

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

April 2, 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: Residential Fixed Broadband Services Testing and Measurement. We respectfully request OMB approval for this collection by April 16, 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 actual speeds and performance of broadband service.

The Commission’s Office of Strategic Policy and Planning Analysis (OSPPA) and Consumer and Intergovernmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) plans to conduct a hardware-based test and analysis of 11,000 consumer broadband connections to examine the performance of services across a number of parameters. This survey is crucial to comparing what consumers know—and need to know—about the speeds and performance, and terms and conditions of broadband and related services to services purchased. In light of the 2010-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.

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 April 16, 2010.



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