

PRESERVE COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING COALITION

June 25, 2020

Via ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Communications
Amendment of Parts 73 and 74 of the Commission's Rules to Establish Rules for Digital Low Power Television and Television Translator Stations, MB Dkt. No. 03-185

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Preserve Community Programming Coalition (“PCPC”) is an ad hoc group of broadcasters who utilize the unique video and audio capabilities of analog channel 6 to broadcast programming that can be received both on televisions tuned to channel 6 and on radios tuned to 87.7 FM. PCPC member stations have invested to develop innovative programming available on analog television and radio receivers. This programming, much of which is locally generated in the communities PCPC member stations serve, contributes to the diversity of the airwaves by providing underserved communities with important news, information, religious, and entertainment programming.

We write to, first, correct inaccurate and misleading statements in a recent *ex parte* letter by National Public Radio (“NPR”) regarding the Commission’s authority to authorize low power television (“LPTV”) stations to offer analog audio services on an ancillary or supplementary basis following the LPTV digital transition¹ and, second, to ask the FCC to confirm, as it indicated in 2014, that Commission’s rules for ancillary or supplementary services allow a digital LPTV station to provide analog audio services as long as they do not degrade the station’s free video stream.

It is astonishing to the PCPC’s members that NPR—in its quest to exert full control over the bottom of the FM dial—would seek to eliminate important local programming directed to immigrants, persons of color, and other underserved communities. As an organization whose mission is to create a public “challenged and invigorated by a deeper understanding and appreciation of events, ideas, and cultures,”² NPR should welcome the addition of voices representing different backgrounds, not seek to stifle them. NPR’s opposition is particularly curious when actual licensees of noncommercial FM

¹ See Letter from Gregory A. Lewis, Deputy General Counsel, National Public Radio, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, MB Dkt. No. 03-185 (June 9, 2020) (“NPR Ex Parte”).

² See NPR, *Our Mission and Vision*, <https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=178659563> (last visited June 25, 2020).

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stations either support the continuation of audio services on 87.7 FM without qualification³ or merely want the FCC to adopt cross-service interference rules for digital LPTV stations⁴.

Contrary to NPR's position, not only does the Communications Act confer the FCC with authority to allow LPTV stations to continue providing analog audio signals following the digital transition, but the FCC has already exercised this authority. While the PCPC would welcome the Commission providing clarity regarding this point and related issues, such as interference protection and calculation of ancillary and supplementary fees, this should not be mistaken for "ask[ing] the Commission to grandfather existing LPTV Channel 6 analog audio services . . . in order to continue transmitting an analog audio signal when they otherwise transition to digital operations."⁵ The FCC's rules are clear: audio services (whether digital or analog) are ancillary or supplementary services. Accordingly, the PCPC's members look forward to continuing to serve their communities through the provision of analog audio service on an ancillary or supplementary basis following their transition to digital video services.

I. The Communications Act Does Not Prevent the FCC From Authorizing Digital LPTV Stations to Offer Analog Audio Services as An Ancillary or Supplementary Service.

Contrary to NPR's central argument, nothing in the Communications Act prevents the PCPC's members and other LPTV stations from offering analog audio services on an ancillary or supplementary basis. Section 336 of the Act governs the licensing of digital television services, and subsection (b)(1) provides that the FCC may permit a licensee or permittee "to offer ancillary or supplementary services if the use of a designated frequency for such services is consistent with the technology or method designated by the Commission for the provision of advanced television services."⁶ The Commission rightfully has adopted a broad interpretation of what it means to be "consistent with the technology or method designated by the Commission for the provision of advanced television services." As the Commission recently observed, "Congress recognized that the transition from analog to digital broadcast technology would enable DTV licensees to provide new and innovative services . . . over their additional spectrum capacity and **wanted to provide licensees with the flexibility necessary** to utilize fully that new potential."⁷ The only restriction on that flexibility is that the ancillary or supplementary services "do not

³ See Comments of Educational Media Foundation, MB Dkt. No. 03-185 (Jan. 22, 2020) ("EMF, for the reasons herein, sees no technological or policy reason for ending FM-on-LPTV service and encourages the Commission to allow 87.7 MHz San Jose—and stations like it— to continue using Channel 6 to deliver an audio signal after July 13, 2021.").

