

Subpart B—Applications and Licenses

SOURCE: 56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

GENERAL APPLICATION FILING REQUIREMENTS

§ 25.110 Filing of applications, fees, and number of copies.

(a) Standard application forms applicable to this Part may be obtained by writing Federal Communications Commission, Forms Distribution Center, 2803 52nd Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781 or calling (202) 632-FORM.

(b) Applications for satellite radio station authorizations governed by this part and requiring a fee shall be mailed or hand-delivered to the locations specified in part 1, subpart G of this chapter. All other applications shall be submitted to the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20554.

(c) All correspondence and amendments concerning an application shall clearly identify the satellite radio service, the name of the applicant, station location, the call sign or other identification of the station, and the file number of the application involved (if available).

(d) Except as otherwise specified, all applications, amendments, and correspondence shall be submitted in triplicate, including exhibits and attachments thereto. All matters relating to space station applications shall be submitted as an original and nine copies.

(e) The original copy of the application shall be signed as specified in § 1.743 of this chapter, and shall supply the information prescribed by this Part for the particular authorization requested. All other copies may be conformed.

(f) Each application shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee, specified by, and submitted in accordance with, subpart G of part 1 of this Chapter.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 5333, Jan. 27, 1995; 61 FR 9951, Mar. 12, 1996]

§ 25.111 Additional information.

(a) The Commission may request from any party at any time additional

information concerning any application, or any other submission or pleading regarding an application, filed under this part.

(b) Applicants, permittees and licensees of radio stations governed by this part shall provide the Commission with all information it requires for the Advance Publication, coordination and notification of frequency assignments pursuant to the international Radio Regulations and consultations required by Article XIV of the INTELSAT Agreement and Article 8 of the INMARSAT Convention. This information includes, but is not limited to, that specified in appendices 3 and 4 of the Radio Regulations (Geneva 1979). No protection from interference caused by radio stations authorized by other Administrations is guaranteed unless coordination procedures are timely completed or, with respect to individual administrations, by successfully completing coordination agreements. Any radio station authorization for which coordination has not been completed may be subject to additional terms and conditions as required to effect coordination of the frequency assignments with other Administrations.

§ 25.112 Defective applications.

(a) An application will be unacceptable for filing and will be returned to the applicant with a brief statement identifying the omissions or discrepancies if:

(1) The application is defective with respect to completeness of answers to questions, informational showings, internal inconsistencies, execution, or other matters of a formal character; or

(2) The application does not substantially comply with the Commission's rules, regulations, specific requests for additional information, or other requirements.

(b) Applications considered defective under paragraph (a) of this section may be accepted for filing if:

(1) The application is accompanied by a request which sets forth the reasons in support of a waiver of (or an exception to), in whole or in part, any specific rule, regulation, or requirement with which the application is in conflict;

(2) The Commission, upon its own motion, waives (or allows an exception to), in whole or in part, any rule, regulation or requirement.

(c) If an applicant is requested by the Commission to file any additional information or any supplementary or explanatory information not specifically required in the prescribed application form or these rules, a failure to comply with the request within a specified time period will be deemed to render the application defective and will subject it to dismissal.

§ 25.113 Construction permits.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section or in § 25.131, construction permits must be obtained for all fixed or temporary fixed earth stations and for all space station facilities governed by this Part. Simultaneous application for a construction permit and station license may be made for all earth station and space station facilities governed by this Part.

(b) Construction permits are not required for satellite earth stations that operate with INTELSAT or INMARSAT space stations, or for earth stations that operate with U.S.-licensed space stations. Construction of such stations may commence prior to grant of a license at the applicant's own risk. Applicants must comply with the provisions of § 1.1312 of this chapter relating to environmental processing prior to commencing construction. A simultaneous application for a construction permit and station license may be made for all earth station and space station facilities governed by this part.

(c) *FAA notification.* Before the construction of new antenna structures or alteration in the height of existing antenna structures is authorized by the FCC, a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) determination of "no hazard" may be required. To apply for this determination, the FAA must be notified of the planned construction. Criteria used to determine whether FAA notification is required for a particular antenna structure are contained in part 17 of this chapter. Applications proposing construction of one or more new antenna structures or alteration of the overall height of one or more exist-

ing antenna structures, where FAA notification prior to such construction or alteration is *not* required by part 17 of this chapter, must indicate such and, unless the reason is obvious (*e.g.* structure height is less than 6.10 meters AGL) must contain a statement explaining why FAA notification is not required.

(d) In addition to the construction permit required by paragraph (a) of this section, a launch authorization must be applied for and granted before a space station may be launched and operated in orbit. Request for launch and operation authorization and station license may be included in the application for space station construction permit. A launch authorization and station license may also be requested at any time for a space station constructed as an on-ground spare satellite. However, an application for authority to launch and operate an on-ground spare satellite will be considered to be a newly filed application for cut-off purposes, except where the space station to be launched is determined to be an emergency replacement for a previously authorized space station which has been lost as a result of a launch failure or a catastrophic in-orbit failure.

(e) *Antenna Structure Registration Number.* Applications proposing construction of one or more new antenna structures or alteration of the overall height of one or more existing structures, where FAA notification prior to such construction or alteration is required by part 17 of this chapter, must include the FCC Antenna Structure Registration Number(s) for the affected structure(s). If no such number has been assigned at the time the application is filed, the applicant must state in the application whether or not the antenna structure owner has notified the FAA of the proposed construction or alteration and applied to the FCC for an Antenna Structure Registration Number in accordance with part 17 of this chapter for the antenna structure in question.

(f) In addition to the construction permit required by paragraph (a) of this section, a launch authorization must be applied for and granted before a space station may be launched and

operated in orbit. Request for launch authorization and station license may be included in the application for space station construction permit. A launch authorization and station license may also be requested at any time for a space station constructed as an on-ground spare satellite. However, an application for authority to launch and operate an on-ground spare domestic satellite will be considered to be a newly filed application for cut-off purposes, except where the space station to be launched is determined to be an emergency replacement for a previously authorized space station which has been lost as a result of a launch failure or a catastrophic in-orbit failure.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 4366, Feb. 6, 1996; 61 FR 9951, Mar. 12, 1996]

§25.114 Applications for space station authorizations.

(a) A comprehensive proposal shall be submitted for each proposed space station in narrative form with attached exhibits as described in paragraph (c) of this section. A separate application should be filed for each space station to be constructed. If an applicant is proposing more than one space station, information common to all space stations may be submitted in a consolidated system proposal. This information may be incorporated by reference in the individual space station applications.

(b) Each application for a new or modified space station authorization must constitute a concrete proposal for Commission evaluation, although the applicant may propose alternatives that increase flexibility in accommodating the satellite in orbit. Each application must also contain the formal waiver required by section 304 of the Communications Act, 47 CFR 304. The technical information for a proposed satellite radio system need not be filed on any prescribed form but should be complete in all pertinent details. Applications should be captioned in a manner that clearly distinguishes individual satellites within the applicant's system. The format of the applications should conform to the specifications of §1.49 of this chapter.

(c) The following information shall be contained in the separate applications:

(1) Name, post office address and telephone number of the applicant.

(2) Name, address and telephone number of the person(s), including counsel, to whom inquiries or correspondence should be directed.

(3) Type of authorization requested (e.g., construction permit, launch authority, station license, modification of authorization).

(4) General description of overall system facilities, operations and services.

(5) Radio frequencies and polarization plan (including beacon, telemetry, and telecommand functions), center frequency and polarization of transponders (both receiving and transmitting frequencies), emission designators and allocated bandwidth of emission, final amplifier output power (identify any net losses between output of final amplifier and input of antenna and specify the maximum EIRP for each antenna beam), identification of which antenna beams are connected or switchable to each transponder and TT&C function, receiving system noise temperature, the relationship between satellite receive antenna gain pattern and gain-to-temperature ratio and saturation flux density for each antenna beam (may be indicated on antenna gain plot), the gain of each transponder channel (between output of receiving antenna and input of transmitting antenna) including any adjustable gain step capabilities, and predicted receiver and transmitter channel filter response characteristics.

(6)(i) For geostationary satellite orbit satellites, orbital location, or locations if alternatives are proposed, requested for the satellite, the factors which support such an orbital assignment, the range of orbital locations from which adequate service can be provided and the basis for determining that range of orbital locations, and a detailed explanation of all factors that would limit the orbital arc over which the satellite could adequately serve its expected users.

