

Subpart J—Class A Television Broadcast Stations

SOURCE: 65 FR 30009, May 10, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

§ 73.6000 Definitions.

Locally produced programming. For the purpose of this subpart, locally produced programming is programming:

(1) Produced within the predicted Grade B contour of the station broadcasting the program or within the contiguous predicted Grade B contours of any of the stations in a commonly owned group; or

(2) Produced within the predicted DTV noise-limited contour (see § 73.622(e) of this part) of a digital Class A station broadcasting the program or within the contiguous predicted DTV noise-limited contours of any of the digital Class A stations in a commonly owned group; or

(3) Programming produced at the station's main studio.

NOTE TO § 73.6000: *See Report and Order*, In the Matter of Establishment of a Class A Television Service, MM Docket No. 00-10, released April 4, 2000; *Memorandum Opinion and Order on Reconsideration*, In the Matter of Establishment of a Class A Television Service, MM Docket No. 00-10, released April 13, 2001.

[66 FR 21690, May 1, 2001, as amended at 69 FR 69330, Nov. 29, 2004]

§ 73.6001 Eligibility and service requirements.

(a) Qualified low power television licensees which, during the 90-day period ending November 28, 1999, operated their stations in a manner consistent with the programming and operational standards set forth in the Community Broadcasters Protection Act of 1999, may be accorded primary status as Class A television licensees.

(b) Class A television broadcast stations are required to:

(1) Broadcast a minimum of 18 hours per day; and

(2) Broadcast an average of at least three hours per week of locally produced programming each quarter.

(c) Licensed Class A television broadcast stations shall be accorded primary status as a television broadcaster as long as the station continues to meet

the minimum operating requirements for Class A status.

(d) Licensees unable to continue to meet the minimum operating requirements for Class A television stations, or which elect to revert to low power television status, shall promptly notify the Commission, in writing, and request a change in status.

§ 73.6002 Licensing requirements.

(a) A Class A television broadcast license will only be issued to a qualified low power television licensee that:

(1) Filed a Statement of Eligibility for Class A Low Power Television Station Status on or before January 28, 2000, which was granted by the Commission; and

(2) Files an acceptable application for a Class A Television license (FCC Form 302-CA).

§§ 73.6003–73.6005 [Reserved]

§ 73.6006 Channel assignments.

Class A TV stations will not be authorized on UHF TV channels 52 through 69, or on channels unavailable for TV broadcast station use pursuant to § 73.603 of this part.

§ 73.6007 Power limitations.

An application to change the facilities of an existing Class A TV station will not be accepted if it requests an effective radiated power that exceeds the power limitation specified in § 74.735 of this chapter.

§ 73.6008 Distance computations.

The distance between two reference points must be calculated in accordance with § 73.208(c) of this part.

§ 73.6010 Class A TV station protected contour.

(a) A Class A TV station will be protected from interference within the following predicted signal contours:

(1) 62 dBu for stations on Channels 2 through 6;

(2) 68 dBu for stations on Channels 7 through 13; and

(3) 74 dBu for stations on Channels 14 through 51.

(b) The Class A TV station protected contour is calculated from the effective radiated power and antenna height

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above average terrain, using the F(50,50) charts of Figure 9, 10 or 10b of § 73.699 of this part.

(c) A digital Class A TV station will be protected from interference within the following predicted signal contours:

(1) 43 dBu for stations on Channels 2 through 6;

(2) 48 dBu for stations on Channels 7 through 13; and

(3) 51 dBu for stations on Channels 14 through 51.

(d) The digital Class A TV station protected contour is calculated from the effective radiated power and antenna height above average terrain, using the F(50,90) signal propagation method specified in § 73.625(b)(1) of this part.

§ 73.6011 Protection of TV broadcast stations.

Class A TV stations must protect authorized TV broadcast stations, applications for minor changes in authorized TV broadcast stations filed on or before November 29, 1999, and applications for new TV broadcast stations that had been cut-off without competing applications or that were the winning bidder in a TV broadcast station auction as of that date, or that were the proposed remaining applicant in a group of mutually-exclusive applications for which a settlement agreement was on file as of that date. Protection of these stations and applications must be based on the requirements specified in § 74.705 of this chapter. An application to change the facilities of an existing Class A TV station will not be accepted if it fails to protect these TV broadcast stations and applications pursuant to the requirements specified in § 74.705 of this chapter.

§ 73.6012 Protection of Class A TV, low power TV and TV translator stations.

An application to change the facilities of an existing Class A TV station will not be accepted if it fails to protect other authorized Class A TV, low power TV and TV translator stations and applications for changes in such stations filed prior to the date the Class A application is filed, pursuant to

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the requirements specified in § 74.707 of this chapter. The protection of other authorized low power TV and TV translator stations and applications for changes in such stations shall not apply in connection with any application filed by a Class A TV station pursuant to § 73.3700(b)(1).

[79 FR 48544, Aug. 15, 2014]

§ 73.6013 Protection of DTV stations.

Class A TV stations must protect the DTV service that would be provided by the facilities specified in the DTV Table of Allotments in § 73.622 of this part, by authorized DTV stations and by applications that propose to expand DTV stations' allotted or authorized coverage contour in any direction, if such applications either were filed before December 31, 1999 or were filed between December 31, 1999 and May 1, 2000 by a DTV station licensee or permittee that had notified the Commission of its intent to "maximize" by December 31, 1999. Protection of these allotments, stations and applications must be based on not causing predicted interference within the service area described in § 73.622(e) of this part. The interference analysis is based on the methods described in § 73.623(c)(2) through (c)(4) of this part, except that a Class A TV station must not cause a loss of service to 0.5 percent or more of the population predicted to receive service from the DTV allotment, station or application. An application to change the facilities of an existing Class A TV station will not be accepted if it fails to protect these DTV allotments, stations and applications in accordance with this section.

§ 73.6014 Protection of digital Class A TV stations.

An application to change the facilities of an existing Class A TV station will not be accepted if it fails to protect authorized digital Class A TV stations and applications for changes in such stations filed prior to the date the Class A application is filed, pursuant to the requirements specified in § 74.706 of this chapter.