⁴ See Comments of California State University Long Beach Research Foundation, MB Dkt. No. 03-185 (Jan. 22, 2020) ("Whatever conclusion the Commission may reach regarding the desirability as a policy matter of authorizing continued analog radio services by Channel 6 LPTV stations, the issue of electrical interference is separate and must not be ignored."); Reply Comments of California State University Long Beach Research Foundation, MB Dkt. No. 03-185 (Feb. 6, 2020) (urging the FCC to "implement a specific rule prohibiting LPTV stations operating on Channel 6 from causing interference to NCE FM stations").

⁵ NPR Ex Parte at 1.

⁶ 47 U.S.C. § 336(b)(1).

⁷ See *Promoting Broadcast Internet Innovation Through ATSC 3.0*, Declaratory Ruling and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, MB Dkt. No. 20-145, FCC 20-73, para. 6 (rel. June 9, 2020) (emphasis added) (citing See S. Rep. No. 104-23, at 9 (1995) ("Advanced television, digital compression and other

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derogate any advanced television services (i.e., free over-the-air broadcast service) that the Commission may require.”⁸

The use of an analog audio carrier that does not degrade a station’s primary television signal satisfies the statutory requirement for ancillary or supplementary services. While NPR is correct that the primary video stream of a television station must be digital, this does not limit a station’s flexibility in its provision of ancillary or supplementary services. Indeed, the Commission has concluded just the opposite, finding that its rules “permit DTV licensees to ‘offer **services of any nature**, consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, on an ancillary or supplementary basis’ provided the services do not derogate the licensee’s obligation to provide one free stream of programming to viewers.”⁹

For NPR’s narrow interpretation to be correct, Congress and the FCC would need to limit ancillary or supplementary services to the same broadcast transmission as the primary video signal. But there is no support for such a limiting interpretation in the text of the Act, and Commission has concluded to the contrary that “[s]uch services may be provided on a broadcast, point-to-point or point-to-multipoint basis” – which necessarily would require the transmission of a separate signal over a station’s assigned spectrum.¹⁰ In fact, the FCC has identified “aural messages” and “audio signals” as the very types of services that may be offered on an ancillary or supplementary basis along with other services that are unlikely to constitute “advanced television services,” including computer software distribution, data transmissions, teletext, interactive materials, and paging services. In short, NPR’s interpretation finds no support in the Act and would upend decades of Commission precedent, including its just adopted declaratory ruling regarding so-called “Broadcast Internet” services. Because an analog audio carrier does not derogate a station’s primary over-the-air digital video signal and is “consistent with the technology or method designated by the Commission for the provision of advanced television services,” it is permitted under the Act.

Even if the Commission were to alter its interpretation of ancillary or supplementary services and find that an analog audio carrier does not qualify under Section 336(a), that is only the beginning of the inquiry. Section 336(b)(5) of the Act authorizes the FCC to “prescribe such other regulations as may be necessary for the protection of the public interest, convenience, and necessity.”¹¹ As noted above, the FCC already determined that permitting DTV stations to offer “aural messages” and “audio signals” is “consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity” when, pursuant to its authority under

technological service innovations hold the potential to bring a variety of new services to consumers. Broadcasters seek to pursue these opportunities within existing broadcast radio spectrum . . . in a manner which will assure the continued availability of top quality broadcast service to all Americans.”); H.R. Rep. No. 104-204, at 116 (1995) (“[P]ermittting broadcasters more flexibility in using their spectrum assignments is consistent with the public policy goal of providing additional services to the public.”).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.* ¶ 7 (emphasis added) (quoting 47 CFR § 73.624(c)).

¹⁰ See 47 CFR § 73.624(c).

¹¹ 47 U.S.C. § 336(b)(5).

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Section 336(a), it authorized those services on an ancillary or supplementary basis.¹² The record is replete with specific examples of how the audio signals provided by PCPC members and other analog channel 6 LPTV stations advance the public interest, convenience, and necessity—providing an outlet for programming that would otherwise be unavailable and that provides an important resource for underserved communities. Thus, even if they are not ancillary or supplementary services under the Act, the Commission still has authority to adopt regulations to protect these services under Section 336(b)(5).

