



PUBLIC NOTICE

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MEDIA BUREAU ANNOUNCES COMMENT DATES FOR NEXT GENERATION TELEVISION *FURTHER NOTICE*

GN Docket No. 16-142

Comment Date: February 20, 2018

Reply Comment Date: March 20, 2018

On November 20, 2017, the Commission released the *Next Gen TV Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Next Gen TV Order and Next Gen TV Further Notice)*.¹ In the *Next Gen TV Further Notice*, the Commission seeks comment on additional issues related to exceptions to and waivers of the local simulcasting requirement, seeks comment on whether we should let full power broadcasters use channels in the television broadcast band that are vacant to facilitate the transition to ATSC 3.0, and tentatively concludes that local simulcasting should not change the significantly viewed status of a Next Gen TV station.² The Federal Register published a summary of the *Next Gen TV Further Notice* on December 20, 2017.³ Accordingly, comments must be submitted no later than February 20, 2018, and reply comments must be submitted no later than March 20, 2018.⁴ Commenters must follow the filing instructions provided in the *Next Gen TV Further Notice*,⁵ which is available on the Commission's website.⁶

The companion *Next Gen TV Order*, which authorizes television broadcasters to use the "Next Generation" broadcast television transmission standard on a voluntary, market-driven basis, has not yet

¹ *Authorizing Permissive Use of the "Next Generation" Broadcast Television Standard*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 17-158 (rel. Nov. 20, 2017) (*Next Gen TV Order and Further Notice*). The document is available on the Commission's website at https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-17-158A1.pdf. The document is also available electronically via the Commission's Electronic Document Management System (EDOCS) website at http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/ (by FCC document number, FCC 17-158) or via the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) website at <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/> (by docket number, GN Docket No. 16-142).

² *Next Gen TV Order and Further Notice* at ¶ 121.

³ *Next Gen TV Further Notice*, Proposed Rules, 82 Fed. Reg. 60350 (Dec. 20, 2017). See <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-12-20/pdf/2017-27433.pdf>.

⁴ The *Next Gen TV Further Notice* set deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 60 and 90 days after date of publication in the Federal Register.

⁵ See *Next Gen TV Order and Further Notice* at Section V.E..

⁶ See *supra* note 1. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

been published in the Federal Register. The Media Bureau will issue a Public Notice announcing the date the *Next Gen TV Order* is published in the Federal Register.⁷

For additional information, contact Evan Baranoff, Evan.Baranoff@fcc.gov, of the Media Bureau, Policy Division, at (202) 418-7142. Press inquiries should be directed to Janice Wise, Janice.Wise@fcc.gov, at (202) 418-8165.

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⁷ The *Next Gen TV Order* will become effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register, except for 47 C.F.R. §§ 73.3801, 73.6029, and 74.782 which contain new or modified information collection requirements that require approval by the OMB under the PRA and which shall become effective after the Commission publishes a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing OMB approval and the effective date of the rules. *Next Gen TV Order and Further Notice* at ¶ 142.