(ii) For non-geostationary satellite orbit satellites, the number of space stations and applicable information relating to the number of orbital planes,

the inclination of the orbital plane(s), the orbital period, the apogee, the perigee, the argument(s) of perigee, active service arc(s), and right ascension of the ascending node(s).

(7) Predicted space station antenna gain contour(s) for each transmit and each receive antenna beam and nominal orbital location requested. These contour(s) should be plotted on an area may at 2 dB intervals down to 10 dB below the peak value of the parameter and at 5 dB intervals between 10 dB and 20 dB below the peak values, with the peak value and sense of polarization clearly specified on each plotted contour.

(8) Estimated number and geographic distribution of earth stations, and description of proposed arrangements for access to the system between the premises of the users and the earth stations for domestic satellites only.

(9) A description of the types of services to be provided, the estimated demand for these services, and the areas and entities to be served, including a description of the transmission characteristics and performance objectives for each type of proposed service, details of the link noise budget, typical or baseline earth station parameters, modulation parameters and overall link performance analysis (including an analysis of the effects of each contributing noise and interference source). An estimate of transponder capacity under each of the proposed operating conditions must also be supplied.

(10) Accuracy with which the orbital inclination, the antenna axis attitude, and longitudinal drift will be maintained.

(11) Calculation of power flux density levels within each coverage area and of the energy dispersal, if any, needed for compliance with § 25.208.

(12) Launch vehicles and arrangements for procuring launch services.

(13) Arrangement for tracking, telemetry, and control.

(14) Physical characteristics of the space station including weight and dimensions of spacecraft, detailed mass (on ground and in-orbit) and power (beginning and end of life) budgets, and estimated operational lifetime and reliability of the space station and the basis for that estimate.

(15) A detailed description of the capabilities, if any, of each proposed domestic satellite to provide service to Alaska, Hawaii, and/or Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands.

(16) If the request is for additional or replacement satellites, detailed information on the historical use of the system transponder-by-transponder and on a year-by-year basis, together with a projection of the types and amount of services, including restoral or protection requirements, for each additional satellite on a year-by-year and transponder-by-transponder basis over the estimated lifetime of the satellite(s).

(17) A detailed schedule of the estimated investment costs and operating costs for the proposed system by year, including annual depreciation, maintenance and operating costs, and the basis on which such costs are calculated. Estimated annual revenue requirements should be provided in detail on a year-by-year basis over the estimated design lifetime of the satellites, including any pre-operational periods.

(18) Detailed information demonstrating the financial qualifications of the applicant to construct and launch the proposed satellites. Applications shall provide the financial information required by § 25.140 (b) through (e) or § 25.142(a)(4).

(19) Legal qualifications of applicant. FCC Form 430 (Licensee Qualification Report). If FCC Form 430 is already on file, indicate date, radio service and file number of most recent filing.

(20) A clear and detailed statement of whether the space station is to be operated on a common carrier basis, or whether noncommon carrier transactions are proposed. If noncommon carrier transactions are proposed, describe the nature of the transactions and specify the number of transponders to be offered on a noncommon carrier basis.

(21) Dates by which construction will be commenced and completed, launch date, and estimated date of placement into service.

(22) Public interest considerations in support of grant.

(23)–(24) [Reserved]

(25) Applications for authorizations in the Radiodetermination Satellite

Service shall also include the information specified in § 25.141.

(26) Applications for authorizations in the Mobile-Satellite Service in the 1545-1559/1646.5-1660.5 MHz frequency bands shall also provide all information necessary to comply with the policies and procedures set forth in Rules and Policies Pertaining to the Use of Radio Frequencies in a Land Mobile Satellite Service, 52 FR 4017 (Feb. 9, 1987), 2 FCC Rcd 485 (1987).

(27) Applications to license multiple space station systems in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service under blanket operating authority shall also provide all information specified in § 25.142.

(28) Applications for authorizations in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service shall also provide all information specified in § 25.143.

(d) Applicants requesting authority to construct and/or launch a system comprised of technically identical, non-geostationary satellite orbit mobile-satellite service space stations may file a single "blanket" application containing the information specified in paragraph (c) of this section for each representative space station.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 57 FR 14798, Apr. 23, 1992; 58 FR 68059, Dec. 23, 1993; 59 FR 53326, Oct. 21, 1994; 61 FR 9945, 9952, Mar. 12, 1996]

§ 25.115 Application for earth station authorizations.

(a) Transmitting earth stations. Except as provided under § 25.113(b), Commission authorization must be obtained for authority to construct and/or operate a transmitting earth station. Applications shall be filed on FCC Form 493 (Application for Authorization of Earth Station or for Modification of Station License) and include the information specified in § 25.130.

(b) Receive-only earth stations. Applications to license or register receive-only earth stations shall be filed on FCC Form 493 and conform to the provisions of § 25.131.

(c) Large Networks of Small Antennas operating in the 12/14 GHz bands with U.S. satellites for domestic services. Applications to license small antenna network systems operating in the 12/14 GHz frequency band under

blanket operating authority shall include the following:

(1) A general narrative section describing the applicant and the overall system operation,

(2) A Form 430 (License Qualification Report),

(3) A Form 493 for each large (5 meters or larger) hub station operating with the network,

(4) A Form 493 for each representative type of small antenna (less than 5 meters), and

(5) A designation of a point of contact where records of location and frequency use will be maintained.

(d) User transceivers in the NVNG and 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service need not be individually licensed. Service vendors may file blanket applications for transceiver units using FCC Form 493 and specifying the number of units to be covered by the blanket license. Each application for a blanket license under this section shall include the following:

(1) A general narrative section describing the applicant and the overall system operation,

(2) A Form 430 (Licensee Qualification Report), if not already on file in conjunction with other facilities licensed under this subpart,

(3) A Form 493 for each representative type of user transceiver terminal unit,

(4) A designation of a point of contact where records of individual users will be maintained.

In addition, applicants in the NVNG MSS service shall provide the information described in § 25.135. Applicants in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service shall demonstrate that the stations comply with the technical requirements specified in § 25.213.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 58 FR 68059, Dec. 23, 1993; 59 FR 53327, Oct. 21, 1994; 61 FR 9952, Mar. 12, 1996]

§ 25.116 Amendments to applications.

(a) Unless otherwise specified, any pending application may be amended until designated for hearing, a public notice is issued stating that a substantive disposition of the application is to be considered at a forthcoming Commission meeting, or a final order

disposing of the matter is adopted by the Commission.

(b) Major amendments submitted pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section are subject to the public notice requirements of §25.151. An amendment will be deemed to be a major amendment under the following circumstances:

(1) If the amendment increases the potential for interference, or changes the proposed frequencies or orbital locations to be used.

(2) If the amendment would convert the proposal into an action that may have a significant environmental effect under §1.1307 of this chapter.

(3) If the amendment specifies a substantial change in beneficial ownership or control (*de jure* or *de facto*) of an applicant such that the change would require, in the case of an authorized station, the filing of a prior assignment or transfer of control application under section 310(d) of the Communications Act, provided however, that the change would not be considered major where it merely amends an application to reflect a change in ownership or control of the station that had been previously approved by the Commission.

(4) If the amendment, or the cumulative effect of the amendment, is determined by the Commission otherwise to be substantial pursuant to section 309 of the Communications Act.

(c) Any application will be considered to be a newly filed application if it is amended by a major amendment (as defined by paragraph (b) of this section) after a “cut-off” date applicable to the application, except under the following circumstances:

(1) The amendment resolves frequency conflicts with authorized stations or other pending applications but does not create new or increased frequency conflicts;

(2) The amendment reflects only a change in ownership or control found by the Commission to be in the public interest and, for which a requested exemption from a “cut-off” date is granted;

(3) The amendment corrects typographical, transcription, or similar clerical errors which are clearly demonstrated to be mistakes by reference to other parts of the application, and

whose discovery does not create new or increased frequency conflicts; or

(4) The amendment does not create new or increased frequency conflicts, and is demonstrably necessitated by events which the applicant could not have reasonably foreseen at the time of filing.

(d) Any amendment to an application shall be signed and submitted in the same manner, and with the same number of copies, as was the original application.

§25.117 Modification of station license.

(a) Except as provided, no modification of a radio station governed by this part which affects the parameters or terms and conditions of the station authorization shall be made except upon application to and grant of such application by the Commission. No license modification will be required if the licensee seeks to access another U.S.-licensed fixed satellite provided:

(1) Consultations pursuant to Article XIV(d) of the INTELSAT Agreement have been completed for the satellites, services and countries involved; and

(2) The operators of the U.S.-licensed systems have received specific authorization to provide the services to the proposed locations.

