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Media Bureau Announces Release of Updated Low Power FM Channel Finder Tool

The Media Bureau announces that its updated Low Power FM (LPFM) Channel Finder search tool is now available to the public on the FCC's website at: http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/low-power-fm-lpfm-channel-finder.

The LPFM Channel Finder tool provides a simple means to tentatively identify available FM channels at any location. To undertake a search a user enters NAD 27 latitude and longitude coordinates of a potential transmitter site. Coordinates must be determined to the nearest second. The LPFM Channel Finder incorporates changes required by the Local Community Radio Act of 2010, including the elimination of LPFM third-adjacent channel spacing requirements. The Commission is currently considering standards for waiving second-adjacent channel spacing requirements and a proposal to exempt LPFM stations operating at less than 100 watts from intermediate frequency spacing requirements. Commission action on these proposals could affect LPFM channel availability at many locations. Searches can include or exclude either or both of these spacing requirements to help LPFM applicants take into account these potential rule changes.

As explained in more detail on the web page, a successful search does not guarantee that identified "available" channels will be technically acceptable at the time of application filing. The tool also does not take into account many other factors that can limit radio station transmitter site location options.

For additional information about the LPFM Channel Finder search tool, contact James Bradshaw or Jorden Brinn, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at (202) 418-2700.

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¹ Pub. L. No. 111-371, 124 Stat. 4072 (2011).

² See Fifth Report and Order, Fourth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Fourth Notice on Reconsideration in MM Docket 99-25, FCC 12-28, released March 19, 2012.