

First Round of DTV Channel Elections Delayed

Form 382 Filing Now Due by January 27, 2005

Responding to a request from the Association for Maximum Service Television, Inc. (MSTV), to extend the deadline for the filing of Form 382 as the first step in the DTV channel election process, the FCC yesterday extended the deadline to January 27, 2005. Previously, the Commission had announced that the filing would be due sometime in December 2004.

The DTV channel election process, announced by the FCC in August 2004, began in earnest in October 2004 with the filing of the Pre-Election Certification form, Form 381. The process will consist of three rounds.

The MSTV request noted that a little additional time prior to the first round filing deadline would better enable television stations to analyze their options, and result in a more efficient and accurate channel election process.

Also yesterday, the Commission issued a *Public Notice* (DA 04-3922) including two new DTV tables: Table I of Station Assignment and Service Information and Table II of 1998 Station NTSC and DTV Replication Information, both dated December 21, 2004, to assist stations in their analyses.

For more information on the DTV channel election process, please contact any of the lawyers in the Group.

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