(b) Applications for modification of an earth station license to add, change or replace transmitters or antenna facilities conforming to §25.209 will be considered to be minor modifications if the particulars of operations remain unchanged and frequency coordination is not required, provided however, that the maximum power and power density delivered into any antenna at the earth station site shall not exceed the values calculated by subtracting the maximum antenna gain specified in the license from the maximum authorized e.i.r.p. and e.i.r.p. density values.

(c) Applications for modification of earth station authorizations shall be submitted on FCC Form 493 except as set forth in paragraph (e) of this section.

(d) Applications for modifications of space station authorizations shall be filed in accordance with §25.114, but only those items of information listed in §25.114(c) that change need to be

submitted provided the applicant certifies that the remaining information has not changed.

(e) Any application for modification of authorization to extend a required date of completion (e.g., begin construction, complete construction, launch, bring into operation) shall be filed on FCC Form 701 (Application for Additional Time to Construct). The application must include a verified statement from the applicant:

(1) That states the additional time is required due to unforeseeable circumstances beyond the applicant's control, describes these circumstances with specificity, and justifies the precise extension period requested; or

(2) That states there are unique and overriding public interest concerns that justify an extension, identifies these interests and justifies a precise extension period.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 9952, Mar. 12, 1996]

§25.118 Assignment or transfer of control of station authorization.

(a) No station license, nor any rights thereunder, shall be transferred, assigned, or disposed of in any manner, voluntarily or involuntarily, directly or indirectly, or by transfer of control of any corporation or any other entity holding such license, to any person except upon application to the Commission and upon finding by the Commission that the public interest, convenience and necessity will be served thereby.

(b) For purposes of this section, transfers of control requiring Commission approval shall include any and all transactions that:

(1) Change the party controlling the affairs of the licensee, or

(2) Affect any change in a controlling interest in the ownership of the licensee, including changes in legal or equitable ownership.

(c) Assignment of license. FCC Form 702 (Application for Consent to Assignment of Radio Station Construction Permit or License for Stations in Services Other than Broadcast) shall be submitted to assign voluntarily (as by, for example, contract or other agreement) or involuntarily (as by, for example, death, bankruptcy, or legal dis-

ability) the station authorization. In the case of involuntary assignment (or transfer of control), the applications should be filed within 10 days of the event causing the assignment (or transfer of control). FCC Form 702 shall also be used for non-substantial (*pro forma*) assignments. In addition, FCC Form 430 shall be submitted by the proposed assignee of a transmitting station unless the assignee has a current and substantially accurate report on file with the Commission.

(d) Transfer of control of corporation holding a license. FCC Form 704 (Application for Consent to Transfer of Control) shall be submitted in order to transfer voluntarily or involuntarily (*de jure* or *de facto*) control of a corporation holding any licenses. FCC Form 704 shall also be used for non-substantial (*pro forma*) transfers of control. In addition, FCC Form 430 shall be submitted by the proposed transferee of a transmitting station unless the transferee has a current and substantially accurate report on file with the Commission.

(e) Whenever a group of station licenses in the same radio service for the same class of facility licensed to the same entity is to be assigned or transferred to a single assignee or transferee, a single application may be filed to cover the entire group, if the application identifies in an exhibit each station by call sign, station location and expiration date of license.

(f) Assignments and transfers of control shall be completed within 60 days from the date of authorization. The Commission shall be notified by letter of the date of consummation and the file numbers of the applications involved in the transaction.

[56 FR 24016, May 20, 1991; 56 FR 29757, June 20, 1991]

§25.119 Application for special temporary authorization.

(a) In circumstances requiring immediate or temporary use of facilities, request may be made for special temporary authority to install and/or operate new or modified equipment. The request must contain the full particulars of the proposed operation including all facts sufficient to justify the temporary authority sought and the public

interest therein. No request for temporary authority will be considered unless it is received by the Commission at least 3 working days prior to the date of proposed construction or operation or, where an extension is sought, the expiration date of the existing temporary authorization. A request received within less than 3 working days may be accepted only upon due showing of extraordinary reasons for the delay in submitting the request which could not have been earlier foreseen by the applicant. A copy of the request for special temporary authority also shall be forwarded to the Commission's Laurel, Maryland Field Office.

(b) The Commission may grant a temporary authorization for a period not to exceed 180 days, with additional periods not exceeding 180 days, upon a finding that there are extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary operations in the public interest and that delay in the institution of these temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest. Convenience to the applicant, such as marketing considerations of meeting scheduled customer in-service dates, will not be deemed sufficient for this purpose.

(c) Each application proposing construction of one or more earth station antennas or alteration of the overall height of one or more existing earth station antenna structures, where FAA notification prior to such construction or alteration is required by part 17 of this chapter, must include the FCC Antenna Structure Registration Number(s) for the affected satellite earth station antenna(s). If no such number has been assigned at the time the application(s) is filed, the applicant must state in the application whether the satellite earth station antenna owner has notified the FAA of the proposed construction or alteration and applied to the FCC for an Antenna Structure Registration Number in accordance with part 17 of this chapter. Applications proposing construction of one or more earth station antennas or alteration of the overall height of one or more existing earth station antennas, where FAA notification prior to such construction or alteration is *not* required by part 17 of this chapter, must indicate such and, unless the satellite

earth station antenna is 6.10 meters or less above ground level (AGL), must contain a statement explaining why FAA notification is not required.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 4367, Feb. 6, 1996]

§ 25.120 License term and renewals.

(a) License term. Licenses for facilities governed by this Part will be issued for a period of 10 years, except developmental licenses which will be issued for period of 1 year.

(b) The Commission reserves the right to grant or renew station licenses for less than 10 years if, in its judgment, the public interest, convenience and necessity will be served by such action.

(c) For earth stations, the license term will be specified in the instrument of authorization.

(d) *Space stations.*

(1) For geostationary satellite orbit satellites, the license term will begin at 3 a.m. EST on the date the licensee certifies to the Commission that the satellite has been successfully placed into orbit and that the operations of the satellite fully conform to the terms and conditions of the space station radio authorization.

(2) For non-geostationary satellite orbit satellites, the license term will begin at 3 a.m. EST on the date that the licensee certifies to the Commission that its initial space station has been successfully placed into orbit and that the operations of that satellite fully conform to the terms and conditions of the space station system authorization. All space stations launched and brought into service during the ten-year license term shall operate pursuant to the system authorization, and the operating authority for all space stations will terminate upon the expiration of the system license.

(e) *Renewal of licenses.* Applications for renewals of earth station licenses must be submitted on FCC Form 405 (Application for Renewal of Radio Station License in Specified Services) no earlier than 90 days, and no later than 30 days, before the expiration date of the license. Applications for space station system replacement authorization for non-geostationary orbit satellites

shall be filed no earlier than 90 days, and no later than 30 days, prior to the end of the seventh year of the existing license term.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 58 FR 68059, Dec. 23, 1993; 59 FR 53327, Oct. 21, 1994]

EARTH STATIONS

§25.130 Filing requirements for transmitting earth stations.

(a) Applications for a new or modified transmitting earth station facility shall be submitted on FCC Form 493, accompanied by any required exhibits.

(b) A frequency coordination analysis in accordance with §25.203 shall be provided for earth stations transmitting in the frequency bands shared with equal rights between terrestrial and space services, except that applications for user transceiver units associated with the NVNG mobile-satellite service shall instead provide the information required by §25.135 and applications for user transceiver units associated with the 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service shall demonstrate that user transceiver operations comply with the requirements set forth in §25.213.

(c) In those cases where an applicant is filing a number of essentially similar applications, showings of a general nature applicable to all of the proposed stations may be submitted in the initial application and incorporated by reference in subsequent applications.

(d) Transmission of signals or programming to non-U.S. satellites, or to foreign points by means of U.S.-licensed fixed satellites, may be subject to restrictions as a result of international agreements or treaties. The Commission will maintain public information on the status of any such agreements.

