

Pollution Prevention practices, methodology for bark monitoring surveys, the areas excluded from permit coverage, and administrative corrections. In response to comments, the section 402 modifications to section 404 permits issued prior to October 22, 1985 are being issued in a separate general permit (AK-G70-0000).

Legal Requirements

Coastal Zone Management Act

The State of Alaska, Office of Management and Budget, Division of Governmental Coordination found this action to be consistent with the approved Alaska Coastal Zone Management Program.

Endangered Species Act and Essential Fish Habitat

Consultation under the Endangered Species Act was conducted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. The EPA determined that the actions are not likely to adversely affect any threatened or listed species. EPA has also made a determination that the actions have no adverse effects on Essential Fish Habitat.

State Water Quality Standards and State Certification

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation, has certified under section 401 of the Clean Water Act, that the subject discharges under both general permits comply with the Alaska State Water Quality Standards and sections 208(e), 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the Clean Water Act.

Executive Order 12866

EPA has determined that this general permit is not a "significant regulatory action" under the terms of Executive Order 12866 and is therefore not subject to OMB review.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The information collection requirements of this permit were previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* and assigned OMB control numbers 2040-0086 (NPDES permit application) and 2040-0004 (discharge monitoring reports).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, requires that EPA prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis for rules subject to the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 553(b) that have a significant

impact on a substantial number of small entities. The permit issued today, however, is not a "rule" subject to the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 553(b) and is therefore not subject to the RFA.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

Section 201 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA), Public Law 104-4, generally requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their "regulatory actions" (defined to be the same as "rules" subject to the RFA) on tribal, state, and local governments and the private sector. The permit issued today, however, is not a "rule" subject to the RFA and is therefore not subject to the requirements of UMRA.

Appeal of Permit

Any interested person may appeal the Log Transfer Facility General NPDES permits in the Federal Court of Appeals in accordance with section 509(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. This appeal must be filed within 120 days of the permit effective date. The permit effective date is defined at 40 CFR 23.2 to be at 1:00 p.m. eastern time, two weeks after the date of publication in the **Federal Register**. Persons affected by a general NPDES permit may not challenge the conditions of the permit as a right of further EPA proceedings. Instead, they may either challenge the permit in court or apply for an individual NPDES permit and then request a formal hearing on the issuance or denial of an individual NPDES permit.

Dated: February 23, 2000.

Randall F. Smith,

Director, Office of Water, Region 10.

[FR Doc. 00-5501 Filed 3-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

Notice of Open Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Export-Import Bank)

SUMMARY: The Advisory Committee was established by Public Law 98-09181, November 30, 1983, to advise the Export-Import Bank on its programs and to provide comments for inclusion in the reports of the Export-Import Bank of the United States to Congress.

TIME AND PLACE: Monday, March 27, 2000, at 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. The meeting will be held at the Export-Import Bank in Room 1143, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20571.

AGENDA: This meeting will include a discussion of the future role of Ex-Im Bank in light of the evolving changes in the export credit agency, exporting and financial communities.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The meeting will be open to public participation, and the last 10 minutes will be set aside for oral questions or comments. Members of the public may also file written statement(s) before or after the meeting. If any person wishes auxiliary aids (such as a sign language interpreter) or other special accommodations, please contact, prior to March 21, 2000, Teri Stumpf, Room 1203, Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20571, Voice: (202) 565-3502 or TDD (202) 565-3377.

FURTHER INFORMATION: For information, contact Teri Stumpf, Room 1203, 811 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20571, (202) 565-3502.

John M. Niehuss,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 00-5520 Filed 3-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6690-01-M

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission, Comments Requested

February 29, 2000.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated

collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted on or before May 8, 2000. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all comments to Les Smith, Federal Communications Commissions, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 1-A804, Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to lesmith@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collections contact Les Smith at (202) 418-0217 or via the Internet at lesmith@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Approval No.: 3060-0027.

Title: Application for Construction Permit for Commercial Broadcast Station.

Form No.: FCC 301.

Type of Review: Revision.

Respondents: Businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 3,370.

Estimated Hours Per Response: 37-121 hours (time varies between contracting time and respondent burden dependent on the type of application submitted).

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Cost to Respondents: \$35,485,300.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 7,427.