NPR's attempt to minimize the import of Section 336(b)(5) in two sentences is unconvincing. First, NPR offers no context for its claim that "any new regulations must be consistent with the overall statutory scheme."¹³ While seemingly true at some level, Congress clearly determined in adopting Section 336(b)(5) that any regulation necessary for the protection of the public interest, convenience, and necessity is "consistent with the overall statutory scheme."

More specifically, there is no factual or legal basis for NPR's claim that permitting diverse analog audio services that provide niche programming for underserved communities "is inconsistent with Congress's directive to transition over-the-air television broadcasting from analog to digital television."¹⁴ It is undisputed that every DTV station must, at a minimum, "transmit at least one free over-the-air video program signal at no direct charge to viewers on the DTV channel."¹⁵ As long as the analog audio carrier does not derogate the free over-the-air video program signal, however, it is unclear how it would be inconsistent with the transition to from analog to digital television. Indeed, contrary to NPR's unsupported assertion, many PCPC member stations expect that the revenue from their established audio streams could help fund new and innovative digital video services—just as the FCC envisioned when it first adopted rules for the provision of ancillary services.¹⁶ Furthermore, if, as NPR implies, such regulations can only be consistent with the overall statutory scheme if they apply to ancillary or supplementary services, such an interpretation would improperly render the catch all provision in Section 336(b)(5) superfluous.¹⁷ This cannot be what Congress intended. Rather, Section 336(b)(5)

¹² See 47 CFR § 73.624(c); *In the Matter of Advanced Television Systems and Their Impact Upon the Existing Television Broadcast Service*, Fifth Report & Order, 12 FCC Rec. 12809 ¶ 31 (1997) (finding that "allowing broadcasters flexibility to provide ancillary and supplementary services is supported both generally and specifically by the 1996 Act").

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ 47 CFR § 73.624(b).

¹⁶ See *In the Matter of Digital Data Transmission Within the Video Portion of Television Broad. Station Transmissions*, Report and Order, 11 FCC Rcd. 7799 ¶ 9 (1996) (explaining that "the revenue earned by the stations [from ancillary services] could help provide them with funds to develop and implement digital television facilities").

¹⁷ Statutory enactments should be read so as "to give effect, if possible, to every clause and word of a statute." *Duncan v. Walker*, 533 U.S. 167, 174, 121 S.Ct. 2120, 150 L.Ed.2d 251 (2001) (quoting *United States v. Menasche*, 348 U.S. 528, 538–39, 75 S.Ct. 513, 99 L.Ed. 615 (1955)) (internal quotation marks omitted); see also *United States v. Nordic Vill., Inc.*, 503 U.S. 30, 36, 112 S.Ct. 1011, 117 L.Ed.2d 181 (1992) (noting "the settled rule that a statute must, if possible, be construed in such fashion that every

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provides the FCC with broad authority to adopt regulations for advanced television services that are necessary for the protection of the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

Because an analog audio carrier attached to a DTV channel is either an ancillary or supplementary service or otherwise necessary for the protection of the public interest, convenience and necessity, the FCC has ample authority to authorize such a service. Moreover, because the remainder of NPR's arguments are built upon the flawed assumption that the FCC lacks statutory authority to authorize the use of an analog audio carrier, these arguments, too, must be rejected. In short, the Communications Act permits, and certainly does not impede, the use of an analog audio carrier on a DTV channel.

II. The Commission's Existing Rules Permit Digital LPTV Stations to Offer Analog Audio as an Ancillary or Supplementary Service Following the DTV Transition.

The Commission does not need to take any action to authorize LPTV stations to use DTV channel 6 to provide an analog audio carrier on an ancillary or supplementary basis because such operation is already permitted under the FCC's rules. Section 73.624 of the FCC's rules provides that as long as a DTV station transmits at least one over-the-air video program signal at no direct charge to viewers, it may use the remainder of its spectrum "to offer **services of any nature**, consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, on an ancillary or supplementary basis."¹⁸ The rule goes on to explain that:

