

processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

Dated: December 13, 2023.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023-27883 Filed 12-19-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[MB Docket No. 11-43; DA 23-1119; FRS 190156]

### Audio Description: Preliminary Nonbroadcast Network Rankings

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** FCC announces the top national nonbroadcast network rankings from the 2022-2023 ratings year, and gives networks the opportunity to seek exemption from the July 1, 2024 update to the Commission's audio description requirements.

**DATES:** Exemption requests are due January 19, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Filings should be submitted electronically in MB Docket No. 11-43 by accessing the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the website for submitting filings.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, contact Diana Sokolow (202-418-0588; [Diana.Sokolow@fcc.gov](mailto:Diana.Sokolow@fcc.gov)).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Media Bureau's Public Notice, DA 23-1119, released on November 30, 2023. The full text of this public notice will be available electronically in ASCII, Microsoft Word, and/or Adobe Acrobat via ECFS. Alternative formats are available for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), by sending an email to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or calling the Commission's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), 1-844-4-FCC-ASL (1-844-432-2275) (videophone).

### Synopsis

The Commission's audio description rules require multichannel video programming distributor (MVPD) systems that serve 50,000 or more

subscribers to provide 87.5 hours of audio description<sup>1</sup> per calendar quarter on channels carrying each of the top five national nonbroadcast networks.<sup>2</sup> The top five national nonbroadcast networks are defined by an average of the national audience share during prime time among nonbroadcast networks that reach 50 percent or more of MVPD households and have at least 50 hours per quarter of prime time programming that is not live or near-live or otherwise exempt under the audio description rules.

In accordance with the Commission's rules, the list of top five nonbroadcast networks is updated at three year intervals to account for changes in ratings, and the fourth triennial update will occur on July 1, 2024, based on the 2022 to 2023 ratings year.<sup>3</sup> According to data provided by the Nielsen Company, for the purposes of our requirements, the top ten nonbroadcast networks for the 2022 to 2023 ratings year are: Fox News Channel, ESPN, MSNBC, HGTV, Hallmark, TLC, TNT, TBS, Discovery, and History.

If a program network believes it should be excluded from the list of top five networks covered by the audio description requirements because it does not air at least 50 hours per quarter of prime time programming that is not live or near-live or is otherwise exempt, it must seek an exemption no later than 30 days after publication of this Public Notice in the **Federal Register**. The Media Bureau will promptly evaluate requests for exemption and will provide notice of any resulting revisions to the list.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Thomas Horan,**  
Chief of Staff, Media Bureau.

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<sup>1</sup> Audio description makes video programming accessible to individuals who are blind or visually impaired through "[t]he insertion of audio narrated descriptions of a television program's key visual elements into natural pauses between the program's dialogue." 47 CFR 79.3(a)(3).

<sup>2</sup> The rule requires that 50 hours per calendar quarter be provided in prime time or during children's programming, while the additional 37.5 hours may be provided at any time between 6 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. local time.

<sup>3</sup> The nonbroadcast networks currently subject to the audio description requirements are TLC, HGTV, Hallmark, History, and TBS. We note that the Media Bureau granted TBS a limited waiver of section 79.3(b)(4) of the audio description rules for the triennial period beginning on July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2024.

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-0609; FR ID 190753]

### Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission Under Delegated Authority

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collections. Comments are requested concerning: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees. The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

**DATES:** Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before February 20, 2024. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all PRA comments to Cathy Williams, FCC, via email to [PRA@fcc.gov](mailto:PRA@fcc.gov) and to [Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov](mailto:Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information about the information collection, contact Cathy Williams at (202) 418-2918.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

OMB Control Number: 3060-0609.