

SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP INC

Form 11-K

June 27, 2014

[Table of Contents](#)

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM 11-K**

**Annual Report Pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.**

or

**Transition Report Pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the transition period from                    to                    .**

**Commission file number 000-26076**

**SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP, INC.**

**401(k) RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN**

(Full Title of Plan)

**SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP, INC.**

**10706 BEAVER DAM ROAD**

**HUNT VALLEY, MD 21030**

(Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the Plan  
and address of its principal executive office)

---

Table of Contents

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL  
SCHEDULE AND REPORT OF INDEPENDENT  
REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

**SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP, INC.**  
**401(K) RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN**

DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012

---

Table of Contents

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>PAGE</b>
<u>REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM</u>	1
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
<u>STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</u>	3
<u>STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</u>	4
<u>NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	5
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE	
<u>SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)</u>	21

---

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Plan Administrator, Investment Committee and the Audit Committee

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan (the Plan) as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2013. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Plan is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2013 and 2012 and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2013, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2013 is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement

Table of Contents

Income Security Act of 1974. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ CohnReznick LLP

Bethesda, Maryland

June 27, 2014

Table of Contents

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

## STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

	December 31,	
	2013	2012
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Investments, at fair value	\$ 236,786,599	\$ 123,608,160
Receivables		
Employee contributions	651,497	310,334
Employer contributions	2,943,483	1,693,413
Participant notes receivable	3,940,487	2,532,915
Total receivables	7,535,467	4,536,662
Total assets	244,322,066	128,144,822
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Excess contributions refundable	306,717	162,323
Net assets reflecting investments at fair value	244,015,349	127,982,499
Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts	(2,103,995)	(2,335,707)
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 241,911,354	\$ 125,646,792

See notes to financial statements

Table of Contents

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Year ended December 31, 2013

Additions:	
Income on investments and participant notes receivable	
Interest on participant notes receivable	\$ 125,413
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	49,949,994
Income on investments and participant notes receivable	50,075,407
Contributions:	
Employees	11,435,400
Employer	2,943,483
Rollovers	11,752,467
Total contributions	26,131,350
Total additions	76,206,757
Deductions:	
Benefit payments	15,071,517
Administrative expenses	71,497
Corrective distributions	306,717
Total deductions	15,449,731
Net increase before transfer	60,757,026
Transfer from Fisher Communication, Inc. 401(k) Retirement Plan (Note 1)	55,507,536
Net increase	116,264,562
Net assets available for benefits:	
Beginning of the year	125,646,792
End of the year	\$ 241,911,354

See notes to financial statements





Table of Contents

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2013 and 2012

NOTE 1 - PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following description of Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Summary Plan Description for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions. Copies of this summary are available from Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. (the "Company" or "Employer"), Human Resources Department.

General

The Plan was adopted on January 1, 1988 and was amended and restated effective April 14, 2010 pursuant to a Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company ("Mass Mutual") Non-standardized 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan Prototype Plan Document. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"). The Plan is a participatory defined contribution plan covering substantially all of the Company's employees. Mass Mutual is the trustee and administrator of the Plan and distributes the funds in accordance with the Plan documents. The Board of Directors is responsible for oversight of the Plan. The Investment Committee determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings, monitors investment performance and reports to the Plan's Board of Directors. An employee is eligible to participate in the Plan upon successful completion of the introductory period (90-day evaluation period to which all new employees and re-hires are subject). Re-hires, if eligible to participate in the Plan on their date of termination, are eligible to enter the Plan on the date of re-hire. Although employees may participate in the Plan, they will not be eligible to receive the discretionary company match until they have completed one year of service. An employee will earn a year of service if they work at least 1,000 hours during the 12-month period immediately following their date of hire or if they work at least 1,000 hours during any Plan year beginning after their date of hire. In addition, once a participant completes a year of service in order to receive the discretionary match, they must also be employed on the last day of the Plan year and complete at least 1,000 hours of service during the Plan year for which the match pertains. On October 1, 2012, the Plan was amended to implement an auto enrollment process whereby participants are automatically enrolled at a 3% deferral rate upon becoming eligible. The Plan was further amended during 2013 to reduce the service requirement for participation from 90 to 75 days.

During 2013, the Company acquired Fisher Communication, Inc. ("Fisher"), and in connection with that acquisition, the Fisher 401(k) Retirement Plan ("Fisher Plan") was merged into the Plan. Pursuant to the merger, transferred Roth contributions, employer match, and nonelective contributions were 100% vested and available for



Table of Contents

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2013 and 2012

in-service withdrawal for financial hardship or attainment of age 59 ½. Any employee covered by the Fisher Plan as of September 1, 2013 with more than 3 years of service will be 100% vested in future Company contributions.