(e) Each application proposing construction of one or more earth station antennas or alteration of the overall height of one or more existing earth station antennas, where FAA notification prior to such construction or alteration is required by part 17 of this chapter, must include the FCC Antenna Structure Registration Number(s) for the affected satellite earth station antenna(s). If no such number has been assigned at the time the ap-

plication(s) is filed, the applicant must state in the application whether the satellite earth station antenna owner has notified the FAA of the proposed construction or alteration and applied to the FCC for an antenna Structure Registration Number in accordance with part 17 of this chapter. Applications proposing construction of one or more earth station antennas or alteration of the overall height of one or more existing earth station antennas, where FAA notification prior to such construction or notification or alteration is *not* required by part 17 of this chapter, must indicate such and, unless the satellite earth station antenna is 6.10 meters or less above ground level (AGL), must contain a statement explaining why FAA notification is not required.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 58 FR 68059, Dec. 23, 1993; 59 FR 53327, Oct. 21, 1994; 61 FR 4367, Feb. 6, 1996; 61 FR 9952, Mar. 12, 1996]

§25.131 Filing requirements for receive-only earth stations.

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (j) of this section, applications for a license for a receive-only earth station shall be submitted on FCC Form 493, accompanied by any required exhibits.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (j) of this section, receive-only earth stations may be registered with the Commission in order to protect them from interference from terrestrial microwave stations in bands shared coequally with the fixed service in accordance with the procedures of §25.203 and §§25.251 through 25.256.

(c) Licensing or registration of receive-only earth stations with the Commission confers no authority to receive and use signals or programming received from satellites. *See* section 705 of the Communications Act. 47 U.S.C. 605.

(d) Applications for registration shall be filed on FCC Form 493 accompanied by the coordination exhibit required by §25.203, and any other required exhibits. Any application which is deficient or incomplete in any respect shall be immediately returned to the applicant without processing.

(e) Complete applications for registration will be placed on public notice for 30 days and automatically granted if no objection is submitted to the Commission and served on the applicant. Additional pleadings are authorized in accordance with §1.45 of this chapter.

(f) The registration of a receive-only earth station results in the listing of an authorized frequency band at the location specified in the registration. Interference protection levels are those agreed to during coordination.

(g) Reception of signals or programming from non-U.S. satellites may be subject to restrictions as a result of international agreements or treaties. The Commission will maintain public information on the status of any such agreements.

(h) Registration term: Registrations for receive-only earth stations governed by this section will be issued for a period of 10 years from the date on which the application was filed. Applications for renewals of registrations must be submitted on FCC Form 405 (Application for Renewal of Radio Station License in Specified Services) no earlier than 90 days and no later than 30 days before the expiration date of the registration.

(i) Applications for modification of license or registration of receive-only earth stations shall be made in conformance with §25.117 of this part. Registrants are required to notify the Commission when a receive-only earth station is no longer operational or when it has not been used to provide any service during any 6 month period.

(j) Receive-only earth stations operating with INTELSAT space stations, or U.S.-licensed and non-U.S. space stations for reception of services from other countries, shall file an FCC Form 493 requesting a license for such station. Receive-only earth stations used to receive INTELNET I services from INTELSAT space stations need not file for licenses. *See* Deregulation of Receive-Only Satellite Earth Stations Operating with the INTELSAT Global Communications Satellite System, Declaratory Ruling, RM No. 4845, FCC 86-214 (released May 19, 1986).

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 9952, Mar. 12, 1996]

§25.132 Verification of earth station antenna performance standards.

(a) All applications for transmitting earth stations in the C and Ku-bands must be accompanied by a certificate pursuant to §2.902 of the chapter from the manufacturer of each antenna that the results of a series of radiation pattern tests performed on representative equipment in representative configurations by the manufacturer which demonstrates that the equipment complies with the performance standards set forth in §25.209. The licensee must be prepared to demonstrate the measurements to the Commission on request in the course of an investigation of a harmful interference incident.

(b)(1) In order to demonstrate compliance with §25.209 (a) and (b), the following measurements on a production antenna performed on calibrated antenna range, as a minimum, shall be made at the bottom, middle and top of each allocated frequency band and submitted to the Commission:

(i) Co-polarized patterns for each of two orthogonal senses of polarizations in two orthogonal cuts of the antenna.

(A) In the azimuth plane, plus and minus 7 degrees and plus and minus 180 degrees.

(B) In the elevation plane, zero to forty-five degrees.

(ii) Cross-polarization patterns in the E- and H-planes, plus and minus 9 degrees.

(iii) Main beam gain.

(2) The FCC envelope specified in §25.209 shall be superimposed on each pattern. The minimum tests specified above are recognized as representative of the performance of the antenna in most planes although some increase in sidelobe levels should be expected in the spar planes and orthogonal spar planes.

(c) The tests specified in paragraph (b) of this section are normally performed at the manufacturer's facility; but for those antennas that are very large and only assembled on-site, on-site measurements may be used for product qualification data. If on-site data is to be used for qualification, the test frequencies and number of patterns should follow, where possible, the recommendations in paragraph (b) of this section, and the test data is to be

submitted in the same manner as described in paragraph (a) of this section.

(d) For each new or modified transmitting antenna over 3 meters in diameter, the following on-site verification measurements must be completed at one frequency on an available transponder in each frequency band of interest and submitted to the Commission.

(1) Co-polarized patterns in the elevation plane, plus and minus 7 degrees, in the transmit band.

(2) Co-polarized patterns in the azimuth and elevation planes, plus and minus 7 degrees, in the receive band.

(3) *System cross-polarization discrimination on-axis*. The FCC envelope specified in § 25.209 shall be superimposed on each pattern. The transmit patterns are to be measured with the aid of a co-operating earth station in coordination with the satellite system control center under the provisions of § 25.272. §

(e) Certification that the tests required by paragraph (c) of this section have been satisfactorily performed shall be provided to the Commission in notification that construction of the facilities has been completed as required by § 25.133.

(f) Antennas less than 3 meters in diameter and antennas on simple (manual) drive mounts that are operated at a fixed site are exempt from the requirements of paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section provided that a detailed technical showing is made that confirms proper installation, pointing procedures, and polarization alignment and manufacturing quality control. These showing must also include a plan for periodic testing and field installation procedures and precautions.

(g) Records of the results of the tests required by this section must be maintained at the antenna site or the earth station operator's control center and be available for inspection.

[58 FR 13419, Mar. 11, 1993]

§ 25.133 Period of construction; certification of commencement of operation.

(a) Each license for an earth station governed by this part shall specify as a condition therein the period in which construction of facilities must be completed and station operation commenced. Construction of the earth sta-

tion must be completed and the station must be brought into regular operation within 12 months from the date of the construction permit and/or license grant except as may be otherwise determined by the Commission for any particular application.

(b) Each license for a transmitting earth station included in this part shall also specify as a condition therein that upon the completion of construction, each licensee must file with the Commission a certification containing the following information: The name of the licensee; file number of the application; call sign of the antenna; date of the license; a certification that the facility as authorized has been completed and that each antenna facility has been tested and is within 2 dB of the pattern specified in § 25.209, § 25.135 (NVNG MSS earth stations), or § 25.213 (1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service earth stations); the date on which the station became operational; and a statement that the station will remain operational during the license period unless the license is submitted for cancellation. For stations authorized under § 25.115(c) of this part (Large Networks of Small Antennas operating in the 12/14 GHz bands) and § 25.115(d) of this part (User Transceivers in the Mobile-Satellite Service), a certificate must be filed when the network is put into operation.

(c) If the facility does not meet the technical parameters set forth in § 25.209, a request for a waiver must be submitted and approved by the Commission before operations may commence.

(d) Each receiving earth station licensed or registered pursuant to § 25.131 must be constructed and placed into service within 6 months after coordination has been completed. Each licensee or registrant must file with the Commission a certification that the facility is completed and operating as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, with the exception of certification of antenna patterns.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 58 FR 68059, Dec. 23, 1993; 59 FR 53327, Oct. 21, 1994]

§ 25.134 Licensing Provisions of Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) Networks.

(a) All applications for digital VSAT networks with maximum outbound downlink power densities of +6.0 dBW/4 kHz per carrier and maximum antenna input power densities of –14 dbw/4 kHz will be processed routinely pursuant to Declaratory Order in the Matter of Routine Licensing of Large Networks of Small Antenna Earth Stations Operating in the 12/14 GHz Frequency Bands, 51 FR 15067 (April 22, 1986) (VSAT Order). All applications for analog VSAT networks with maximum outbound downlink power densities of +13.0 dBW/4 kHz per carrier and maximum antenna input power densities of –8.0 dBW/4 kHz shall be processed routinely in accordance with Declaratory Order in the Matter of Routine Licensing of Earth Stations in the 6 GHz and 14 GHz Bands Using Antennas Less than 9 Meters and 5 Meters in Diameter, Respectively, for Both Full Transponder and Narrowband Transmissions, 2 FCC Rcd 2149 (1987) (Declaratory Order).

