

Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, Public Law 112–96, sections 6402, 6403, 125 Stat. 156 (2012) (Spectrum Act). The Commission's broadcast incentive auction (BIA) will have three main components: (1) A reverse auction in which broadcast television licensees will submit bids to voluntarily relinquish their spectrum usage rights in exchange for defined shares of proceeds from the forward auction; (2) a repacking of the broadcast television bands; and (3) a forward auction of initial licenses for flexible use of the newly available spectrum. The information collection requirements reported under this new collection are the result of various Commission actions in which the Commission adopted general rules to govern the auction—including various application disclosures and certifications that must be made by broadcast television licensees to establish their eligibility to participate in the reverse auction—in order to implement the new and novel incentive auction approach for use in the BIA.

Under this information collection, the Commission will collect information that will be used to determine whether an applicant is legally qualified to participate in a reverse incentive auction. To aid in collecting this information, the Commission has created FCC Form 177, which the public will use to participate in reverse incentive auctions, including the Commission's upcoming broadcast incentive reverse auction. The Commission's auction rules and related requirements are designed to ensure that the competitive bidding process is limited to serious qualified applicants, deter possible abuse of the bidding and licensing process, and enhance the use of competitive bidding to assign Commission licenses and permits in furtherance of the public interest. The information collected on FCC Form 177 will be used by the Commission to determine if an applicant is legally qualified to participate in the reverse auction. Commission staff will review the information collected on FCC Form 177 as part of the pre-auction process, prior to the start of the reverse auction. Staff will determine whether each applicant satisfies the Commission's requirements to participate in the reverse auction. Without the information collected on FCC Form 177, the Commission will not be able to determine if an applicant is legally qualified to participate in the reverse auction and has complied with the various applicable regulatory and

statutory auction requirements for such participation.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary, Office of the Secretary.*

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**BILLING CODE 6712–01–P**

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060–1214]

### Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or the Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Comments are requested concerning: 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; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; 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; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees. The FCC 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 PRA that does not display a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

**DATES:** Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before May 31, 2016. 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 PRA comments to Nicole Ongele, FCC, via email [PRA@fcc.gov](mailto:PRA@fcc.gov) and to [Nicole.Ongele@fcc.gov](mailto:Nicole.Ongele@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information about the information collection, contact Nicole Ongele at (202) 418–2991.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*OMB Control Number:* 3060–1214.

*Title:* Direct Access to Numbers Order, FCC 15–70, Conditions.

*Form Number:* N/A

*Type of Review:* Revision of currently approved collection.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents and Responses:* 13 respondents; 13 responses.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 10–20 hours.

*Frequency of Response:* One-time application, on-going and bi-annual reporting requirements.

*Obligation to Respond:* Voluntary. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in 47 U.S.C. 251(e)(1).

*Total Annual Burden:* 520 hours.

*Total Annual Costs:* No cost.

*Privacy Act Impact Assessment:* No impact(s).

*Nature and Extent of Confidentiality:* If respondents submit information which respondents believe is confidential, respondents may request confidential treatment of such information pursuant to section 0.459 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 0.459.

*Needs and Uses:* In a June 2015 Report and Order (FCC 15–70), the Commission established the Numbering Authorization Application process, which allows interconnected VoIP providers to apply for a blanket authorization from the FCC that, once granted, will allow them to demonstrate that they have the authority to provide service in specific areas, thus enabling them to request numbers directly from the Numbering Administrators. This collection covers the information and certifications that applicants must submit in order to comply with the Numbering Authorization Application process. The data, information, and documents acquired through this collection will allow interconnected VoIP providers to obtain numbers with minimal burden or delay while also preventing providers from obtaining numbers without first demonstrating that they can deploy and properly utilize such resources. This information will also help the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) protect against number exhaust while promoting competitive neutrality among

traditional telecommunications carriers and interconnected VoIP providers by allowing both entities to obtain numbers directly from the Numbering Administrators. It will further help the FCC to maintain efficient utilization of numbering resources and ensure that telephone numbers are not being stranded.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2016-07115 Filed 3-29-16; 8:45 am]

