FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[MB Docket No. 21-185; RM-11906; DA 21-847; FR ID 39219]

Television Broadcasting Services Butte, Montana

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: On April 26, 2021, the Media Bureau, Video Division (Bureau) issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in response to a petition for rulemaking filed by Sinclair Media Licensee, LLC (Petitioner), the licensee of KTVM-TV (NBC), channel 6, Butte, Montana, requesting the substitution of channel 20 for channel 6 at Butte in the DTV Table of Allotments. For the reasons set forth in the Report and Order referenced below, the Bureau amends FCC regulations to substitute channel 20 for channel 6 at Butte.

DATES: Effective [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joyce Bernstein, Media Bureau, at (202) 418-1647 or Joyce.Bernstein@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed rule was published at 88 FR 24837 on May 10, 2021. The Petitioner filed comments in support of the petition reaffirming its commitment to apply for channel 20. REC Networks also filed comments. The Petitioner states that VHF channels have certain propagation characteristics which may cause reception issues for some viewers. In addition, KTVM-TV has received numerous complaints from viewers unable to receive the Station’s over-the-air signal, despite being able to receive signals from other stations. While the proposed channel 20 noise limited contour does not completely encompass the relevant channel 6 noise limited contour, KTVM-TV is an NBC affiliate and there are two other NBC affiliated stations that serve some portion of the loss area. In addition, the Petitioner submitted an analysis, using the Commission’s TVStudy software analysis program,
demonstrating that, after taking into account service provided by other NBC stations, all of the population located within KTVM-TV’s original post-DTV transition channel 6 noise limited contour will continue to receive NBC service, except for 66 people, a number the Commission considers de minimis. As the Bureau explained in the NPRM, it used the technical parameters of KTVM-TV’s original post-transition digital channel 6 facility (File Nos. BPCDT-20080314ADF; BLCDT-20090622ADT) in determining any predicted loss which may occur. This is a synopsis of the Commission’s Report and Order, MB Docket No. 21-185; RM-11906; DA 21-847 adopted July 15, 2021 and released July 16, 2021. The full text of this document is available for download at https://www.fcc.gov/edocs. 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).


The Commission will send a copy of this Report and Order in a report to be sent to Congress and the Government Accountability Office pursuant to the Congressional Review Act, see 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Television.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

Thomas Horan,
Chief of Staff,
Media Bureau.
For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Federal Communications Commission amends 47 CFR part 73 as follows:

PART 73 - - RADIO BROADCAST SERVICES

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:


2. In §73.622(i), amend the Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments, under Montana, by revising the entry for Butte to read as follows:

§ 73.622 Digital television table of allotments.

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(i) ***

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<th>Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
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<td>5, 19, 20, 24</td>
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[FR Doc. 2021-15689 Filed: 7/22/2021 8:45 am; Publication Date: 7/23/2021]