(b) Each applicant for digital and/or analog VSAT network authorization proposing to use transmitted satellite carrier power densities in excess of +6.0 dBW/4 kHz per carrier and +13.0 dBW/4 kHz, respectively, and/or maximum antenna input power densities of –14.0 dBW/4 kHz and –8.0 dBW/4 kHz, respectively, shall conduct an engineering analysis using the Sharp, Adjacent Satellite Interference Analysis (ASIA) program. Applicants shall submit a complete description of those baseline parameters they use in conducting their analysis and tabular summaries of the ASIA program's output detailing potential interference shortfalls. Applicants shall also submit a narrative summary which must indicate whether there are margin shortfalls in any of the current baseline services as a result of the addition of the new applicant's high power service, and if so, how the applicant intends to resolve those margin shortfalls. Applicants shall submit link budget analyses of the operations proposed along with a detailed written explanation of how each uplink and each transmitted satellite carrier density figure is derived.

Applicants shall provide proof by affidavit that all potentially affected parties acknowledge and do not object to the use of the applicant's higher power density.

(c) Licensees authorized pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section shall bear the burden of coordinating with any future applicants or licensees whose proposed compliant VSAT operations, as defined by paragraph (a) of this section, is potentially or actually adversely affected by the operation of the non-compliant licensee. If no good faith agreement can be reached, however, the non-compliant licensee shall reduce its power density levels to those compliant with the VSAT Order or the Declaratory Order, whichever is applicable.

[56 FR 66001, Dec. 20, 1991]

§ 25.135 Licensing provisions for earth station networks in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service.

(a) Each applicant for a blanket earth station license in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service shall demonstrate that transceiver operations will not cause unacceptable interference to other authorized users of the spectrum, based on existing system information publicly available at the Commission at the time of filing, and will comply with operational conditions placed upon the systems with which they are to operate in accordance with § 25.142(b). This demonstration shall include a showing as to all the technical parameters, including duty cycle and power limits, under which the individual user transceivers will operate.

(b) Transceiver units associated with the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service may not be operated on civil aircraft. All portable or hand-held transceiver units (including transceiver units installed in other devices that are themselves portable or hand-held) having a receiver operating in the 137–138 MHz band shall bear the following statement in a conspicuous location on the device: "This device may not be operated while on board a civil aircraft. It must be turned off at all times while on board such an aircraft." This subsection shall not apply

to transceiver units whose receivers are incapable of radiating in the 108–137 MHz frequency bands.

(c) Transceiver units in this service are authorized to communicate with and through U.S. authorized space stations only. No person shall transmit to a space station unless the specific transmission is first authorized by the space station licensee or by a service vendor authorized by that licensee.

(d) Any transceiver unit associated with this service will be deemed, when communicating with a particular non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service system pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section, to be temporarily associated with and licensed to the system operator or service vendor holding the blanket earth station license awarded pursuant to §25.115(d). The domestic earth station licensee shall, for such temporary period, assume the same licensee responsibility for such transceiver as if such transceiver were regularly licensed to it.

[58 FR 68059, Dec. 23, 1993]

§25.136 Operating provisions for earth station networks in the 1.6/2.4 GHz mobile-satellite service.

In addition to the technical requirements specified in §25.213, earth stations operating in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service are subject to the following operating conditions:

(a) User transceiver units associated with the 1.6/2.4 Mobil-Satellite service may not be operated on civil aircraft unless the earth station has a direct physical connection to the aircraft Cabin Communication system.

(b) User transceiver units in this service are authorized to communicate with and through U.S. authorized space stations only. No person shall transmit to a space station unless the user transceiver is first authorized by the space station licensee or by a service vendor authorized by that licensee, and the specific transmission is conducted in accordance with the operating protocol specified by the system operator.

(c) Any user transceiver unit associated with this service will be deemed, when communicating with a particular 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service system pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section, to be temporarily associ-

ated with and licensed to the system operator or service vendor holding the blanket earth station license awarded pursuant to Section 25.115(d). The domestic earth station licensee shall, for this temporary period, assume the same licensee responsibility for the user transceiver as if the user transceiver were regularly licensed to it.

[59 FR 53327, Oct. 21, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 9945, Mar. 12, 1996]

SPACE STATIONS

§25.140 Qualifications of fixed-satellite space station licensees.

(a) New fixed-satellites shall comply with the requirements established in Report and Order in CC Docket No. 81-704. The requirements for radio station applications for new fixed-satellites are specified in Appendix B to the Commission's 1983 Processing Order (93 FCC2d 1260 (1983)). Applications must also meet the requirements in paragraphs (b) through (e) of this section. The Commission may require additional or different information in the case of any individual application. Applications will be unacceptable for filing and will be returned to the applicant if they do not meet the requirements referred to in this paragraph.

(b) Each applicant for a space station authorization in the fixed-satellite service must demonstrate, on the basis of the documentation contained in its application, that it is legally, financially, technically, and otherwise qualified to proceed expeditiously with the construction, launch and/or operation of each proposed space station facility immediately upon grant of the requested authorization. Each applicant must provide the following information:

(1) The information specified in §25.114.

(2) Financial qualifications should be demonstrated in the form specified below. Failure to make such a showing shall result in the dismissal of the application.

(3) An interference analysis to demonstrate the compatibility of its proposed system 2° from any authorized space station. Applicants should provide details of their proposed r.f. carriers which they believe should be

taken into account in these analyses. At a minimum, the applicant must include, for each type of r.f. carrier, the link noise budget, modulation parameters, and overall like performance analysis. (See, e.g., appendices B and C to Licensing of Space Stations in the Domestic Fixed-Satellite Service, 48 FR 40233 (September 6, 1983).)

(c) Each application for authority to construct and/or to launch and operate a space station in this service shall include a detailed statement of estimated investment and operating costs for the expected lifetime of the facility, and shall demonstrate in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section the applicant's current financial ability to meet the:

(1) Estimated costs of proposed construction and/or launch, and any other initial expenses for the space station(s); and

(2) Estimated operating expenses for one year after launch of the proposed space station(s).

(d) Each application for authority to construct and/or launch a space station shall demonstrate an applicant's current financial ability to meet the costs specified in paragraph (c) of this section by submitting the following financial information verified by affidavit:

(1) A balance sheet current for the latest fiscal year and documentation of any financial commitments reflected in the balance sheet (such as, for example, loan agreements and service contracts) together with an exhibit demonstrating that the applicant has current assets and operating income sufficient to satisfy the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section. If the applicant is owned by more than one corporate parent, it must submit evidence of a commitment to the proposed satellite program by management of the corporate parent upon whom it is relying for financial resources;

(2) If the submissions of paragraph (d)(1) of this section do not satisfy paragraph (c) of this section, the applicant shall submit additional information as listed below to satisfy paragraph (c) of this section.

(i) The terms of any fully negotiated loan or other form of credit arrangement intended to be used to finance the proposed construction, acquisition, or

operation of the requested facilities including such information as the identity of the creditor (or creditors), the amount committed, letters of commitment, detailed terms of the transaction, including the details of any contingencies, and a statement that paragraph (e) of this section is complied with;

(ii) The terms of any fully negotiated sale or placement of any equity or other form of ownership interest, including the sale, or long-term lease for the lifetime of the satellite, of proposed satellite transponder capacity in the level of detail as specified in paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this section;

(iii) The terms of any grant, or other external funding commitment intended to be used to finance the proposed construction, acquisition or operation of the requested facilities including such information as the identity of the grantor(s), the amount committed, letters of commitment, and detailed terms of the transaction, including the details of any contingencies;

(iv) Any financing arrangements contingent on further performance by either party, such as marketing of satellite capacity or raising additional financing, will not satisfy the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section.

(3) Whatever other information or details the Commission may require with regard to a specific application or applicant;

(e) Any loan or other credit arrangement providing for a chattel mortgage or secured interest in any proposed facility must include a provision for a minimum of ten (10) days prior written notification to the licensee or permittee, and to the Commission, before any such equipment may be repossessed under default provision of the agreement.

(f) An applicant found to be qualified pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section may be initially assigned up to two orbital locations in each pair of frequency bands proposed. Authorizations to construct ground spares are at the applicant's risk that launch authorization will not be granted by the Commission.

(g) Each applicant found to be qualified pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section may be assigned no more than

one additional orbital location beyond its current authorizations in each frequency band in which it is authorized to operate, provided that its in-orbit satellites are essentially filled and that it has no more than two unused orbital locations for previously authorized but unlaunched satellites in that band.

