

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

March 17, 2010

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: Spectrum Dashboard Customer Feedback. We respectfully request OMB approval for this collection by March 31, 2010.

The Commission is seeking emergency processing and approval because this collection of information is critical to the implementation of the National Broadband Plan (Broadband Plan). The National Broadband Plan is authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. ARRA originally required that the Broadband Plan be submitted to Congress by February 17, 2010. The Commission sought an extension to submit the National Broadband Plan to Congress no later than March 17, 2010.

As part of the Broadband Plan, the FCC has created the Spectrum Dashboard, a database of the frequency bands from 225 MHz – 3.7 GHz available for non-federal uses, including nationwide broadband deployment. The Spectrum Dashboard makes information transparent and readily available to interested stakeholders (*e.g.*, service providers, manufacturers, innovators, investors) to better enable them to gain access to spectrum and to help them help us in our spectrum policy decisions. The increased accessibility to spectrum and licensing information made possible by the Spectrum Dashboard is particularly valuable at this time as multiple stakeholders search for ways to participate in the deployment of wireless broadband throughout the nation. Importantly, the Spectrum Dashboard should continually be improved over time in ways that can better inform the Commission’s spectrum management decisions relating to these bands and timely customer feedback is a key element of such future improvements.

The Broadband Plan was released on March 16, 2010, and the beta version of the Spectrum Dashboard was also released on March 16, 2010. Thus, in order to seek customer feedback on the Spectrum Dashboard as soon as possible, the Commission cannot comply with the regular OMB approval process and is requesting emergency processing.

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 March 31, 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mindy Ginsburg', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

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