

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

March 3, 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: Wired and Wireless Internet Survey. We respectfully request OMB approval for this collection by March 5, 2010.

The Commission is seeking emergency processing and approval because this collection of information is critical to the National Broadband Plan (Broadband Plan) authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, and to completing research done for the Broadband Plan on key consumer issues including transparency and barriers to consumer switching among providers of broadband and related services.

The Commission’s Office of Strategic Planning & Policy Analysis plans to conduct a survey of consumers that focuses on the impact of wired and wireless industry practices on those consumers. This survey is crucial to understanding what consumers know—and need to know—about the performance, cost, and terms and conditions of broadband and related services, and what barriers they face to switching service providers. In light of the Census-related moratorium on government consumer research efforts, the Commission does not have time to 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.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that OMB approve this emergency request by March 5, 2010, so that the FCC may conduct the Wired and Wireless Internet Survey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. ...". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

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