Needs and Uses: FCC 301 is used to apply for authority to construct a new commercial AM, FM or TV broadcast station, or to make changes in the existing facilities of such a station. In addition, FM licensees or permittees may request, by application on FCC 301, upgrades on adjacent and co-channels, modifications to adjacent channels of the same class and downgrades to adjacent channels without first submitting a petition for rulemaking. All applicants using this one-step process must demonstrate that a suitable site exists which would comply with allotment standards with respect to minimum distance separation and city-grade coverage and which would be suitable for tower construction.

To receive authorization for commencement of Digital Television ("DTV") operation, commercial broadcast licensees must file FCC 301 for a construction permit. This application may be filed anytime after receiving the initial DTV allotment but must be filed before the mid-point in a particular applicant's required construction period. The Commission

will consider these applications as minor changes in facilities. Applicants will not have to supply full legal or financial qualification information.

This collection also includes the third party disclosure requirement of Section 73.3580. This section requires local public notice in a newspaper of general circulation of the filing of all applications for new or major changes in facilities. This notice must be completed within 30 days of the tendering of the application. This notice must be published at least twice a week for two consecutive weeks in a three-week period. A copy of this notice must be placed in the public inspection file along with the application.

On January 20, 2000, the Commission adopted a Report and Order in MM Docket Nos. 98-204 and 96-16 in the Matter of Review of the Commission's Broadcast and Cable Equal Employment Opportunity Rules and Policies and Termination of the EEO Streamlining Proceeding. This Report and Order modified the Commission's broadcast and cable EEO rules and policies consistent with the D.C. Circuit's decision in Lutheran Church. The new EEO rules ensure equal employment opportunity in the broadcast industry through vigorous outreach and prevention of discrimination. With the adoption of this Report and Order, the Commission reinstates the requirement that broadcast permittees file the FCC Form 396-A at the time they file an application for a new construction permit. The Commission has revised the FCC 301 to add a question to advise respondents that they are required to submit a 396-A at the time that they apply for a new construction permit.

The data is used by FCC staff to determine whether an applicant meets basic statutory requirements to become a Commission licensee and to ensure that the public interest would be served by grant of the application.

OMB Approval No.: 3060-0032.

Title: Application for Consent to Transfer Control of Entity Holding Broadcast Station License Construction Permit or License.

Form No.: FCC 315.

Type of Review: Revision of currently approved collection.

Respondents: Businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 1,591.

Estimated Hours Per Response: 12-48 hours (the burden hour time and contracting time varies depending on the type of application filed).

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Cost to Respondents: \$12,236,878.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 2,546.

Needs and Uses: FCC Form 315 and applicable exhibits/explanations are required to be filed when applying for transfer of control of a corporation holding an AM, FM or TV broadcast station construction permit or license. In addition, the applicant must notify the Commission when an approved transfer of control of a broadcast station construction permit or license has been consummated.

This collection also includes the third party disclosure requirement of Section 73.3580. This section requires local public notice in a newspaper of general circulation of the filing of all applications for transfer of control of license/permit. This notice must be completed within 30 days of the tendering of the application. This notice must be published at least twice a week for two consecutive weeks in a three-week period. A copy of this notice must be placed in the public inspection file along with the application.

Additionally, an applicant for transfer of control of license must broadcast the same notice over the station at least once daily on four days in the second week immediately following the tendering for filing of the application.

On January 20, 2000, the Commission adopted a Report and Order in MM Docket Nos. 98-204 and 96-16 in the Matter of Review of the Commission's Broadcast and Cable Equal Employment Opportunity Rules and Policies and Termination of the EEO Streamlining Proceeding. This Report and Order modified the Commission's broadcast and cable EEO rules and policies consistent with the D.C. Circuit's decision in Lutheran Church. The new EEO rules ensure equal employment opportunity in the broadcast industry through vigorous outreach and prevention of discrimination. With the adoption of this Report and Order, the Commission reinstates the requirement that broadcast permittees and licensees file the FCC Form 396-A at the time they file a transfer application. The Commission has revised the FCC 315 to add a question to advise respondents that they are required to submit a 396-A at the time that they apply for a transfer of a construction permit or license.

The data is used by FCC staff to determine whether the applicants meet basic statutory requirements to become a Commission licensee/permittee and to assure that the public interest would be served by grant of the application.

OMB Approval No.: 3060-0031.

Title: Application for Consent to Assignment of Broadcast License Construction Permit or License.

Form No.: FCC 314.

Type of Review: Revision of currently approved collection.

Respondents: Businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 1,591.

Estimated Hours Per Response: 12–48 hours (the burden hour time and contracting time varies depending on the type of application filed).

