



Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2005-469

Ottawa, 19 September 2005

Astral Broadcasting Group Inc.
Eastern Canada

Application 2005-0419-3
Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2005-66
13 July 2005

The Movie Network – Licence amendment

1. The Commission **approves** the application by Astral Broadcasting Group Inc. to amend the broadcasting licence for the pay television programming undertaking known as The Movie Network, in order to allow The Movie Network to be available for distribution in the high definition (HD) format. The programming will be the same as that offered on the analog version of the service.
2. The Commission did not receive any interventions in connection with this application.
3. In *The regulatory framework for the distribution of digital television signals*, Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2003-61, 11 November 2003, the Commission stated that it would authorize the licensee of a Canadian pay or specialty service to make available an upgraded version of the service, by means of an amendment to the licence of the corresponding analog service. This authority would be in effect for a term of three years, pending the development of a licensing and distribution framework for Canadian pay and specialty services in HD format. This process was initiated in *Call for comments on a proposed framework for the licensing and distribution of high definition pay and specialty services*, Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2004-58, 6 August 2004.
4. Accordingly, by **condition of licence**, Astral Broadcasting Group Inc. is authorized to make available for distribution, until three years from the date of this decision, a version of The Movie Network in HD format, provided that not less than 95% of the video and audio components of the upgraded and analog versions of the service are the same, exclusive of the commercial messages and of any part of the service carried on a subsidiary signal.

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>

