Title: Application for Authority to Construct or Make Changes in an FM Translator or FM Booster

Station, FCC Form 349

## SUPPORTING STATEMENT

## A. Justification:

1. Reinstated of Information Collection Requirements: The Commission requests to reinstate OMB control number 3060-0405. In 2008, we merged the requirements that were previously under this OMB control number into an existing information collection, OMB control number 3060-0029, Application for TV Broadcast Station License, FCC Form 302-TV. Although the requirements were merged under the supporting statement, the forms themselves remained separate and only shared the same OMB control number. Since that time, we find that the merging of these requirements under one OMB control number is ineffective, causing delays in submissions to OMB for review, especially when the various requirements were revised by multiple and simultaneously adopted Commission actions.

**FCC Form 349** is used to apply for authority to construct a new FM translator or FM booster broadcast station, or to make changes in the existing facilities of such stations.

Form 349's Newspaper Notice (third party disclosure) requirement; 47 CFR § 73.3580. Form 349 also contains a third party disclosure requirement, pursuant to Section 73.3580. This rule requires stations applying for a new broadcast station, or to make major changes to an existing station, to give local public notice of this filing in a newspaper of general circulation in the community in which the station is located. This local public notice must be completed within 30 days of the tendering of the application. This notice must be published at least twice a week for two consecutive weeks in a three-week period. In addition, a copy of this notice must be placed in the station's public inspection file along with the application, pursuant to Section 73.3527. This recordkeeping information collection requirement is contained in OMB Control No. 3060-0214, which covers Section 73.3527.

On June 29, 2009, the Commission adopted a *Report and Order*, Amendment of Service and Eligibility Rules for FM Broadcast Translator Stations, MB Docket No. 07-172, FCC 09-59. In the *Report and Order*, the Commission adopted changes to the FM translator rules that would allow AM stations to use authorized FM translator stations¹ to rebroadcast the AM signal locally, retransmitting their AM programming as a "fill-in" service. The adopted cross service translating rules limit FM translators to providing "fill-in" service only, specifically within the AM primary station's authorized service area.² In addition, the Commission limited the cross-service rule changes to "currently authorized FM translators," that is, those translators with licenses or permit in effect as of May 1, 2009.

This information collection does not affect individuals or households; thus, there are no impacts under the Privacy Act.

Statutory authority for this collection of information is contained in Sections 154(i), 303 and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

<sup>1</sup> FM translator stations are low power facilities licensed for the limited purpose of retransmitting the signals of either a full power radio station or another translator station. 47 C.F.R. § 74.1201.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As defined in 47 C.F.R. § 74.1201(d), the "primary station" is the AM or FM radio broadcast station radiating the signal that is to be retransmitted by the FM translator station.

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2. **Agency Use of Information:** The data is used by FCC staff to ensure that the applicant meets basic statutory requirements and will not cause interference to other licensed broadcast services. In the case of mutually exclusive qualified applicants, the information will be used to determine which proposal would best serve the public interest.

- 3. **Consideration Given to Information Technology:** The Commission requires applicants to file this form electronically.
- 4. **Effort to Identify Duplication and Use Similar Information:** This agency does not impose a similar information collection on the respondents. There are no similar data available.
- 5. **Effort to Reduce Small Business Burden:** In conformance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Commission is making an effort to minimize the burden on all respondents. The Commission has limited the information requirements to those that are absolutely necessary for evaluating and processing the applications to determine the community having the greater need and to deter possible abuses of the processes. Therefore, the information collection does not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities/businesses.
- 6. **Less Frequent Data Collection:** The frequency for filing is determined by the respondents, as necessary.
- 7. **Information Collection Circumstances:** This collection of information is consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR § 1320.5(d)(2).
- 8. **Comments Received from the Public:** The Commission published a notice in the *Federal Register* seeking public comment on the information collections contained in this supporting statement, *see* 75 FR 6663, published on February 10, 2010. No comments were received from the public.
- 9. **Payment or Gift:** No payment or gift is provided to the respondents.
- 10. **Confidentiality of Information:** There is no need for confidentiality with this information collection.
- 11. **Justification for Sensitive Questions:** This information collection does not address any private matters of a sensitive nature.
- 12. **Estimate of Burden and Burden Hour Cost:** We estimate 1,200 Form 349 applications will be filed annually. Most of the filings will consist of making repairs or miscellaneous changes in the FM translator or FM booster station facility. Station engineers and attorneys with a salary of \$100,000/year (\$48.08/hour) will perform these functions.

Respondents are required by Section 73.3580 to fulfill the newspaper notice requirement for construction permit applications for New & Major Changes. We estimate one hour to fulfill this requirement. The respondent's salary is \$100,000/year (\$48.08/hour).

