

-On the FCC's decision to seek comment on modernizing broadcast disclosure and public file rules, Free Press Policy Counsel Corie Wright made the following statement:

"We're well into the digital age yet broadcaster public reports are still buried in paper files stacked in basements, instead of online where the public can more easily access them. And broadcasters continue to rely on an outdated system of reporting that falls short of providing the public with useful information on the local TV stations licensed to serve them.

"The Commission has a critical opening to practice what it preaches when it comes to transparency, modernization and access to data. By updating broadcasters' reporting requirements and putting them online for easy access by viewers, the FCC could significantly improve consumers' ability to hold broadcasters accountable for whether they're using the publicly owned spectrum to serve and inform their communities. We are encouraged by the FCC's pledge to move swiftly on implementing these much-needed reforms and we will hold it to this commitment."