



Virginia Association of Broadcasters Legal Review



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IMPORTANT REMINDER

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REMINDER: FIXED RECEIVE SITES MUST BE REGISTERED FOR CERTAIN TV PICKUP LICENSES BY APRIL 1, 2013

In 2011, the FCC released an Order that, among other things, adopted a rule requiring all licensees of TV Pickup stations in the 6875-7125 MHz and 12700-13200 MHz bands to register any stationary receive sites. Effectively, this means that all such licensees must modify their TV Pickup licenses to specify all fixed receive sites. (Some TV Pickup facilities operating in the 7 GHz and 13 GHz bands are entirely portable and have no fixed receive sites. Such licenses do not require modification under the new rule.) The new rule requiring registration becomes effective April 1, 2013, so registration must be completed in advance of that date.

The new requirement only applies to TV Pickup licenses in the 7 GHz and 13 GHz bands and does not apply to other mobile BAS licenses such as Remote Pickup licenses nor does the rule apply to other BAS licenses operating in the 7 GHz and 13 GHz bands. Stations are already permitted to register their fixed TV Pickup receive sites for licenses in the 2 GHz band, which remains, as a legal matter, optional. It is important to understand that the registration of receive sites for TV Pickup licenses in the 7 GHz and 13 GHz bands has become *mandatory* and not optional.

To add a fixed receive site to a TV Pickup license, certain technical data is required, which, depending on the license, may go beyond the geographic coordinates of the fixed receive sites. Stations should consult with their engineers and legal counsel to ensure that all required data is added to any affected license(s). It is worth noting, too, that this type of license modification does not require formal, “prior” frequency

coordination but the FCC suggests informal local coordination. In markets where there is a local coordinator, stations may wish to contact the coordinator to let him or her know that fixed receive sites will be added to particular mobile TV Pickup licenses.

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If you desire additional information, please give one of our FCC attorneys a call.

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This Legal Review should in no way be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific set of facts or circumstances. Therefore, you should consult with legal counsel concerning any specific set of facts or circumstances.

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