[t]he kinds of services that may be provided include, but are not limited to computer software distribution, data transmissions, teletext, interactive materials, aural messages, paging services, audio signals, subscription video, and any other services that do not derogate DTV broadcast stations' obligations under paragraph (b) of this section. Such services may be provided on a broadcast, point-to-point or point-to-multipoint basis, provided, however, that any video broadcast signal provided at no direct charge to viewers shall not be considered ancillary or supplementary.¹⁹

In its Order on Reconsideration, the Commission rejected placing limits on the type of services that can be offered on an ancillary or supplementary basis, recognizing that "[g]ranted broadcasters the flexibility to offer **whatever ancillary or supplementary services they choose** may also help them attract consumers to the service, which will, in turn, speed the transition to digital."²⁰

Licensees providing such ancillary or supplementary services are subject to four conditions: (1) if the services are analogous to other services subject to regulation by the Commission, they must comply with the regulations that apply to those services; (2) the DTV licensee or permittee must retain control over all material transmitted in broadcast mode via the station's facilities and the technical operation involving telecommunication services; (3) the licensee is required to establish in its renewal application

word has some operative effect"); *United States v. Anderson*, 15 F.3d 278, 283 (2d Cir.1994) ("[C]ourts will avoid statutory interpretations that render provision superfluous.").

¹⁸ 47 CFR § 73.624(c) (emphasis added).

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *In the Matter of Advanced Television Systems & Their Impact Upon the Existing Television Broad. Service*, Order on Reconsideration, 13 FCC Rcd. 6860 ¶ 25 (1998) (emphasis added).

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that all of its program services are in the public interest; and (4) the licensee must remit a fee derived from certain feeable ancillary or supplementary services.²¹

In its 2014 *Digital LPTV Third NPRM*, the Commission correctly recognized that Section 74.790(i) of the FCC's rules permits a digital LPTV station, upon transmitting an over-the-air video program signal at no direct charge to viewers, to "offer services of any nature, consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, on an ancillary or supplementary basis in accordance with the provisions of §73.624(c) and (g)."²² Because Section 73.624(c) expressly permits the provision of "audio signals" on an ancillary or supplementary basis, the only question is whether the analog nature of the signals somehow alters their permissibility. It does not.

Unlike full power television stations, which are required to transmit signals that strictly comply with the ATSC digital broadcasting standard, LPTV stations must only use transmitters "designed to produce digital television signals that can be satisfactorily viewed on consumer receiving equipment **based on**" that standard.²³ Accordingly, as long as an analog audio service can be operated in a manner that is "consistent with" that requirement for LPTV stations, there is no basis to treat it differently than a digital audio service under the ancillary or supplementary rules.

Indeed, as discussed above, if the Commission intended to limit ancillary or supplementary services to those that can be offered as part of the DTV signal, it would not have expressly recognized that the services can be "provided on a broadcast, point-to-point or point-to-multipoint basis."²⁴ While it may be possible to combine ancillary and supplementary services provided on a broadcast basis with the DTV signal, services provided on a point-to-point or point-to-multipoint basis necessarily would require the use of a separate carrier, just like an analog audio service. And as a technical matter, the record demonstrates that digital LPTV stations can operate an analog audio carrier without interfering with or derogating their digital video signals.²⁵

²¹ 47 C.F.R. § 73.624(c) & (g).

²² *Amendment of Parts 73 and 74 of the Commission's Rules to Establish Rules for Digital Low Power Television, Television Translator, and Television Booster Stations*, Third Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 29 FCC Rcd. 12536 ¶ 48 (2014) ("*Digital LPTV Third NPRM*").

²³ 47 C.F.R. § 74.795(b) (emphasis added); see also *Amendment of Parts 73 and 74 of the Commission's Rules to Establish Rules for Digital Low Power Television, Television Translator, and Television Booster Stations and to Amend Rules for Digital Class A Television Stations*, Report and Order, 19 FCC Rcd 19331 ¶ 163 (2004) ("Under Part 74 of the rules, LPTV and TV translator stations are not required to comply with either Section 73.682(a) or (d)."). The Commission should take this opportunity to clarify that, to the extent the video division implied otherwise in *KMFP-LP*, File No. BMPDVL-201201133AEE (*available at* http://licensing.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/prod/cdbs/forms/prod/getimportletter_exh.cgi?import_letter_id=35147), that decision was erroneous.

²⁴ See 47 CFR § 73.624(c).