(h) In the event that one or more applications satisfying the requirements of this section are ready for grant, any orbital location occupied by a satellite that is determined to be a part of a system that is not essentially filled may be cancelled and collocation of in-orbit satellites may be required. The Commission may take this action if, in so doing, it would allow the grant of pending applications that satisfy the requirements of this section. If a cancellation is made, the licensee will be afforded a period of 30 days to notify the Commission which of its assigned locations should be cancelled.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 58 FR 68060, Dec. 23, 1993; 61 FR 9952, Mar. 12, 1996]

§25.141 Licensing provisions for the radiodetermination satellite service.

(a) *Space station application requirements.* Each application for a space station license in the radiodetermination satellite service shall describe in detail the proposed radiodetermination satellite system, setting forth all pertinent technical and operational aspects of the system, including its capability for providing and controlling radiodetermination service on a geographic basis, and the technical, legal and financial qualifications of the applicant. In particular, each application shall include the information specified in Appendix B of Space Station Application Filing Procedures, 93 FCC 2d 1260, 1265 (1983), except that in lieu of demonstrating compliance with item II.F (two degree spacing), applicants are required to demonstrate compatibility with licensed satellite systems in the same frequency band. Applicants must also file information demonstrating compliance with all requirements of this section, specifically including information demonstrating how the applicant has complied or plans to com-

ply with the requirements of paragraph (f) of this section.

(b) *Space station application procedures.* Each application for a space station in the radiodetermination satellite service shall be placed on public notice for 60 days, during which time interested parties may file comments and petitions related to the application. A 60 day cut-off period shall also be established for the filing of applications to be considered in conjunction with an original application.

(c) *User transceivers.* Individual user transceivers will not be licensed. Service vendors may file blanket applications for transceiver units using FCC Form 493 and specifying the number of units to be covered by the blanket license. FCC Form 430 should be submitted if not already on file in conjunction with other facilities licensed under this subpart. Each application must demonstrate that transceiver operations will not cause interference to other users of the spectrum.

(d) *Permissible communications.* Stations in this service are authorized to render radiodetermination service, and may not render other services except as ancillary to the radiodetermination service.

(e) *Frequency allocation policies.* Each radiodetermination satellite service licensee will be assigned the entire allocated frequency bands on a non-exclusive basis. Coding techniques and power limits as set forth in paragraph (f) of this section and orbital spacing shall be employed to avoid harmful interference with other radiodetermination satellite service systems.

(f) *Radiodetermination satellite service.* Licenses shall coordinate with radiodetermination satellite system licensees to avoid harmful interference to other radiodetermination satellite systems through:

- (1) Power flux density limits;
- (2) Use of pseudorandom-noise codes (for both the satellite-to-user link and for the user-to-satellite link); and
- (3) Random access, time division multiplex techniques.

Licensees shall coordinate with 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service system licensees to avoid interference to 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service systems.

(g) License conditions. All authorizations in the radiodetermination satellite service shall be subject to the policies set forth in the Report and Order, including compliance with appendix D, and the Second Report and Order in General Docket Nos. 84–689 and 84–690 and to any policies and rules the Commission may adopt at the later date.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 59 FR 53327, Oct. 21, 1994]

§25.142 Licensing provisions for the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service.

(a) *Space station application requirements.* (1) Each application for a space station system authorization in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service shall describe in detail the proposed non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite system, setting forth all pertinent technical and operational aspects of the system, and the technical, legal, and financial qualifications of the applicant. In particular, each application shall include the information specified in §25.114, except that in lieu of the information concerning orbital locations requested in §25.114(c)(6), the applicant shall specify the number of space stations and applicable information relating to the altitude(s), argument(s) of perigee, service arc(s), right ascension of ascending node(s), eccentricity, and inclination of the space stations (all referenced to the same time) that will comprise its system. Applicants must also file information demonstrating compliance with all requirements of this section, and showing, based on existing system information publicly available at the Commission at the time of filing, that they will not cause unacceptable interference to any non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service system authorized to construct or operate.

(2) Applicants for a non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite must identify the power flux density produced at the Earth's surface by each space station of their system in the frequency bands 137–138 MHz and 400.15–401 MHz, to allow determination of whether coordination with terrestrial services is required under international

footnotes 599A and 647B of §2.106 of the Commission's Rules. In addition, applicants must identify the measures they would employ to protect the radio astronomy service in the 150.05–153 MHz and 406.1–410 MHz bands from harmful interference from unwanted emissions.

(3) Emission limitations. (i) Applicants in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service shall show that their space stations will not exceed the emission limitations of §25.202(f) (1), (2) and (3), as calculated for a fixed point on the Earth's surface in the plane of the space station's orbit, considering the worst-case frequency tolerance of all frequency determining components, and maximum positive and negative Doppler shift of both the uplink and downlink signals, taking into account the system design.

(ii) Applicants in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service shall show that no signal received by their satellites from sources outside of their system shall be retransmitted with a power flux density level, in the worst 4 kHz, higher than the level described by the applicants in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(4) Financial qualifications. Each applicant for space station system authorization in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service must demonstrate, on the basis of the documentation contained in its application, that it is financially qualified to proceed expeditiously with the construction, launch and operation for one year of the first two space stations of its proposed system immediately upon grant of the requested authorization. Failure to make such a showing will result in the dismissal of the application. This showing shall include all information described in §25.140 (c), (d) and (e).

(5) Replacement of space stations within the system license term. The licensee need not file separate applications to construct, launch and operate technically identical replacement satellites within the term of the system authorization. However, the licensee shall certify to the Commission, at least thirty days prior to launch of such replacement(s) that:

(i) The licensee intends to launch a space station that is technically identical to those authorized in its system license, and

(ii) Launch of this space station will not cause the licensee to exceed the total number of operating space stations authorized by the Commission.

(b) *Operating conditions.* In order to ensure compatible operations with authorized users in the frequency bands to be utilized for operations in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service, non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service systems must operate in accordance with the conditions specified in this section.

(1) Service limitation. Voice services may not be provided.

(2) Coordination requirements with Federal government users.

(i) The frequency bands allocated for use by the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service are also authorized for use by agencies of the Federal government. The Federal use of frequencies in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service frequency bands is under the regulatory jurisdiction of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

(ii) The Commission will use its existing procedures for liaison with NTIA to reach agreement with respect to achieving compatible operations between Federal government users under the jurisdiction of NTIA and non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service systems (including user transceivers subject to blanket licensing under §25.115(d)) through the frequency assignment and coordination practices established by NTIA and the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC). In order to facilitate such frequency assignment and coordination, applicants shall provide the Commission with sufficient information to evaluate electromagnetic compatibility with the Federal government use of the spectrum, and any additional information requested by the Commission. As part of the coordination process, applicants shall show that they will not cause unacceptable interference to authorized Federal government users, based upon existing system information provided by the Govern-

ment. The frequency assignment and coordination of the satellite system with Federal government users shall be completed prior to grant of construction authorization.

(iii) The Commission shall also coordinate with NTIA/IRAC with regard to the frequencies to be shared by those earth stations of non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service systems that are not subject to blanket licensing under §25.115(d), and authorized Federal government stations in the fixed and mobile services, through the exchange of appropriate systems information.

(3) Coordination among non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service systems. Applicants for authority to establish non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service systems are encouraged to coordinate their proposed frequency usage with existing permittees and licensees in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service whose facilities could be affected by the new proposal in terms of frequency interference or restricted system capacity. All affected applicants, permittees, and licensees shall, at the direction of the Commission, cooperate fully and make every reasonable effort to resolve technical problems and conflicts that may inhibit effective and efficient use of the radio spectrum; however, the permittee or licensee being coordinated with is not obligated to suggest changes or re-engineer an applicant's proposal in cases involving conflicts.

(4) Safety and distress communications. Stations operating in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service that are used to comply with any statutory or regulatory equipment carriage requirements may also be subject to the provisions of sections 321(b) and 359 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. Licensees are advised that these provisions give priority to radio communications or signals relating to ships in distress and prohibit a charge for the transmission of maritime distress calls and related traffic.

(c) *Reporting requirements.* All operators of non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service systems shall, on June 30 of each year, file a report

with the Common Carrier Bureau and the Commission's Laurel, Maryland field office containing the following information:

(1) A listing of any non-scheduled space station outages for more than thirty minutes and the cause(s) of such outages;

(2) A detailed description of the utilization made of the in-orbit satellite system. That description should identify the percentage of time that the system is actually used for domestic transmission, the amount of capacity (if any) sold but not in service, and the amount of unused system capacity; and

(3) Identification of any space stations not available for service or otherwise not performing to specifications, the cause(s) of these difficulties, and the date any space station was taken out of service or the malfunction identified.