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			Burden	Annual	Hourly			
Torre	# of	# of	Hours of	Burden	Salary of	Annual In-		
Type	Respondents	Responses	Respondents	Hours	Respondents	House Cost		
Form 349 (All FM Translator or Booster)								
Commercial (filed by Station engineer)	9003	900	1.5 hrs	1,350 hrs	\$48.08	\$64,908.00		
Commercial (filed by Station attorney)	900	900	1.5 hrs	1,350 hrs	\$48.08	\$64,908.00		
Noncommercial (filed by Station engineer)	3004	300	1 hr	300 hrs	\$48.08	\$14,424.00		
Noncommercial (filed by Station attorney)	300	300	1 hr	300 hrs	\$48.08	\$14,424.00		
37					I			
Newspaper Notice (Third Party Disclosure) Requirement; 47 CFR § 73.3580								
Newspaper Notices - Commercial	900	900	1 hr	900 hrs	\$48.08	\$43,272.00		
Newspaper Notices - Noncommercial	300	300	1 hr	300 hrs	\$48.08	\$14,424.00		
TOTAL	1,200	2,400		4,500 hrs		\$216,360.00		

## **13. Annual Cost Burden to Respondents:** The annual cost burden to the respondents was calculated as follows:

- We assume that the average respondent would contract with consulting engineers (\$250/hour) and attorneys in a law firm (\$300/hour) to complete their applications.
- Newspaper Notice Publication Fee: An applicant must give local public notice of the filing of its application for construction permit. This notice must be published in a local newspaper of general circulation at least twice a week for two consecutive weeks in a three-week period, for a total of four (4) publications. The cost of this publication is estimated to be \$113.25/publication.
- <u>Filing Fee</u>: A respondent for a commercial station must submit a \$705.00 filing fee with its Form 349.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This number represents a total of 900 commercial applicants.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This number represents a total of 300 noncommercial applicants.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1104 (2009).

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Туре	Number of Forms	Consultant's Burden	Total Annual Burden Hours	Consultant's Hourly Fee or Application Fee	Cost Burden
Commercial (filed by	900	8 hours	7,200 hours	\$250.00	\$1,800,000.00
Station engineer)					
Commercial (filed by	900	1 hour	900 hours	\$300.00	\$270,000.00
Station attorney)					
Filing Fee	900			\$705/fee	\$634,500.00
Noncommercial (filed	300	12 hours	3,600 hours	\$250.00	\$900,000.00
by Station engineer)					
Noncommercial (filed	300	5 hours	1,500 hours	\$300.00	\$450,000.00
by Station attorney)					
Newspaper Notice	1,200	4 publications		\$113.25/fee	\$543,600.00
Publication Fee		_			
TOTAL					\$4,598,100.00

14. **Cost to Federal Government:** The Commission will use professionals at the GS-14, step 5 level (\$55.78/hour) and clerical personnel at the GS-5, step 5 level (\$18.07/hour) to process these applications.

Clerical (commercial)	1  hour x  \$18.07  x  900 =	\$ 16,263.00
Professional	$4 \text{ hours } x $55.78 \times 900 =$	\$200,808.00
Clerical (noncommercial)	1 hour x \$18.07 x 300 =	\$ 5,421.00
Professional	6 hours x \$55.78 x 300 =	<u>\$100,404.00</u>
<b>Total Cost to Federal Govern</b>	\$322,896.00	

15. **Reason for Changes in Burden or Cost:** This is a request to reinstate a previous OMB Control Number 3060-0405. As stated in paragraph 1, the requirements of this collection were merged into OMB Control Number 3060-0029 and the Commission now wants to separate the requirements. This will allow the Commission to operate more effectively with the information collections. Therefore, the Commission have program changes of +2,400 in the number of annual responses, +4,500 hours and +\$4,598,100 in costs to this information collection.

There are no adjustments to this collection.

- 16. **Plans for Publication:** The data will not be published.
- 17. **Display of OMB Approval Date:** We request extension of the waiver not to publish the expiration date on the form. This will obviate the need for the Commission to update electronic forms upon the expiration of the clearance. OMB approval of the expiration date of the information collection will be displayed at 47 CFR § 0.408.
- 18. **Exceptions to the Certification Statement:** The Commission published a notice in the *Federal Register* seeking public comment on the information collections contained in this supporting statement, *see* 75 FR 6663, published on February 10, 2010. In the notice, the number of responses was stated as 1,200.

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We correct that number to read 2,400. There are no other exceptions to the Certification Statement.

## **B.** Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

This information collection does not employ any statistical methods.