²⁵ The PCPC has explained that while the burden is on digital LPTV stations to ensure that the analog audio carrier does not derogate their digital video signals, studies have demonstrated the feasibility of this approach both with ATSC 1.0 video and, to a greater degree, with ATSC 3.0 video. See Comments of Preserve Community Programming Coalition, MB Dkt. No. 03-185 (Jan. 22, 2020) ("*PCPC Comments*"), at

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Whatever confusion there may be in the record about the scope of ancillary or supplementary services stems from imprecise drafting and statements from the Commission that are inconsistent with the text of the rules. While these would benefit from clarification, however, they do not undermine the plain language of the rules themselves.²⁶ For example, in the *Fifth Report and Order on Advanced Television Services*, the Commission explained that ancillary or supplementary services included “any service provided on the digital channel **other than free, over the air services.**”²⁷ This could create the impression that a free analog audio service would not be an ancillary or supplementary service. But the rule itself makes clear that this carve out is limited to digital **video** services, stating that “**any video broadcast signal** provided at no direct charge to viewers shall not be considered ancillary or supplementary.”²⁸ This interpretation is supported by the enumerated list of ancillary or supplementary services in the rule, which includes “audio signals.”²⁹

NPR appears to hang its hat on Section 74.731(m) of the FCC’s rules, which establishes the deadline for LPTV stations to complete their transition to digital.³⁰ But this reliance is also misplaced. Section 74.731(m) provides that after 11:59 p.m. local time on July 13, 2021, “low power television and TV translator stations may no longer operate any facility in analog (NTSC) mode and all licenses for such analog operations shall automatically cancel at that time without any affirmative action by the Commission.”³¹ Although the term “any facility” appears quite broad, the prohibition only applies to analog **television service** and, particularly, service in “analog (NTSC) mode.”³² As the Commission explained at the time, the purpose of establishing an end date for NTSC transmissions was to “hasten the low power television conversion to digital, so that more of the public will be able to enjoy the

21-22; Reply Comments of Preserve Community Programming Coalition, MB Dkt. No. 03-185 (Feb. 6, 2020), at 13 & Ex. B (demonstrating that analog audio carrier and ATSC 3.0 signal can operate simultaneously with no degradation to either signal).

²⁶ See *C.F. Communications Corp. v. FCC*, 128 F.3d 735, 739-740 (D.C. Cir. 1997) (rejecting an FCC interpretation of its own regulation that “does not comport with the plain meaning” of the language in the regulation and “violates the familiar principle of statutory interpretation which requires construction ‘so that no provision is rendered inoperative or superfluous, void or insignificant.’”) (citation omitted).

²⁷ *In the Matter of Advanced Television Systems and Their Impact Upon the Existing Television Broadcast Service*, Fifth Report & Order, 12 FCC Rec. 12809 ¶ 30 (1997) (emphasis added).

²⁸ 47 C.F.R. § 73.624(c) (emphasis added).

²⁹ *Id.*

³⁰ See NPR Ex Parte Letter at 1 (“By 11:59 p.m. local time on July 13, 2021, all low power television stations (“LPTV”) must terminate analog operations.”); 6 (“In short, the Commission long ago set an end date for LPTV stations to complete the digital transition – July 13, 2021 – and any analog LPTV station still has ample notice to plan for the transition.”).

³¹ 47 C.F.R. § 73.351(m),

³² NTSC is the acronym for National Television Standards Committee and “is used to describe the standard method of television transmission in North America” before the digital transition. See *Application of Puerto Rico Telephone Company*, 10 FCC Rcd. 1 ¶ 6 n. 17 (CCB 1994) (citing Newton’s Telecom Dictionary (5th ed. 1992)).

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benefits of digital broadcast television technology.”³³ The deadline does not, however, preclude stations from transitioning to digital broadcast television technology and simultaneously transmitting an audio signal in analog as an ancillary or supplementary service. Because the proposed audio carrier would not operate in “analog (NTSC) mode” and would not be a separately licensed service at all, but rather operate as an ancillary or supplementary service, Section 74.731(m) would not apply.

