

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

A. Justification:

1. The Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 required the Commission to prescribe rules and regulations for determining reasonable rates for basic tier cable service and to establish criteria for identifying unreasonable rates for cable programming services and associated equipment. FCC Form 1200 is used by cable operators to justify the reasonableness of rates in effect on or after May 15, 1994. Cable operators submit this form to local franchising authorities (“LFAs”) or the Commission, in situations where the Commission has assumed jurisdiction. FCC Form 1200 also is filed with the Commission when responding to a complaint filed with the Commission about cable programming service rates and associated equipment.

The Commission is requesting an extension of this information collection in order to receive the full three year approval/clearance from OMB for this collection.

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

Statutory authority for this collection of information is contained in Sections 4(i) and 623 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

2. FCC staff members and LFAs use the data to evaluate cable rates the first time they are reviewed on or after May 15, 1994, so that the maximum permitted rates for regulated cable services can be determined.

3. The use of information technology is feasible for this collection. Automated diskette versions of FCC Form 1200 are available to respondents. FCC Form 1200 is also available on the Commission’s website.

4. This agency does not impose a similar information collection on the respondents. There are no similar data available.

5. This information collection does not impact a significant number of small businesses/entities.

6. If the Commission did not collect this information, the Commission would not be able to carry out its statutory responsibilities under section 623 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

7. There are no special circumstances associated with this collection of information.

8. The Commission published a Notice (80 FR 65225) in the *Federal Register* on October 26, 2015 seeking comments on the information collection requirements contained in this collection. The Commission received no comments following publication of the Notice.

9. There are no payments or gifts to respondents.

10. There is no need for confidentiality with this collection of information.

**Title: Setting Maximum Initial Permitted Rates for Regulated Cable Services –
FCC Form 1200**

11. This collection of information does not address any private matters of a sensitive nature.

12. We estimate that 50 FCC Form 1200s are filed annually with local franchising authorities (LFAs). The average burden to complete FCC Form 1200 is estimated to be 10 hours for cable operators. Cable operators will use in-house staff to complete approximately 50% of the filings. Cable operators will use outside assistance to complete the remaining 50% of the filings, the cable operators will undergo a burden of 2 hours per filing to coordinate information with the outside assistance.

LFAs will review approximately 50 FCC Form 1200 filings per year at an average burden of 10 hours per filing.

Total Number of Annual Respondents:

50 cable operators filing FCC Form 1200 annually with LFAs + 50 LFAs = **100 respondents**

Total Number of Annual Responses:

50 cable operators filing 1 FCC Form 1200 annually with LFAs = **50 responses**

Annual Burden Hours:

Burden for Cable Operators:

25 (50% of 50) filings completed with in-house staff x 10 hours per filing = 250 hours
25 (50% of 50) filings coordinated with outside assistance x 2 hours per filing = 50 hours
300 hours

Burden for LFAs:

50 FCC Form 1200 filings x 10 hours per filing = 500 hours

Total Annual Burden Hours: 300 hours + 500 hours = **800 hours**

In-House Cost: The Commission estimates that the cable operators and LFA staff are estimated to be paid \$48.08 per hour.

800 hours x \$48.08/hour = **\$38,464**

These estimated are based on Commission staff's knowledge and familiarity with the availability of the data required.

13. Annual Burden Cost: Cable operators will employ outside assistance at \$250 per hour to complete approximately 25 FCC Form 1200 filings.

a) Total annual capital or start up costs: None

b) Total annual costs (operation and maintenance): 25 filings x 10 hours x \$250 per hour = \$62,500.

c) Total annualized cost requested: **\$62,500.**

14. There is no cost to the Federal Government.

15. There are no program changes or adjustments to this collection.

16. The results of this information collection requirement are not planned to be published.

17. We seek approval not to display the form's expiration date of the information collection.

18. 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.