



Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2009-411-1

Additional references: 2009-70, 2009-70-1, 2009-70-2, 2009-113, 2009-113-1, 2009-113-2 and 2009-411

Ottawa, 30 July 2009

Notice of hearing

29 September 2009

Gatineau, Quebec

Policy proceeding on a group-based approach to the licensing of television services and on certain issues relating to conventional television

Deadline for submission of interventions/comments: 10 August 2009

Additional documents placed on the record of the proceeding

1. The Commission has received an application, dated 5 June 2009, from seven licensees of small market independently-owned television stations. These broadcasters have requested that the Commission initiate a process to amend the *Broadcasting Distribution Regulations* (the Regulations) in order to require direct-to-home (DTH) undertakings to distribute, at their expense, fourteen stations currently provided as part of the basic service to DTH subscribers located within the Grade B contour of the station in question.
2. The Commission notes that the application, if granted in whole or in part, could have an impact on DTH capacity and may thus be relevant to the Commission's consideration of issues raised in the proceeding initiated by *Policy proceeding on a group-based approach to the licensing of television services and on certain issues relating to conventional television* – Notice of hearing, Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2009-411, 6 July 2009 (the Proceeding). These issues pertain to the digital transition and to the satellite distribution of television stations that ultimately do not construct digital transmitters. Accordingly, the Commission is now placing the application in the “Related Documents” section of the record of the Proceeding so that the parties may take it into account in their submissions. This can be found on the Commission's website at www.crtc.gc.ca under “Public Proceedings.”
3. Given the already full agenda, the Commission does not intend to dispose of the application in the Proceeding. Rather, it will address the application by way of a separate process, to be initiated in the new year following the release of its determinations in the Proceeding.
4. In order to assist parties in formulating their comments with respect to the digital transition, the Commission is also placing, in the “Related Documents” section of the record of the Proceeding, abridged versions of the DTH capacity reports filed by Bell TV and Shaw Direct in December 2008, pursuant to the Commission's direction in *Regulatory frameworks for broadcasting distribution undertakings and discretionary*

programming services – Regulatory policy, Broadcasting Public Notice
CRTC 2008-100, 30 October 2008.

5. Finally, the Commission notes that additional information regarding the “Freesat” proposal advanced by Bell TV at the April 2009 hearing and Shaw Direct’s subsequent expression of interest in offering a similar service has also been placed in the “Related Documents” section of the record of the Proceeding. This information is also accessible via the following link:

<http://www.crtc.gc.ca/public/broad/applications/2009/2009-113-Satellite-Delivery-Model-Proposals.zip>

Secretary General

This document is available in alternative format upon request and may also be examined in PDF format or in HTML at the following Internet site: <http://www.crtc.gc.ca>.