

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

November 2, 2009

Alex Hunt
Chief, Information Policy Branch
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Hunt:

The Federal Communications Commission (Commission) requests OMB approval to submit the information collection described herein under the “emergency processing” provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (5 CFR 1320.13). The Commission is requesting clearance for a new information collection entitled: National Broadband Plan Survey of Businesses. We respectfully requested OMB approval for this collection by November 9, 2009.

The Commission is seeking emergency processing and approval because this collection of information is critical to the development and completion of the National Broadband Plan (Broadband Plan) authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. ARRA requires that the Broadband Plan be submitted to Congress by February 17, 2010.

To assist in developing the Broadband Plan, the Omnibus Broadband Initiative within the Commission’s Office of Strategic Planning plan to conduct a survey of businesses that focuses on adoption and usage of broadband internet service. For the Broadband Plan, the focus on usage in the survey is crucial to formulating policy recommendations on how broadband can increase business productivity and economic growth in the United States. The business survey is being conducted pursuant to the Broadband Data Improvement Act. Therefore, the Commission cannot comply with the regular OMB approval process and is requesting emergency processing due to the statutory mandate from Congress.

The Commission is seeking a waiver of the notice and comment period in the Federal Register requesting public comment on the information collection requirements due to the emergency nature of this request. The Commission will conduct all the necessary regular submission requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act after approval of this emergency request.

FCC staff is ready to work with your PRA Desk Officer to immediately provide any additional information needed to assure OMB's approval of this emergency request by November 9, 2009.



Mindy Ginsburg
Deputy Managing Director
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission

Enclosures