Contributions

Employees contribute to the Plan through payroll deductions, up to a maximum of 98% of their total compensation. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans (rollovers). Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, Company's matching contribution, and the participant's pro rata share of earnings or losses on invested assets of the trust funds. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account. The Company's matching contribution for all participating employees is discretionary and during 2013 the match was equal to 50% of the employees' contributions limited to the first 4% of compensation the employee contributed. Contributions to the Plan are invested in the available investment options in accordance with the participant's election. A terminating member of the Plan has the option to maintain their account (if the balance is over \$5,000) or be paid the current value of their contributions and any vested Employer contributions to the Plan, reduced by any outstanding loan balances. Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limitations.

The terminating member must forfeit the current unvested value of the Employer's contribution to their account. In accordance with the terms of the Plan, such forfeitures are first applied to pay administrative expenses of the Plan, if any, and then to reduce future contributions required of the Employer. Participants are fully vested in their contribution to the Plan and related earnings. Under the provisions of the Plan, eligible employees become 20% vested in Employer contribution amounts credited to their account after two years of service, 40% vested after three years of service, 60% vested after four years of service, 80% vested after five years of service and 100% vested after six years of service.

Unallocated assets which consist of forfeited amounts in the Plan were \$36,624 and \$79,089 as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. During 2013, \$90,562 of forfeitures were used to fund Employer contributions. Unallocated assets are invested in the guaranteed investment contract.

The December 31, 2013 and 2012 Employer contributions consist of a receivable that was funded subsequent to the Plan's year end with the Company's common stock. The Company may also make additional discretionary profit sharing



Table of Contents

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2013 and 2012

contributions each year. There were no additional discretionary contributions during 2013.

Upon enrollment, a participant may direct employee contributions to any of the Plan's available fund options except the Sinclair Broadcast Group Common Stock Fund. Employer contributions are invested in the Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. Common Stock Fund, but may be redirected by participants to other fund options immediately.

During 2013, the Company hired employees in connection with the acquisition of television stations, and the execution of shared services agreements with certain third-party owned television stations. Upon hire, these employees were immediately eligible to participate in the Plan and were credited with service earned while employed by these television station owners.

Excess Contributions Refundable

As of December 31, 2013 and 2012, a refund of contributions plus related investment earnings, totaling \$306,717 and \$162,323, respectively, has been recorded as a liability to certain employees in order to pass the Actual Deferral Percentage test and the Actual Contribution Percentage test under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code ( IRC ).

Payment of Benefits

Participants may elect one of several methods to receive their vested benefits including: (a) a joint and survivor option whereby the employee receives a reduced monthly benefit during his/her lifetime and, upon death, the surviving spouse will receive a monthly benefit for his/her lifetime; (b) the purchase of a life annuity; (c) equal installments over a period of not more than the participant's assumed life expectancy (or participant's and participant's beneficiary's assumed life expectancy) at the time of distribution; (d) a lump sum distribution; or (e) partial distributions. In the absence of such election by the participant, the method of distribution shall be determined by the Plan. Upon termination of employment before normal retirement, a lump sum distribution may also be made.

Participant Notes Receivable

Participants have the option to borrow from the vested portion of their account. The minimum loan amount is \$1,000 and the maximum loan permitted is the lesser of: (1) \$50,000; or (2) one-half of their vested balance, and is secured by the balance in the participant's account with interest charged based on the prime rate at the time of

Table of Contents

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2013 and 2012

borrowing plus 1%. The rates charged to participants on current loans outstanding ranged from 3.25% to 10.50% as of December 31, 2013 and 4.25% and 10.50% as of December 31, 2012. Participants may have two loans outstanding at one time. Generally, the term of the loans may not exceed five years. Interest income from these loans is treated as income to the Plan. Principal and interest are paid ratably through monthly payroll deductions.

Plan Termination

Although the Company has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their accounts.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Certain administrative expenses are borne by Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. The Company has evaluated subsequent events for recognition and disclosure through the date of this filing.



Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The Plan's investments are stated at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. For further information see Note 3 *Fair Value Measurements*.

Investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at fair value. However, contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits for a defined contribution plan

Table of Contents

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

401(k) Retirement Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2013 and 2012

attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. As required by accounting guidance, the statements of net assets available for benefits present the fair value of the investment contracts as well as the adjustment of the fully benefit-responsive investment contracts from fair value to contract value basis. The statement of changes in net assets available for benefits is prepared using the contract value basis for fully-benefit responsive investment contracts.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. The net appreciation of the fair value of investments consists of realized and unrealized gains and losses and dividends. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Participant Notes Receivable

Notes receivable from participants are valued at the outstanding principal balance plus accrued interest, which represents the exit value upon collection, either by repayment or by deemed distribution if not repaid. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2013 or 2012. If a participant ceases to make loan repayments and the Plan Administrator deems the participant loan to be in default, the participant loan balance is reduced and a benefit payment is recorded.

Benefit Payments

Benefit payments are recorded when paid.

Expenses

Certain expen