[58 FR 68060, Dec. 23, 1993]

§ 25.143 Licensing provisions for the 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service.

(a) *System License:* Applicants authorized to construct and launch a system of technically identical non-geostationary satellite orbit satellites will be awarded a single "blanket" license covering a specified number of space stations to operate in a specified number of orbital planes.

(b) *Qualification Requirements.*

(1) *General Requirements:* Each application for a space station system authorization in the 1.6/2.4 GHz mobile-satellite service shall describe in detail the proposed satellite system, setting forth all pertinent technical and operational aspects of the system, and the technical, legal, and financial qualifications of the applicant. In particular, each application shall include the information specified in § 25.114.

(2) *Technical Qualifications:* In addition to providing the information specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, each applicant shall demonstrate the following:

(i) That the proposed system employs a non-geostationary constellation or constellations of satellites;

(ii) That the proposed system be capable of providing mobile satellite services to all locations as far north as 70° latitude and as far south as 55° lati-

tude for at least 75% of every 24-hour period, *i.e.*, that at least one satellite will be visible above the horizon at an elevation angle of at least 5° for at least 18 hours each day within the described geographic area;

(iii) That the proposed system is capable of providing mobile satellite services on a continuous basis throughout the fifty states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S., *i.e.*, that at least one satellite will be visible above the horizon at an elevation angle of at least 5° at all times within the described geographic areas;

(iv) That operations will not cause unacceptable interference to other authorized users of the spectrum. In particular, each application shall demonstrate that the space station(s) comply with the requirements specified in § 25.213.

(3) *Financial Qualifications:* Each applicant for a space station system authorization in the 1.6/2.4 GHz mobile-satellite service must demonstrate, on the basis of the documentation contained in its application, that it is financially qualified to meet the estimated costs of the construction and launch of all proposed space stations in the system and the estimated operating expenses for one year after the launch of the initial space station. Financial qualifications must be demonstrated in the form specified in §§ 25.140(c) and (d). In addition, applicants relying on current assets or operating income must submit evidence of a management commitment to the proposed satellite system. Failure to make such a showing will result in the dismissal of the application.

(c) *Replacement of Space Stations Within the System License Term.* Licensees of 1.6/2.4 GHz mobile-satellite systems authorized through a blanket license pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section need not file separate applications to construct, launch and operate technically identical replacement satellites within the term of the system authorization. However, the licensee shall certify to the Commission, at least thirty days prior to launch of such replacement(s) that:

(1) The licensee intends to launch a space station that is technically identical to those authorized in its system authorization, and

(2) Launch of this space station will not cause the licensee to exceed the total number of operating space stations authorized by the Commission.

(d) *In-Orbit Spares.* Licensees need not file separate applications to operate technically identical in-orbit spares authorized as part of the blanket license pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section. However, the licensee shall certify to the Commission, within 10 days of bringing the in-orbit spare into operation, that operation of this space station did not cause the licensee to exceed the total number of operating space stations authorized by the Commission.

(e) *Reporting requirements.*

(1) All operators of 1.6/2.4 GHz mobile-satellite systems shall, on June 30 of each year, file with the International Bureau and the Field Office in Laurel, Maryland a report containing the following information:

(i) Status of satellite construction and anticipated launch dates, including any major problems or delays encountered;

(ii) A listing of any non-scheduled space station outages for more than 30 minutes and the cause or causes of the outage;

(iii) A detailed description of the utilization made of the in-orbit satellite system. That description should identify the percentage of time that the system is actually used for U.S. domestic or transborder transmission, the amount of capacity (if any) sold but not in service within U.S. territorial geographic areas, and the amount of unused system capacity; and

(iv) Identification of any space stations not available for service or otherwise not performing to specifications, the cause or causes of these difficulties, and the date any space station was taken out of service or the malfunction identified.

(2) All operators of 1.6/2.4 GHz mobile-satellite systems shall, within 10 days after a required implementation milestone as specified in the system authorization, certify to the Commission by affidavit that the milestone has

been met or notify the Commission by letter that it has not been met. At its discretion, the Commission may require the submission of additional information (supported by affidavit of a person or persons with knowledge thereof) to demonstrate that the milestone has been met.

(f) *Safety and distress communications.*

(1) Stations operating in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service that are voluntarily installed on a U.S. ship or are used to comply with any statute or regulatory equipment carriage requirements may also be subject to the requirements of sections 321(b) and 359 of the Communications Act of 1934. Licensees are advised that these provisions give priority to radio communications or signals relating to ships in distress and prohibits a charge for the transmission of maritime distress calls and related traffic.

(2) Licensees offering distress and safety services should coordinate with the appropriate search and rescue organizations responsible for the licensee's service area.

(g) *Considerations involving transfer or assignment applications.*

(1) "Trafficking" in bare licenses issued pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section is prohibited, except with respect to licenses obtained through a competitive bidding procedure.

(2) The Commission will review a proposed transaction to determine if the circumstances indicate trafficking in licenses whenever applications (except those involving *pro forma* assignment or transfer of control) for consent to assignment of a license, or for transfer of control of a licensee, involve facilities licensed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section. At its discretion, the Commission may require the submission of an affirmative, factual showing (supported by affidavits of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof) to demonstrate that no trafficking has occurred.

(3) If a proposed transfer of radio facilities is incidental to a sale of other facilities or merger of interests, any showing requested under paragraph (g)(2) of this section shall include an additional exhibit which:

(i) Discloses complete details as to the sale of facilities or merger of interests;

(ii) Segregates clearly by an itemized accounting, the amount of consideration involved in the sale of facilities or merger of interest; and

(iii) Demonstrates that the amount of consideration assignable to the facilities or business interests involved represents their fair market value at the time of the transaction.

(h) *Prohibition of certain agreements.* No license shall be granted to any applicant for a space station in the mobile satellite service operating at 1610–1626.5/2483.5–2500 MHz if that applicant, or any persons or companies controlling or controlled by the applicant, shall acquire or enjoy any right, for the purpose of handling traffic to or from the United States, its territories or possession, to construct or operate space segment or earth stations, or to interchange traffic, which is denied to any other United States company by reason of any concession, contract, understanding, or working arrangement to which the Licensee or any persons or companies controlling or controlled by the Licensee are parties.

[59 FR 53328, Oct. 21, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 9945, Mar. 12, 1996]

PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS

§ 25.150 Receipt of applications.

Applications received by the Commission are given a file number and (domestic only) a unique station identifier for administrative convenience. Neither the assignment of a file number and/or other identifier nor the listing of the application on public notice as received for filing indicates that the application has been found acceptable for filing or precludes the subsequent return or dismissal of the application if it is found to be defective or not in accordance with the Commission's rules.

§ 25.151 Public notice period.

(a) At regular intervals, the Commission will issue public notices listing:

(1) The receipt of applications for new station authorizations;

(2) The receipt of applications for license or registration of receive-only earth stations;

(3) The receipt of applications for major modifications to station authorizations;

(4) The receipt of major amendments to pending applications;

(5) The receipt of applications to assign or transfer control of space station facilities, transmitting earth station facilities, or international receive-only earth station facilities;

(6) Significant Commission actions regarding applications;

(7) Information which the Commission in its discretion believes to be of public significance; and

(8) Special environmental considerations as required by part 1 of this chapter.

(b) Special public notices may also be issued at other times under special circumstances involving non-routine matters where speed is of the essence and efficiency of Commission process will be served thereby.

(c) A public notice will not normally be issued for receipt of any of the following applications:

(1) For authorization of a minor technical change in the facilities of an authorized station;

(2) For temporary authorization pursuant to § 25.119;

(3) For an authorization under any of the proviso clauses of section 308(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended [47 U.S.C. 308(a)];

(4) For consent to an involuntary assignment or transfer of control of a transmitting earth station authorization; or

(5) For consent to an assignment or transfer of control of a space station authorization or a transmitting earth station authorization, where the assignment or transfer does not involve a substantial change in ownership or control; or

(6) For change in location of an earth station operating in the 4/6 GHz and 10.95–11.7 GHz bands by no more than 1" in latitude and/or longitude and for change in location of an earth station operating in the 12/14 GHz bands by no more than 10" in latitude and/or longitude.

