



Broadcasting Information Bulletin CRTC 2010-198

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Ottawa, 31 March 2010

Amendment to the timeframe for consideration of new Category A services

1. In paragraph 71 of *Regulatory frameworks for broadcasting distribution undertakings and discretionary programming services* – Regulatory policy, Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2008-100, 30 October 2008, the Commission indicated that it would be prepared to entertain applications for new Category A services filed on or before 1 April 2010, with a view to issuing decisions (either approvals or denials) in advance of 31 August 2011.
2. However, since the issuance of that public notice, the broadcasting industry has experienced and continues to experience significant changes, including those of an economic, technological and regulatory nature. It is the Commission's view that the broadcasting industry needs sufficient time to adapt to these changes and, therefore, that the introduction of a further potential change through the licensing of new Category A services would not be prudent at this time. Moreover, upon further consideration, the Commission is of the view that a delay in the timing of the consideration of applications for new Category A services would not result in any undue prejudice.
3. Accordingly, the Commission announces today that it will not consider applications for new Category A services before October 2011. At that time, it will also re-examine the appropriateness of licensing new Category A services in the context of a digital environment. The Commission therefore does not expect to receive applications for new Category A services before that time.

Secretary General

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