As the Commission stated in the LPTV DTV Third R&O, although the digital deadline has been extended, stations that are not affected by the incentive auction “are encouraged to complete their transition to digital as soon as feasible after the completion of the auction.”

Transitioning LPTV and TV translator stations, including permittees of new digital LPTV/TV translator stations, that experience delays in completing their digital facilities may seek one last extension of time, of not more than six months, to be filed not later than March 13, 2021, which is four months prior to the new transition date of July 13, 2021. After March 13, 2021, LPTV and TV translator stations seeking additional time to construct digital facilities will be able to obtain additional time to construct only through the tolling provisions in the rules. Stations may also seek a waiver of the tolling rule to receive additional time to construct in the case where “rare or exceptional circumstances” prevent construction. The Media Bureau will look favorably upon waiver requests where a station can demonstrate that it is unable to construct due to circumstances resulting directly from the post-auction transition, such as the inability to procure necessary resources because such resources are unavailable due to the full power and Class A post-auction transition.

To ensure that viewers are aware of the impending termination of analog service, stations must provide notification to viewers of their planned transition to digital. Stations have the flexibility to determine the frequency, length, and content of their notifications. For those stations with the technical ability to locally originate programming, viewer notification must be done on the air at a time when the highest number of viewers are watching. For those stations that lack the technical ability to locally originate programming, or conclude that airing of viewer notifications would pose a hardship, they may notify viewers by some other reasonable means, e.g., publication of a notification in a local newspaper or by contacting the originating station to relay a crawl or service advisory to the communities that would be affected.

Lifting of Freeze on Filing of Displacement and Digital Companion Channel Applications To Be Announced in Future Public Notice

The Media Bureau, on January 19, 2017, froze the filing of digital companion channel (DCC) applications and on June 11, 2014, froze the filing of displacement applications. The DCC and displacement application freeze will be lifted after the closing of the Special Displacement Window. The Media Bureau will announce the date the freezes are lifted in a future public notice, whereupon the Commission will once again accept DCC applications and displacement applications by LPTV/translator stations that are displaced pursuant to the rules.

Displaced LPTV/translator stations that do not qualify for the Special Displacement Window (e.g., permittees that were not operating as of the Closing and Channel Reassignment Public Notice) and stations that were eligible but do not file during the Special Displacement Window must wait until the freeze is lifted to submit a displacement application. In addition, the provisions concerning construction periods, extensions of time, tolling and tolling waivers apply to these displaced permittees/stations.

With respect to tolling waivers submitted by these displaced stations, the Media Bureau will look favorably upon requests where a displaced station can demonstrate that it is unable to construct due to circumstances resulting directly from the post-auction transition, such as the inability to procure necessary resources because such resources are unavailable due to the full power and Class A post-auction transition.

Federal Communications Commission.
Barbara Kreisman,
Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 17–468]
Disability Advisory Committee; Announcement of Next Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces the date of the next meeting of the Commission’s Disability Advisory Committee (Committee or DAC). The meeting is open to the public. During this meeting, members of the Committee will receive and discuss summaries of activities and recommendations from its subcommittees.

DATES: The Committee’s next meeting will take place on Friday, June 16, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m. (EST).


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Elaine Gardner, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau: 202–418–0581 (voice); email: DAC@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee was established in December 2014 to make recommendations to the Commission on a wide array of disability matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission, and to facilitate the participation of people with disabilities in proceedings before the Commission. The Committee is organized under, and operated in accordance with, the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). The Committee held its first meeting on March 17, 2015. At its June 16, 2017 meeting, the Committee is expected to receive and consider reports on the activities of its subcommittees. The Committee is also expected to receive presentations from Commission staff on matters of interest to the Committee. A limited amount of time may be available on the agenda for comments and inquiries from the public. The public may comment or ask questions of presenters via the email address livequestions@fcc.gov.

The meeting site is fully accessible to people using wheelchairs or other mobility aids. Sign language interpreters, open captioning, and assistive listening devices will be provided on site. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. If making a request for an accommodation, please include a description of the accommodation you will need and tell us how to contact you if we need more information. Make your request as early as possible by sending an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or calling the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202–418–0530 (voice), 202–418–0432 (TTY). Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill. The meeting will be webcast with open captioning, at: www.fcc.gov/live.

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice), (202) 418–0432 (TTY).

Federal Communications Commission.
Karen Peltz Strauss,
Deputy Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau.