Federal Communications Commission

§ 27.56  Antenna structures; air navigation safety.

(4) BRS and EBS: The predicted or measured median field strength at any location on the geographical border of a licensee’s service area shall not exceed the value specified unless the adjacent affected service area licensee(s) agree(s) to a different field strength. This value applies to both the initially offered services areas and to partitioned services areas. Licensees may exceed this signal level where there is no affected licensee that is constructed and providing service. Once the affected licensee is providing service, the original licensee will be required to take whatever steps necessary to comply with the applicable power level at its GSA boundary, absent consent from the affected licensee.

(i) Prior to transition, the signal strength at any point along the licensee’s GSA boundary does not exceed the greater of that permitted under the licensee’s Commission authorizations as of January 10, 2005 or 47 dB μV/m.

(ii) Following transition, for stations in the LBS and UBS, the signal strength at any point along the licensee’s GSA boundary must not exceed 47 dB μV/m. This field strength is to be measured at 1.5 meters above the ground over the channel bandwidth (i.e., each 5.5 MHz channel for licensees that hold a full channel block, and for the 5.5 MHz channel for licensees that hold individual channels).

(iii) Following transition, for stations in the MBS, the signal strength at any point along the licensee’s GSA boundary must not exceed the greater of \(-73.0 + 10 \log(X/6)\) dBW/m², where X is the bandwidth in megahertz of the channel, or for facilities that are substantially similar to the licensee’s pre-transition facilities (including modifications that do not alter the fundamental nature or use of the transmissions), the signal strength at such point that resulted from the station’s operations immediately prior to the transition, provided that such operations complied with paragraph (a)(4)(i) of this section.

(b) Power flux density limit for stations operating in the 698–746 MHz bands. For base and fixed stations operating in the 698–746 MHz band in accordance with the provisions of §27.50(c)(6), the power flux density that would be produced by such stations through a combination of antenna height and vertical gain pattern must not exceed 3000 microwatts per square meter on the ground over the area extending to 1 km from the base of the antenna mounting structure.

(c) Power flux density limit for stations operating in the 746–757 MHz, 758–763 MHz, 776–787 MHz, and 788–793 MHz bands. For base and fixed stations operating in the 746–757 MHz, 758–763 MHz, 776–787 MHz, and 788–793 MHz bands in accordance with the provisions of §27.50(b)(6), the power flux density that would be produced by such stations through a combination of antenna height and vertical gain pattern must not exceed 3000 microwatts per square meter on the ground over the area extending to 1 km from the base of the antenna mounting structure.


§ 27.56 Antenna structures; air navigation safety.

A licensee that owns its antenna structure(s) must not allow such antenna structure(s) to become a hazard to air navigation. In general, antenna structure owners are responsible for registering antenna structures with the FCC if required by part 17 of this chapter, and for installing and maintaining any required marking and lighting. However, in the event of default of this responsibility by an antenna structure owner, the FCC permittee or licensee authorized to use an affected antenna structure will be held responsible by the FCC for ensuring that the antenna structure continues to meet the requirements of part 17 of this chapter. See §17.6 of this chapter.

(a) Marking and lighting. Antenna structures must be marked, lighted and maintained in accordance with part 17 of this chapter and all applicable rules and requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration. For any construction or alteration that would exceed the requirements of section 17.7 of this chapter, licensees must notify the appropriate Regional Office of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
§ 27.57 International coordination.

(a) WCS operations in the border areas shall be subject to coordination with those countries and provide protection to non-U.S. operations in the 2305–2320 and 2345–2360 MHz bands as appropriate. In addition, satellite DARS operations in WCS spectrum shall be subject to international satellite coordination procedures.

(b) Operation in the 398–763 MHz, 775–793 MHz, and 805–806 MHz bands is subject to international agreements between Mexico and Canada. Unless otherwise modified by international treaty, licenses must not cause interference to, and must accept harmful interference from, television broadcast operations in Mexico and Canada.

(c) Operation in the 1710–1755 MHz, 2110–2155 MHz, 1915–1920 MHz, 1995–2000 MHz, 2000–2020 MHz, and 2180–2200 MHz bands is subject to international agreements with Mexico and Canada.

§ 27.58 Interference to BRS/EBS receivers.

(a) WCS licensees shall bear full financial obligation to remedy interference to BRS/EBS block downconverters if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The complaint is received by the WCS licensee prior to February 20, 2002;

2. The BRS/EBS downconverter was installed prior to August 20, 1998;

3. The WCS fixed or land station transmits at 50 or more watts peak EIRP;

4. The BRS/EBS downconverter is located within a WCS transmitter’s free space power flux density contour of −34 dBW/m²; and

5. The BRS/EBS customer or licensee has informed the WCS licensee of the interference within one year from the initial operation of the WCS transmitter or within one year from any subsequent power increases at the WCS station.

(b) Resolution of the complaint shall be at no cost to the complainant.

(c) Two or more WCS licensees collocating their antennas on the same tower shall assume shared responsibility for remedying interference complaints within the area determined by paragraph (a)(4) of this section unless an offending station can be readily determined and then that station shall assume full financial responsibility.

(d) If the WCS licensee cannot otherwise eliminate interference caused to BRS/EBS reception, then that licensee must cease operations from the offending WCS facility.

(e) At least 30 days prior to commencing operations from any new WCS transmission site or with increased power from any existing WCS transmission site, a WCS licensee shall notify all BRS/EBS licensees in or through whose licensed service areas they intend to operate of the technical parameters of the WCS transmission facility. WCS and BRS/EBS licensees are expected to coordinate voluntarily and in good faith to avoid interference problems and to allow the greatest operational flexibility in each other’s operations.

§ 27.59 [Reserved]

§ 27.60 TV/DTV interference protection criteria.

Base, fixed, control, and mobile transmitters in the 698–763 MHz, 775–793 MHz, and 805–806 MHz frequency bands must be operated only in accordance with the rules in this section to reduce