

| Milestone | Target date |
|--|--------------------|
| Commission Issues Study Plan Determination | November 8, 2018. |
| Notice of Formal Study Dispute (if necessary) | November 28, 2018. |
| Commission Issues Study Dispute Determination (if necessary) | February 6, 2019. |

Dated: August 10, 2018.
Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.
 [FR Doc. 2018-17655 Filed 8-15-18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Effectiveness of Exempt Wholesale Generator and Foreign Utility Company Status

| | Docket Nos. |
|---|-------------|
| East Hampton Energy Storage Center, LLC | EG18-80-000 |
| Montauk Energy Storage Center, LLC | EG18-81-000 |
| Armadillo Flats Wind Project, LLC .. | EG18-82-000 |
| Heartland Divide Wind Project, LLC | EG18-83-000 |
| Antelope Expansion 2, LLC | EG18-84-000 |
| Pegasus Wind, LLC | EG18-85-000 |
| Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC | EG18-86-000 |
| Pratt Wind, LLC | EG18-87-000 |
| Stoneray Power Partners, LLC | EG18-88-000 |
| Copenhagen Wind Farm, LLC | EG18-89-000 |
| Rio Bravo Windpower, LLC | EG18-90-000 |
| Minco Wind IV, LLC | EG18-91-000 |
| Minco Wind V, LLC | EG18-92-000 |
| Lorenzo Wind, LLC | EG18-93-000 |
| Wildcat Ranch Wind Project, LLC ... | EG18-94-000 |
| Enbridge Rampion UK Ltd | FC18-5-000 |

Take notice that during the month of July 2018, the status of the above-captioned entities as Exempt Wholesale Generators or Foreign Utility Companies became effective by operation of the Commission’s regulations. 18 CFR 366.7(a) (2017).

Dated: August 10, 2018.
Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[MB Docket No. 17-179; FCC 18-100]

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. and Tribune Media Company, Applications for Transfer of Control of Tribune Media Company and Certain Subsidiaries, WDCW(TV)

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document commences a hearing to determine whether granting the applications filed by Tribune Media Company (Tribune) and Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. (Sinclair) seeking to transfer control of Tribune subsidiaries to Sinclair would be in the public interest. The Commission has designated the applications for hearing after finding that there were substantial and material questions of fact as to whether; Sinclair was a “real party in interest” to the sale of certain broadcast stations; Sinclair engaged in misrepresentation and/or lack of candor in its applications with the Commission; and consummation of the overall transaction would be in the public interest, including whether it would comply with § 73.3555 of the Commission’s rules.

DATES: Persons desiring to participate as parties in the hearing shall file a petition for leave to intervene not later than September 17, 2018.

ADDRESSES: File documents with the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554, with a copy mailed to each party to the proceeding. Each document that is filed in this proceeding must display on the front page the docket number of this hearing, “MB Docket No. 17-179.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Brown, *David.Brown@fcc.gov*, Media Bureau, (202) 418-1645.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Hearing Designation Order (Order), MB Docket No. 17-139, FCC 18-100, adopted July 18, 2018, and released July 19, 2018. The full text of the Order is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC’s Reference Information Center at Portals II, CY-A257, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. The full text is also available online at <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.

Summary of the Hearing Designation Order

1. On June 28, 2017, Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. (Sinclair) and Tribune Media Company (Tribune) filed applications seeking to transfer control of Tribune subsidiaries to Sinclair. Sinclair and Tribune have amended their applications several times thereafter, in an attempt to bring the transaction into compliance with the

Commission’s national television multiple ownership rule, as well as the public interest requirements of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act).

2. Among these applications were three that, rather than transfer broadcast television licenses in Chicago, Dallas, and Houston directly to Sinclair, proposed to transfer these licenses to other entities. According to the proposals, Sinclair would divest WGN-TV, Chicago, Illinois, to WGN TV, LLC, a newly-created entity by Steve Fader, an individual with no broadcast experience, for a purchase price of approximately \$60 million. Sinclair would also divest KDAF(TV), Dallas Texas, and KIAH(TV), Houston, Texas, to Cunningham Broadcast Corporation (Cunningham) for a combined purchase price of approximately \$60 million. The Commission notes that the proposed transfer applications to Fader and Cunningham were withdrawn on July 18, 2018.

3. Multiple formal pleadings have been filed opposing this latest divestiture plan. Most opponents challenge the divestitures as “shams” intended to circumvent the local and national television multiple ownership rules and find most egregious the proposed divestitures to Fader and Cunningham. Some parties question whether Sinclair will hold *de facto* control over WGN TV, LLC. Specifically, they question the reasonableness of the terms of the transaction, including a purchase price of only \$60 million, and Sinclair’s plans to enter into a Joint Sales Agreement (JSA), Shared Services Agreement (SSA), and Option with WGN TV, LLC at closing. The parties also question Fader’s independence from Sinclair given that Fader and David Smith, currently a director and controlling shareholder of Sinclair and formerly its CEO, are business partners outside of the broadcast industry. Specifically, Fader is the CEO of Atlantic Automotive Group (Atlantic), in which David Smith has a controlling interest and serves as a member of its board of directors, and Atlantic is a Sinclair advertiser and tenant. Similarly, some parties argue that the sale of stations in Dallas and Houston to Cunningham are in name only and warrant a hearing. According to the objectors, problematic aspects of