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-0600 and 3060-0995]

### Information Collections Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission Under Delegated Authority

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Federal Communications Commission invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Comments are requested concerning: 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; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; 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; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

The FCC 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 PRA that does not display a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

**DATES:** Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before May 31, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all PRA comments to Cathy Williams, FCC, via email [PRA@fcc.gov](mailto:PRA@fcc.gov) and to [Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov](mailto:Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov). Include in the comments the Title as shown in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information about the information collection, contact Cathy Williams at (202) 418-2918.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*OMB Control Number:* 3060-0600.

*Title:* Application to Participate in an FCC Auction, FCC Form 175.

*Form Number:* FCC Form 175.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit entities, not-for-profit institutions, and state, local or tribal governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents and Responses:* 500 respondents and 500 responses.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 90 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion reporting requirement.

*Obligation to Respond:* Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for the currently approved information collection is contained in sections 154(i) and 309(j)(5) of the Communications Act, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 4(i), 309(j)(5), and sections 1.2105, 1.2110, 1.2112 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 1.2105, 1.2110, 1.2112. Statutory authority for the revised information collection is contained in sections 154(i) and 309(j)(5) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 4(i), 309(j)(5), and sections 1.2105, 1.2110, 1.2112 of the Commission's rules, as amended, 47 CFR 1.2105, 1.2110, 1.2112.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 750 hours.

*Total Annual Costs:* None.

*Nature and Extent of Confidentiality:* Information collected on FCC Form 175 is made available for public inspection, and the Commission is not requesting that respondents submit confidential information on FCC Form 175. Respondents seeking to have information collected on FCC Form 175 withheld from public inspection may request confidential treatment of such information pursuant to section 0.459 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 0.459.

*Privacy Act Impact Assessment:* No impact(s).

*Needs and Uses:* A request for extension of this information collection (no change in requirements) will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) after this 60-day comment period in order to obtain the

full three year clearance from OMB. On February 22, 2012, the President signed the Spectrum Act, which, among other things, authorized the Commission to conduct incentive auctions, and directed that the Commission use this innovative tool for an incentive auction of broadcast television spectrum to help meet the Nation's growing spectrum needs. See Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, Pub. L. 112-96, sections 6402, 6403, 125 Stat. 156 (2012) (Spectrum Act). The Commission's broadcast incentive auction (BIA) will have three main components: (1) A reverse auction in which broadcast television licensees will submit bids to voluntarily relinquish their spectrum usage rights in exchange for defined shares of proceeds from the forward auction; (2) a repacking of the broadcast television bands; and (3) a forward auction of initial licenses for flexible use of the newly available spectrum.

The Commission is revising the currently approved information collection on FCC Form 175 to implement new collection requirements that are the result of (1) various Commission actions in which the Commission adopted general rules and procedures to govern the BIA, including rules applicable to applicants seeking to participate in the forward auction component of the BIA and, (2) the Commission's adoption of new and modified competitive bidding rules and requirements in the *Updating Part 1 Report and Order*, which will apply to applicants seeking to participate in a Commission auction, including the forward auction component of the BIA.

The Commission's auction rules and related requirements are designed to ensure that the competitive bidding process is limited to serious qualified applicants, deter possible abuse of the bidding and licensing process, and enhance the use of competitive bidding to assign Commission licenses in furtherance of the public interest. The information collected on FCC Form 175 is used by the Commission to determine if an applicant is legally, technically, and financially qualified to participate in a Commission auction. Additionally, if an applicant applies for status as a particular type of auction participant pursuant to Commission rules, the Commission uses information collected on FCC Form 175 to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the status requested. Commission staff reviews the information collected on FCC Form 175 for a particular auction as part of the pre-auction process, prior to the auction being held. Staff determines whether each applicant satisfies the