



Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2006-392

Ottawa, 23 August 2006

Les Communications Matane inc.
Matane and Les Méchins, Quebec

*Application 2005-1454-8
Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2006-31
15 March 2006*

CHRM-FM Matane and its transmitter CHRM-FM-1 Les Méchins – Licence renewal

*The Commission **renews** the broadcasting licence for the commercial radio programming undertaking CHRM-FM Matane and its transmitter CHRM-FM-1 Les Méchins, from 1 September 2006 to 31 August 2013.*

The application

1. The Commission received an application by Les Communications Matane inc. (Communications Matane) to renew the broadcasting licence for the commercial radio programming undertaking CHRM-FM Matane and its transmitter CHRM-FM-1 Les Méchins. The licence expires on 31 August 2006.

Interventions

2. The Commission received interventions in connection with this application, including an intervention in support and comments from the Association québécoise de l'industrie du disque, du spectacle et de la vidéo (ADISQ).
3. ADISQ expressed its concerns regarding the streamlined process set out by the Commission in *The CRTC Streamlines Radio Renewals Process*, Broadcasting Circular CRTC 2002-448, 7 June 2002. ADISQ noted that there were not enough evaluations of the station's compliance throughout the current licence term and submitted that the streamlined process should be supported by adequate monitoring, with compliance reports placed on public files. The intervener is convinced that current technological resources could certainly allow the Commission to conduct much more frequent evaluations of the licensee's programming without requiring significant additional resources.

4. ADISQ pointed out that the public file contained only one compliance evaluation for CHRM-FM's current licence term, a situation the intervener finds unfortunate because it was unable to assess the station's compliance with its requirements regarding the broadcast of Canadian music selections and French-language vocal music selections.
5. ADISQ is pleased to note that Communications Matane has met its Canadian talent development (CTD) obligations for the years 2001 to 2005 and that the expenditures in question were paid to MusicAction. However, ADISQ finds it unfortunate that it was unable to validate the information for the years 1999 and 2000. ADISQ asked the Commission to include in the CHRM-FM renewal decision a direction that the CTD condition of licence require that CTD contributions be paid to MusicAction.
6. Communications Matane did not reply to the interventions.

Commission's analysis and determinations

7. The Commission notes ADISQ's comments concerning the streamlined renewal process for radio licences. In *Review of the Commercial Radio Policy*, Broadcasting Notice of Public Hearing CRTC 2006-1, 13 January 2006, the Commission invited written comments from interested parties on various issues, including issues relating to the streamlined renewal process for radio licences. The Commission held a public hearing on this issue commencing 15 May 2006 in the National Capital Region.
8. In *Call for comments on the Commission's service standards*, Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2006-16, 10 February 2006, the Commission announced that for the year 2006-2007, it was undertaking streamlining measures to specifically address, among other topics, licence renewal applications that are dealt with by public notice. In *Streamlined processes for certain broadcasting applications*, Broadcasting Circular CRTC 2006-1, 27 March 2006, the Commission announced that it would continue to examine additional options to increase the efficiency of its procedures, including a further streamlining of the licence renewal process. Finally, in *Introduction of service standards for certain broadcasting applications*, Broadcasting Circular CRTC 2006-2, 5 April 2006, the Commission announced new service standards for its processing of certain types of applications, including applications for licence renewals currently processed using the public notice approach.
9. ADISQ's concerns regarding the streamlined renewal process for radio licences will be considered in the Commission's deliberations on this issue. The Commission further notes that technological resources that could facilitate the evaluation of licensees' programming are now available, and therefore encourages ADISQ to explore these resources. The Commission is of the view that ADISQ could itself assess the compliance of licensees.

10. With respect to CTD contributions, the Commission reviewed CHRM-FM's file and notes that the station is in compliance with its condition of licence requiring annual minimum contributions of \$400.
11. Accordingly, the Commission **renews** the broadcasting licence for the commercial radio programming undertaking CHRM-FM Matane and its transmitter CHRM-FM-1 Les Méchins, from 1 September 2006 to 31 August 2013. The licence will be subject to the **conditions** set out in *New licence form for commercial radio stations*, Public Notice CRTC 1999-137, 24 August 1999.

Employment equity

12. In accordance with *Implementation of an employment equity policy*, Public Notice CRTC 1992-59, 1 September 1992, the Commission encourages the licensee to consider employment equity issues in its hiring practices and in all other aspects of its management of human resources.

Secretary General

This decision is to be appended to the licence. It is available in alternative format upon request, and may also be examined in PDF format or in HTML at the following Internet site: <http://www.crtc.gc.ca>