



Broadcasting Circular CRTC 2006-6

Ottawa, 21 December 2006

Streamlining process for annual reports filed by licensees

Background

1. Section 5(2)(g) of the *Broadcasting Act* stipulates that the Canadian broadcasting system should be regulated and supervised in a flexible manner that “is sensitive to the administrative burden that, as a consequence of such regulation and supervision, may be imposed on persons carrying on broadcasting undertakings.” In recent years, the Commission has implemented this objective through various streamlining initiatives, and it intends to continue doing so. In addition to benefiting the operators of broadcasting undertakings, these ongoing initiatives allow the Commission to improve its efficiency and effectiveness as a regulatory body.
2. In this context, the Commission, in the spring of 2006, consulted with interested parties to ask them, among other things, to identify all the reports they file with the Commission and the number of resources dedicated to their preparation.
3. The Commission is of the opinion that the changes announced in this circular will lighten the workload for licensees, and will also enable the Commission to gather the information and data required to fulfill its mandate under the *Broadcasting Act*.
4. The Commission hereby announces two streamlining measures for reports. The Commission points out that these measures are part of a series of additional initiatives that will be announced soon.

Amendment to the Cable Capacity Report filing requirements for Class 1 cable distribution undertakings having 20,000 or more subscribers

5. The Commission announces that the cable capacity report filing requirements for Class 1 cable distribution undertakings having 20,000 or more subscribers, as set out in *Extension of the Cable Capacity Report filing requirements for Class 1 cable distribution undertakings having 20,000 or more subscribers; and notice of the Commission’s plans to conduct a one-time survey of other cable distribution undertakings*, Public Notice CRTC 2001-40, 28 March 2001, will be amended so that, starting in January 2007, licensees will be allowed to file an annual report instead of a semi-annual report. Consequently, as of 1 January 2007, licensees will have until no later than 31 October of every year to file their report.

Circular No. 378 for television licensees, dated 2 August 1991

6. According to this circular, each licensee of a broadcasting undertaking (except those offering educational services under provincial jurisdiction) was required to file a duly completed form entitled "Description of Canadian Programs" (DCS) once a year, containing the following information: program title, CRTC 8-digit key figure, number of original/repeat episodes, name of the producing station, ethnic type, L1 L2 and ethnic audience targeted. The form had to be accompanied by a program schedule for the fall season. However, starting 1 January 2007, licensees will no longer be required to produce this report for the Commission.

Next step

7. The Commission intends to pursue its annual report review and streamlining process in fiscal year 2007-2008. This process will take place as part of numerous public processes, including licence renewals and policy review processes.
8. The Commission will use future circulars to announce the measures that have been implemented in order to achieve more streamlined reporting.

Secretary General

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