



NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See *MCI v. FCC*, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

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FCC Adopts Rules to Promote the Growth of the Low Power FM Radio Service

Washington, DC – The Federal Communications Commission (Commission) today adopted a wide-ranging series of ownership, eligibility and technical rules and sought comment on additional technical matters in the Low Power FM Third Report and Order (Order) and Second Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

In this Order, the Commission adopts a number of rules and policies designed to foster and protect LPFM radio service which creates opportunities for new voices on the airwaves and to allow local groups, including schools, churches, and other community-based organizations, to provide programming responsive to local community needs and interests. The Commission's action today includes changes to strengthen and promote the long-term viability of the LPFM service, and the localism and diversity goals that this service is intended to advance. The Order:

- Allows the transfer of LPFM licenses subject to significant limitations.
- Reinstates the Commission's rule that all LPFM authorization holders be local to the community and limits ownership to one station per licensee.
- Clarifies that repetitious, automated programming does not meet the local origination requirement.
- Encourages voluntary time-sharing agreements between applicants.
- Imposes an application cap on 2003 FM translator window filers.
- Limits the responsibility of LPFM stations to resolve interference caused to subsequently authorized full-service stations.
- Establishes a procedural framework for considering short-spacing waivers and a going-forward displacement policy for LPFM stations.

In the Second Notice of Proposed Rule-Making, the Commission:

- Seeks comment on technical rules that could potentially expand LPFM licensing opportunities.

- Tentatively concludes that full service stations must provide technical and financial assistance to LPFM stations when implementation of a full service station facility proposal would cause interference to an LPFM station.
- Tentatively concludes that the Commission should adopt a contour-based protection methodology to expand LPFM licensing opportunities.
- Intends to address the issues in the FNPRM within 6 months, and that the next filing window for a non-tabled aural licensed service will be for LPFM.
- Recommends to Congress that it remove the requirement that LPFM stations protect full-power stations operating on third adjacent channels.

Action taken by the Commission, November 27, 2007.

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