

Virginia Association of Broadcasters Legal Review



Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, LLP Counsel to VAB • (919) 839-0300 250 West Main Street, Suite 100 Charlottesville, VA 22902 • (434) 977-3716

July 30, 2018

Legal Memorandum

In this issue, link to information about

Developments: Reimbursement for C-band Downlink Registration FCC Filing Fee NAB Hosting C-band Webcast for Members at 1 p.m. ET on July 30

1 p.m. ET on July 30: NAB Hosting C-band Webcast for NAB Members

Today, July 30, at 1 p.m. ET, NAB is offering its members an informational webcast about the FCC's C-band proceeding. Topics for the webcast will include:

- Overview of the C-band and relevant stakeholders;
- The latest developments following the initiation of an FCC rulemaking on this subject;
- The competing proposals before the FCC;
- Next steps in the rulemaking process;
- Implications for broadcasters who currently rely on the C-band; and
- Registration of earth stations—why it is critical to register and how to learn more about registration.

NAB members can register for the webcast at the following URL address: <u>https://www.nab.org/documents/landingpages/cbandWebinar/default.asp</u>.

SES Establishes Program to Reimburse FCC Filing Fees Incurred By Broadcasters to Register C-band Downlink Earth Station Dishes

SES, a C-band satellite operator, is offering to reimburse broadcasters (and others) the \$435 FCC filing fee incurred in connection with the filing of new registration applications for C-band downlink dishes.

Based on correspondence with SES, here is what we know about this reimbursement opportunity so far (as noted below, SES has not yet worked through all of the details):

1. Reimbursement by SES may be available to U.S. C-band earth station operators in the contiguous United States (not in HI or AK), i.e, broadcasters, cable systems, DTH providers, video programmers, MVPDs, etc., subject to the following conditions:

(a) proof of submission of the FCC registration fee must be submitted to <u>FCCregistration@ses.com</u> by October 31, 2018;

(b) only new registrations are eligible for reimbursement;

(c) reimbursement is limited to the registration fee of \$435 per earth station;

(d) registrations must be carried out between July 25 and October 17, 2018; and

(e) reimbursement is at all times subject to the availability of funds by SES.

2. In order to be considered eligible for reimbursement (based on the information in paragraph 1 above), broadcasters will need to email their confirmation of payment of the FCC filing fee to <u>FCCregistration@ses.com</u>. Once received, it will be checked to determine eligibility status. If eligible, reimbursement will follow. If not eligible for any reason, SES will notify you. SES is "currently working on the method of reimbursement and will keep you updated."

3. No other charges or costs will be reimbursed by SES—only the \$435 FCC filing fee. Reimbursement eligibility does not depend on the size of the entity seeking reimbursement.

4. SES invites broadcasters to email (<u>FCCregistration@ses.com</u>) or call them (609-987-4300) with questions about the FCC's registration process or the filing fee reimbursement offer.

5. SES has set up an informational web page (<u>https://www.ses.com/fcc-registration-or-licensing-c-band-antenna</u>) to help broadcasters understand the FCC's registration process and FCC Form 312.

We will keep you posted with any further details we learn about the SES filing fee reimbursement offer. And, please remember to register your un-registered C-band downlink dishes by October 17, 2018.

If you have any questions concerning the information discussed in this memorandum, please contact your communications counsel or any of the undersigned.

Tim Nelson, Editor

BROOKS, PIERCE, McLENDON, HUMPHREY & LEONARD, L.L.P.

Mark J. Prak Marcus W. Trathen David Kushner Coe W. Ramsey Charles F. Marshall Stephen Hartzell Julia C. Ambrose Elizabeth E. Spainhour J. Benjamin Davis Timothy G. Nelson Amanda M. Whorton

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.

© 2018 Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, L.L.P.