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Cost to Respondents: \$12,236,878.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 2,546.

Needs and Uses: FCC Form 314 and applicable exhibits/explanations are required to be filed when applying for consent for assignment of an AM, FM or TV broadcast station construction permit or license, along with applicable exhibits and explanations. In addition, the applicant must notify the Commission when an approved assignment of a broadcast station construction permit or license has been consummated.

This collection also includes the third party disclosure requirement of Section 73.3580. This section requires local public notice in a newspaper of general circulation of the filing of all applications for assignment of license/permit. This notice must be completed within 30 days of the tendering of the application. This notice must be published at least twice a week for two consecutive weeks in a three-week period. A copy of this notice must be placed in the public inspection file along with the application. Additionally, an applicant for assignment of license must broadcast the same notice over the station at least once daily on four days in the second week immediately following the tendering for filing of the application.

On January 20, 2000, the Commission adopted a Report and Order in MM Docket Nos. 98–204 and 96–16 in the Matter of Review of the Commission's Broadcast and Cable Equal Employment Opportunity Rules and Policies and Termination of the EEO Streamlining Proceeding. This Report and Order modified the Commission's broadcast and cable EEO rules and policies consistent with the D.C. Circuit's decision in *Lutheran Church*. The new EEO rules ensure equal employment opportunity in the broadcast industry through vigorous outreach and prevention of discrimination. With the adoption of this Report and Order, the Commission reinstates the requirement that broadcast permittees and licensees file the FCC Form 396–A at the time they file an assignment application. The Commission has revised the FCC 314 to add a question to advise respondents that they are required to submit a 396–

A at the time that they apply for an assignment of a construction permit or license.

The data is used by FCC staff to determine whether the applicants meet basic statutory requirements to become a Commission licensee/permittee and to assure that the public interest would be served by grant of the application.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–5411 Filed 3–6–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–U

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

FCC Renews and Amends Charter of Network Reliability and Interoperability Council

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of renewal and amendment of charter.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission has renewed and amended the charter of its advisory committee, the “Network Reliability and Interoperability Council” (the “Committee”). Under the amended charter, the objectives of the Committee are as follows.

The Committee will continue its work relating to the year 2000 date rollover (Y2K) on telecommunications networks, including a review of the effectiveness of the work done prior to the date change as well as an analysis of the impact of the date change on those networks. The Committee will make recommendations on any future actions that should be taken. The Committee will evaluate, and report on, the reliability of public telecommunications network services in the United States, including the reliability of packet switched networks.

During the charter of the previous Committee, interested participants developed guidelines that were intended to improve the quality of outage reporting for those carriers currently required to report outages. The Committee will evaluate those guidelines and data provided in accordance with those guidelines and, if appropriate, recommend further refinements to those guidelines.

During the charter of the previous Committee, interested participants recommended that the FCC adopt a voluntary reporting program, administered by the National Communications System, to gather outage data for those

telecommunications and information service providers not currently required to report outages. The Committee will monitor this process, analyze the data obtained from the voluntary trial and report on the efficacy of that process, as well as the on-going reliability of such services.

The Committee will evaluate existing network outage reporting requirements and make recommendations for improving, or where appropriate initiating, reporting requirements for: (i) Telecommunications carriers currently required to report outages; and (ii) telecommunications carriers not presently required to report service outages.

Building on the work of the previous Committee, as appropriate, the Committee will continue to develop best practices recommendations and refine or modify, as appropriate, best practices recommendations developed by previous Committees.

The Committee will continue to evaluate and report on the extent to which telecommunications common carriers are using best practices recommendations and applicable American National Standards Institute Committee T–1 standards, and identify ways to increase the use of best practices and relevant Committee T–1 standards by telecommunications service providers.

The Committee will make recommendations concerning technical standards to ensure spectral compatibility in wireline networks and facilitate the deployment of xDSL and associated technologies.

The Committee will make recommendations concerning the development of spectrum management processes within the wireline network that facilitate competition among CLECs and ILECs using different technologies while still maintaining network integrity. The Committee will make recommendations with respect to such additional topics as the Commission may specify. These topics may include requests for recommendations and technical advice on interoperability issues that may arise from convergence and digital packet networks, and how the Commission may best fulfill its responsibilities, particularly with respect to national defense and safety of life and property (including law enforcement) under the Communications Act.

The Committee will assemble data and other information, perform analyses, and provide recommendations and advice to the Federal Communications Commission and the