In short, under the FCC’s existing rules, the provision of an analog audio carrier on a digital LPTV station is an ancillary and supplementary service. While the PCPC and its members would appreciate the FCC resolving the regulatory uncertainty that it has created and clarifying the service rules applicable to analog audio services offered on an ancillary or supplementary basis, this requires nothing more than a declaratory ruling, not a new rule.

III. Continuing Analog Audio Services On 87.7 FM is in the Public Interest.

The record overwhelmingly supports the conclusion that preserving the niche audio programming currently offered by LPTV stations assigned to channel 6 is in the public interest. Programming on 87.7 FM audio streams generally targets underserved populations, including first- and second-generation immigrants, persons of color, and older Americans. Examples of this programming include Spanish-language Catholic programming designed for Latin American immigrants in Southern California, the only locally-produced Spanish-language programming in Denver, programming that helps immigrant communities in Washington, D.C. acclimate to their new communities while maintaining a connection to their homeland, unique baby-boomer themed music programming in Chicago, and locally-produced programming directed to the diverse needs of listeners in Syracuse, New York, including Spanish, Italian, Polish and Bosnian foreign language programming as well as English-language programming specifically directed to African-Americans of Caribbean descent.³⁴ Listeners appreciate the availability of unique programming on 87.7 FM, as evidenced by the approximately 5,000 letters of support from listeners of Guadalupe Radio on KZNO-LP, Big Bear Lake, California and KPFE-LP, San Diego, California and the more than 130 letters of support from listeners of Me-TV FM on WRME-LP, Chicago, Illinois.³⁵

The critical service these stations provide to their communities has only increased in importance during the COVID-19 related stay at home orders. For example, Guadalupe Radio has expanded its Spanish mass, added a daily English mass, and supplemented its religious programming with information about California’s “Safer at Home” policy and the latest recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.³⁶ And MeTV FM has broadcast a rotation of unique announcements using hooks to popular songs to promote tips to stay safe, provided regular news updates about the pandemic, and broadcast hundreds of public service announcements that raised over \$1.2 million for the Feeding

³³ *Amendment of Parts 73 and 74 of the Commission’s Rules to Establish Rules for Digital Low Power Television, Television Translator, and Television Booster Stations and to Amend Rules for Digital Class A Television Stations*, Second Report and Order, 26 FCC Rcd. 10732, ¶ 6 (2011).

³⁴ See PCPC Comments at 5-6.

³⁵ See Reply Comments of Hombre Nuevo, MD Dkt. No. 03-185 (Feb. 4, 2020); Comments of MeTV FM, MB Dkt. No. 03-185 (Jan. 27, 2020).

³⁶ See Letter from Ari Meltzer, Counsel for Preserve Community Programming Coalition to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, MB Dkt. No. 03-185 (May 7, 2020).

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Illinois initiative to support local food banks and additional funds for Crew Nation to benefit musical artists and bands that are unable to perform.³⁷

Rather than even attempt to demonstrate that this programming is not in the public interest, NPR instead dismissively suggests that “the operators should obtain an FM or LPFM license.”³⁸ But NPR undermines its own suggestion just two sentences later, when it concedes that “[t]he FM band is full, the demand for FM radio facilities continues unabated, and diversification of broadcast ownership remains a largely unattained objective.”³⁹ The availability of an additional audio service on 87.7 FM has provided these niche programmers with a platform on which to invest in programming directed to unserved or underserved audiences that is not available on any other stations in their markets—all while continue to provide free over-the-air video programming pursuant to their television licenses. To remove such a valuable service and reduce the choices available to radio listeners would contravene the FCC’s core objectives under the Communications Act.

IV. Conclusion.

The Commission not only has the authority to authorize an analog FM radio service as an ancillary or supplementary service for digital LPTV stations but has already done so under its existing rules. The Commission should put an end to the uncertainty that it created in the 2014 *Digital LPTV Third NPRM* by reaffirming that digital LPTV stations can offer analog audio service and an ancillary or supplementary service and clarify operational rules applicable to such services in a manner consistent with the record in this proceeding.

The PCPC and its members are committed to continuing to offer valuable analog audio services in a manner that does not derogate their primary free over-the-air digital video signals following the July 13, 2021 LPTV digital transition deadline.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Signatures on Following Page)

³⁷ *Id.*

³⁸ *NPR Ex Parte* at 6.

³⁹ *Id.*

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