

*Via GC Key*

September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Ms. Danielle May-Cuconato  
Secretary General  
Canadian Radio-television and  
Telecommunications Commission  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0N2

Dear Ms. May-Cuconato:

**Re: Conversion of Corus' Global Television non-mandatory market transmitters  
from analog to digital - Progress Report**

As per Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2010-782, Corus is hereby filing the attached progress report regarding the conversion of the Global Television analog transmitters in non-mandatory markets to digital.

As always, should the Commission require additional information concerning this matter, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Phillips", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Karen Phillips  
Senior Director, Government Relations and Compliance  
Corus Entertainment Inc.



**Conversion of the Global Television non-mandatory market transmitters from analog to digital - Progress report - 30 September 2016**

1. In Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2010-782, the Commission approved the acquisition of Canwest Global Communications Corp. (“**Canwest**”) by Shaw Communications Inc. (“**Shaw**”), as well as a tangible benefits package which proposed, inter alia, the allocation of \$23 million to convert 67 analog transmitter sites outside the mandatory markets to digital over a 5-year period, beginning in the 2011/2012 broadcast year.
2. Subsequently in Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2016-110 the Commission approved the Shaw application on behalf of Shaw Media Inc. for authority to effect a corporate reorganization by transferring all of Shaw Communications’ shares in Shaw Media to Corus Entertainment Inc. (“**Corus**”) or one of its subsidiaries. As part of this reorganization Corus assumed responsibility for the fulfilment of all remaining Shaw tangible benefits requirements including those approved in Shaw’s acquisition of Canwest.
3. In the Shaw/Canwest decision the Commission also required that Shaw file biannual progress reports on this tangible benefits initiative which is now the responsibility of Corus. This report is the third of three that will be filed with the Commission, and summarizes our progress to date.

**600MHz delay**

4. In December 2014 the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (“**ISED**”) announced a moratorium on processing of new applications for channels in the television broadcasting bands due to repurposing of the 600MHz frequency band that would result in a new DTV allotment plan.
5. As a result of moratorium, Corus was not able to obtain the ISED or CRTC approvals required to complete the conversions within the timeline set out in Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2010-782.
6. Consequently, an application was filed with the Commission requesting an extension of the deadline until August 31<sup>st</sup> 2019 for completing the DTV transition of the Global transmitters in non-mandatory markets. This request was granted in Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2016-91.



**Progress to Date**

7. Since the Commission approved the Shaw/Canwest acquisition, we have made consistent progress toward converting our analog transmitters in the non-mandatory markets to digital, and prior to the ISED moratorium, we were on track to meet our obligations by the end of the 2015/2016 broadcast year.

To date, we have completed conversions in 47 locations,<sup>1</sup> Of 20 remaining sites, almost all serve small or very small populations, as noted in Appendix 1.

8. As set out in the Appendix to Broadcasting Decision 2010-782, Shaw committed to spending \$23 million for the DTV benefit conversions. As of August 31, 2016 \$19.6M had been spent. We expect that the remaining \$3.4M is sufficient to complete the remaining 20 sites.

**Looking Ahead**

9. When the ISED moratorium is ended, and a new channel plan is issued, Corus plans to complete the remaining 20 sites as expeditiously as reasonably possible, considering other requirements that may result from the issuance of a new channel plan, which is expected to impact all broadcasters across the country.

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<sup>1</sup> One of these locations, Fort Erie, did not require a conversion of its transmitter, since the addition of the post-transition digital transmitter in Toronto, CIII-DT-41, increased the digital coverage contours such that the Fort Erie market is now serviced by CIII-DT-41. The Fort Erie transmission, on analog Channel 55, was discontinued. See Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2010-608, paragraph 3.



**APPENDIX 1: Completed Digital Conversions in Non-Mandatory Markets**

| <b>TRANSMITTER MARKET</b> | <b>CALL LETTERS</b> | <b>DTV ON-AIR</b> |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Midland                   | CIII-DT-7           | August 2011       |
| Fort Erie <sup>2</sup>    | CIII-DT-41          | August 2011       |
| Kelowna                   | CHKL-DT             | October 2012      |
| Penticton                 | CHKL-DT-1           | October 2012      |
| Vernon                    | CHKL-DT-2           | October 2012      |
| Kelowna                   | CHBC-DT             | October 2012      |
| Penticton                 | CHBC-DT-1           | October 2012      |
| Vernon                    | CHBC-DT-2           | October 2012      |
| Sarnia - Oil Springs      | CIII-DT-29          | November 2012     |
| Owen Sound                | CIII-DT-4           | December 2012     |
| Peterborough              | CIII-DT-27          | January 2013      |
| Sudbury                   | CFGC-DT             | January 2013      |
| North Bay                 | CFGC-DT-2           | February 2013     |
| Sault Ste. Marie          | CIII-DT-12          | February 2013     |
| Timmins                   | CIII-DT-13          | February 2013     |
| Red Deer                  | CITV-DT-2           | August 2013       |
| Prince George             | CIFG-DT-2           | October 2013      |
| Kamloops                  | CHKM-DT             | December 2013     |
| Minnedosa                 | CKND-DT-2           | April 2014        |
| Mulgrave                  | CIHF-DT-16          | May 2014          |
| New Glasgow               | CIHF-DT-8           | June 2014         |
| Yarmouth                  | CIHF-DT-10          | June 2014         |
| Antigonish                | CIHF-DT-15          | June 2014         |
| Sydney                    | CIHF-DT-7           | July 2014         |
| Shelburne                 | CIHF-DT-9           | July 2014         |
| St. Stephen               | CIHF-DT-12          | July 2014         |
| Miramichi                 | CIHF-DT-14          | August 2014       |
| Bridgewater               | CIHF-DT-6           | August 2014       |
| Truro                     | CIHF-DT-4           | August 2014       |
| Woodstock                 | CIHF-DT-11          | August 2014       |
| Chilliwack                | CHAN-DT-1           | August 2014       |
| Wilson Creek              | CHAN-DT-6           | August 2014       |
| Wolfville                 | CIHF-DT-5           | January 2015      |
| Courtenay                 | CHAN-DT-4           | July 2015         |
| Pritchard                 | CHKM-DT-1           | August 2015       |
| Williams Lake             | CITM-DT-1           | August 2015       |
| Quesnel                   | CITM-DT-2           | August 2015       |
| Grand Forks               | CISR-DT-1           | August 2015       |
| Brackendale               | CHAN-DT-5           | August 2015       |
| Squamish                  | CHAN-DT-3           | August 2015       |

<sup>2</sup> See Note 1.



|                |           |             |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| Whistler       | CHAN-DT-7 | August 2015 |
| 100 Mile House | CITM-DT   | June 2016   |
| Taghum         | CKTN-DT-2 | June 2016   |
| Bowen Island   | CHAN-DT-2 | July 2016   |
| Santa Rosa     | CISR-DT   | July 2016   |
| Revelstoke     | CHKL-DT-3 | August 2016 |
| Revelstoke     | CHRP-DT-2 | August 2016 |

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