not contain proposed information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. In addition, therefore, it does not contain any proposed information collection burden “for small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees,” pursuant to the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002, Public Law 107–198, see 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(4).

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all ex parte contacts (other than ex parte presentations exempt under 47 CFR 1.1204(a)) are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1208 for rules governing restricted proceedings.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Television.

Federal Communications Commission.

Thomas Horan,
Chief of Staff, Media Bureau.

Proposed Rules

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Federal Communications Commission proposes to amend 47 CFR part 73 as follows:

PART 73—RADIO BROADCAST SERVICES

1. The authority citation for Part 73 continues to read as follows:


§ 73.622 [Amended]

2. Section 73.622(i), the Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments under Nebraska is amended by removing channel 7 at Scottsbluff.

3. Section 73.622(i), the Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments under Nebraska is amended by adding Sidney.

4. Section 73.622(i), the Post-Transition Table of DTV allotments under Nebraska is amended by adding channel 7 at Sidney.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

49 CFR Parts 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, and 1248
[Docket No. EP 701]

Accelerating Reporting Requirements for Class I Railroads

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Proposed rule, withdrawn.

SUMMARY: The Board is withdrawing the proposed rules and discontinuing the EP 701 rulemaking proceeding which proposed to accelerate the filing deadlines for certain financial, employee, and traffic reports submitted by Class I railroads.

DATES: The proposed rule is withdrawn and the rulemaking proceeding is discontinued on February 18, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pedro Ramirez, (202) 245–0333.

Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at (800) 877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 8, 2015, the Board issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) seeking public comment on a proposal to accelerate the filing deadlines for certain financial, employee, and traffic reports submitted by Class I railroads.1 The Board has authority to collect financial and statistical data from railroads as necessary for the economic oversight of the industry. 49 U.S.C. 1321(b), 11145. To this end, the Board’s regulations require Class I railroads to submit annual, quarterly, and monthly reports containing financial and operating statistics, including employment and traffic data.

1 The NPRM was published in the Federal Register on July 8, 2015 (80 FR 39045).

49 U.S.C. 11145; 49 CFR 1241–1248. The data collected is used by the Board in various proceedings, as well as by other governmental agencies and interested parties in evaluating the railroad industry.

In the NPRM, the Board proposed changing the filing deadlines for a number of these reports. Specifically, the NPRM proposed the following deadlines: Schedule 250 would be filed by March 31 each year, at the same time as the Annual Report Form R–1; Quarterly Report Form RE&I, Form CBS, Quarterly Wage Forms A & B, and Reports of Fuel Cost, Consumption, and Surcharges Revenue would be filed within 15 days after the end of each quarter; Annual Wage Forms A & B and Annual Form QCS would be filed 30 days after the end of each year; Quarterly Form QCS would be filed 30 days after the end of each quarter; Form STB–54 would be filed within 60 days after the end of each year; and Form C would be filed 10 days after the end of each month.

The NPRM also proposed to: Update several form titles; clarify the method by which carriers arrive at the number of employees reported on Form C, pursuant to part 1246; replace references to the “Interstate Commerce Act” with “pt. A of subtitle IV of tit. 49, United States Code” between 49 CFR parts 1241 and 1248 to accurately describe the current controlling statute; and eliminate the requirement of railroads to file duplicate copies of reports, with the exception of the Annual Report Form R–1, which requires hard copies to be filed.

On August 21, 2015, the AAR filed comments on the proposed rules. AAR expresses concern that the proposed accelerated deadlines would impose significant burdens while not conferring a public benefit. (AAR Comment 7.) AAR states that the proposed deadlines for the STB reports would be incompatible with and would create additional reporting obligations for the railroads under Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations. (Id. at 10–12.) AAR also states that accelerated deadlines could cause investor confusion because the information in Board filings is based on a different corporate entity than information in the SEC filings, and there are also differences in accounting between Board reports and SEC reports. (Id. at 13.) Based on AAR’s comments, the proposed rules could impose a significant burden on the railroads and conflict with SEC reporting requirements. No other comments were submitted. Therefore, we will not adopt the proposed accelerated deadlines and will discontinue this proceeding.

However, some of the nonsubstantive updates that the Board proposed will be adopted in Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review, EP 712. These updates include changing the following form titles: “Form MRRE” to “Form C” (49 CFR 1246.1) and; “Form QRSC” and “Form ARSC” to “Quarterly Wage Forms A & B” and “Annual Wage Forms A & B” respectively (49 CFR 1245.2). In that proceeding, we will also eliminate the requirement for railroads to file duplicate copies of reports, with the exception of the Annual Report Form R–1, which requires hard copies to be filed.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.


By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Miller, and Commissioner Begeman.

Brendetta S. Jones,
Clearance Clerk.