(d) No application that has appeared on public notice will be granted until the expiration of a period of thirty

days following the issuance of the public notice listing the application, or any major amendment thereto. Any comments or petitions must be delivered to the Commission by that date in accordance with § 25.154.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 58 FR 68061, Dec. 23, 1993]

§ 25.152 Dismissal and return of applications.

(a) Any application may be dismissed without prejudice as a matter of right if the applicant requests its dismissal prior to final Commission action.

(b) The Commission will dismiss an application for failure to prosecute or for failure to respond substantially within a specified time period to official correspondence or requests for additional information. Dismissal will be without prejudice unless the application is mutually exclusive pursuant to § 25.155, in which case it will be dismissed with prejudice.

§ 25.153 Repetitious applications.

(a) Where an application has been denied or dismissed with prejudice, the Commission will not consider a like application involving service of the same kind to the same area by the same applicant, or by its successor or assignee, or on behalf of or for the benefit of any of the original parties in interest, until after the lapse of 12 months from the effective date of the Commission's action. The Commission may, for good cause shown, waive the requirements of this section.

(b) Where an appeal has been taken from the action of the Commission denying a particular application, another application for the same class of station and for the same area, in whole or in part, filed by the same applicant or by his successor or assignee, or on behalf of or for the benefit of the original parties in interest, will not be considered until the final disposition of the appeal.

§ 25.154 Opposition to applications and other pleadings.

(a) Petitions to deny, petitions for other forms of relief, and other objections or comments must:

(1) Identify the application or applications (including applicant's name,

station location, Commission file numbers, and radio service involved) with which it is concerned;

(2) Be filed within thirty (30) days after the date of public notice announcing the acceptance for filing of the application or major amendment thereto (unless the Commission otherwise extends the filing deadline);

(3) Filed in accordance with the pleading limitations, periods and other applicable provisions of §§ 1.41 through 1.52 of this chapter;

(4) Contain specific allegations of fact (except for those of which official notice may be taken) to support the specific relief requested, which shall be supported by affidavit of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof, and which shall be sufficient to demonstrate that the petitioner (or respondent) is a party of interest and that a grant of, or other Commission action regarding, the application would be prima facie inconsistent with the public interest; and

(5) Contain a certificate of service showing that it has been mailed to the applicant no later than the date the pleading is filed with the Commission.

(b) The Commission will classify as informal objections:

(1) Any pleading not filed in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section;

(2) Any pleading to which the thirty (30) day public notice period of § 25.151 does not apply; or

(3) Any objections to the grant of an application when the objections do not conform to either paragraph (a) of this section or to other Commission rules and requirements.

(c) Oppositions to petitions to deny an application or responses to comments and informal objections regarding an application may be filed within 10 days after the petition, comment, or objection is filed and must be in accordance with other applicable provisions of §§ 1.41 through 1.52 of this chapter.

(d) Reply comments by the party that filed the original petition may be filed with respect to pleadings filed pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section within 5 days after the time for filing oppositions has expired unless the Commission otherwise extends the

filing deadline and must be in accordance with other applicable provisions of §§ 1.41 through 1.52 of this chapter.

§ 25.155 Mutually exclusive applications.

(a) The Commission will consider applications to be mutually exclusive if their conflicts are such that the grant of one application would effectively preclude by reason of harmful electrical interference, or other practical reason, the grant of one or more other applications.

(b) An application will be entitled to comparative consideration with one or more conflicting applications only if:

(1) The application is mutually exclusive with another application; and

(2) The application is received by the Commission in a condition acceptable for filing

(i) By the “cut-off” date specified in a public notice; or

(ii) If no “cut-off” date is specified, within 30 days after the date of the public notice listing the first of the conflicting applications as acceptable for filing.

§ 25.156 Consideration of applications.

(a) Applications for a radio station authorization, or for modification or renewal of an authorization, will be granted if, upon examination of the application, any pleadings or objections filed, and upon consideration of such other matters as it may officially notice, the Commission finds that the applicant is legally, technically, and otherwise qualified, that the proposed facilities and operations comply with all applicable rules, regulations, and policies, and that grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity.

(b) Whenever the Commission grants any application in part, or subject to any terms or conditions other than those routinely applied to applications of the same type, the grant shall be considered final unless the Commission should revise its action (either by granting the application as originally requested, or by designating the application for hearing) in response to a petition for reconsideration which:

(1) Is filed by the applicant within thirty (30) days from the release date of the conditioned grant; and

(2) Rejects the grant as made and explains the reasons why the application should be granted as originally requested.

(c) Reconsideration or review of any final action taken by the Commission will be in accordance with subpart A of part 1 of this chapter.

FORFEITURE, TERMINATION, AND REINSTATEMENT OF STATION AUTHORIZATION

§ 25.160 Administrative sanctions.

(a) A forfeiture may be imposed for failure to operate in conformance with the Communications Act, license specifications, any conditions imposed on an authorization, or any of the Commission’s rules and regulations; or for failure to comply with Commission requests for information needed to complete international coordination or for failure to cooperate in Commission investigations with respect to international coordination.

(b) A forfeiture will be imposed and the station license may be terminated for the malicious transmissions of any signal that causes harmful interference with any other radio communications or signals.

(c) A station license may be revoked for any repeated and willful violation of the kind set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(d) The sanctions specified in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section will be imposed only after the licensee has been provided an opportunity to be heard pursuant to titles III and V of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

(e) For purposes of this section, the term “repeated” and “willful” are defined as set out in section 312(f) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 312(f).

§ 25.161 Automatic termination of station authorization.

A station authorization shall be automatically terminated in whole or in part without further notice to the licensee upon:

(a) The expiration of the required date of completion of construction or

other required action specified in the authorization, or after any additional time authorized by the Commission, if a certification of completion of the required action has not been filed with the Commission unless a request for an extension of time has been filed with the Commission but has not been acted on;

(b) The expiration of the license period, unless an application for renewal of the license has been filed with the Commission pursuant to § 25.120(e); or

(c) The removal or modification of the facilities which renders the station not operational for more than 90 days, unless specific authority is requested.

§ 25.162 Cause for termination of interference protection.

The protection from interference afforded by the registration of a receiving earth station shall be automatically terminated if:

(a) The request for registration is not submitted to the Commission within 3 months of the completion of the frequency coordination process, except as provided for in § 25.203;

(b) The receiving earth station is not constructed and placed into service within 6 months after completion of coordination;

(c) The Commission finds that the station has been used less than 50% of the time during any 12 month period;

(d) The Commission finds that the station has been used for an unlawful purpose or otherwise in violation of the Commission's rules, regulations or policies;

(e) The Commission finds that the actual use of the facility is inconsistent with what was set forth in the registrant's application; or

(f) The Commission finds that the frequency coordination exhibit, upon which the granted registration is based, is incomplete or does not conform with established coordination procedures.

§ 25.163 Reinstatement.

(a) A station authorization terminated in whole or in part under the provisions of § 25.161 may be reinstated if the Commission, in its discretion, determines that reinstatement would best serve the public interest, conven-

ience and necessity. Petitions for reinstatement will be considered only if:

(1) The petition is filed within 30 days after the expiration date set forth in § 25.161(a) or § 25.161(b), whichever is applicable;

(2) The petition explains the failure to file a timely notification or renewal application; and

(3) The petition sets forth with specificity the procedures which have been established to insure timely filings in the future.

(b) A special temporary authorization shall automatically terminate upon the expiration date specified therein, or upon failure of the grantee to comply with any special terms or conditions set forth in the authorization. Temporary operation may be extended beyond the termination date only upon application to the Commission.

Subpart C—Technical Standards

SOURCE: 30 FR 7176, May 28, 1965, as amended at 36 FR 2562, Feb. 6, 1971, unless otherwise noted.

§ 25.201 Definitions.

Active satellite. An earth satellite carrying a station intended to transmit or re-transmit radiocommunication signals.

Base Earth Station. An earth station in the fixed-satellite service or, in some cases, in the land mobile-satellite service, located at a specified fixed point or within a specified area on land to provide a feeder link for the land mobile-satellite service. (RR)

Coordination distance. For the purposes of this part, the expression "coordination distance" means the distance from an earth station, within which there is a possibility of the use of a given transmitting frequency at this earth station causing harmful interference to stations in the fixed or mobile service, sharing the same band, or of the use of a given frequency for reception at this earth station receiving harmful interference from such stations in the fixed or mobile service.

Earth station. A station located either on the Earth's surface or within the major portion of the Earth's atmosphere intended for communication: