

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

A. Justification:

1. The Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") is requesting that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approve an extension of OMB Control No. 3060-1056 (delegated authority collection) titled, "Application for an International Broadcast Station License" (FCC Form 421-IB).

The FCC Form 421-IB will be used by applicants to request licenses to operate international broadcast stations. The FCC Form 421-IB has not been developed yet due to a lack of budget resources and technical staff. After the form has been developed, it will be completed by international broadcasters in lieu of the "Application for an International, Experimental Television, Experimental Facsimile, or a Developmental Broadcast Station," (FCC Form 310). (Note: The Commission received approval from the OMB for the FCC Form 310 under OMB Control No 3060-1035).

Currently, the FCC Form 310 is shared between the International Bureau and the Media Bureau. The International Bureau and Media Bureau have different information collection requirements. The FCC Form 310 is used by the Media Bureau to request experimental and developmental broadcast licenses and it is used by the International Bureau to request licenses to operate international broadcast stations.

We stated previously that the International Bureau plans to make the FCC Form 421-IB available to the public in the International Bureau Filing System ("IBFS"). However, the Commission has long-term plans to develop a new licensing system that will replace IBFS. Therefore, the FCC Form 421-IB will be housed in the new licensing system in the future rather than in IBFS.

The Commission put the FCC Form 421-IB under a separate OMB control number to facilitate the automation of the form in IBFS and any changes to the form in the future. The FCC Form 310 will continue to be used by the Media Bureau in connection with the authority to construct or make changes to an experimental broadcast license.

The FCC Form 421-IB does not affect individuals and, therefore, is not subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

The Commission has authority for this collection pursuant to the rules set forth in Section 325(c) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

2. The information collected pursuant to the rules set forth in Section 325(c) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and in 47 CFR Part 73, Subpart F, is used by the Commission to assign frequencies for use by international broadcast stations, to grant authority to operate such stations and to determine if interference or adverse propagation conditions exist that may impact the operation of such stations. If the Commission did not collect this information, it would not be in a position to effectively coordinate spectrum for international broadcasters or to act for entities in times of frequency interference or adverse propagation conditions. The orderly nature of the provision of international broadcast service would be in jeopardy without the Commission's involvement.

3. The FCC Form 421-IB has not been developed yet due to a lack of budget resources and technical staff. After it has been developed, it will be available to applicants in the new licensing system. The development of this new application is contingent upon the availability of budget funds. At present, zero (0) percent of this collection is automated.

4. These information collection requirements are not duplicated elsewhere in the Commission's rules.

5. These information collection requirements do not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The total number of entities subject to the Commission's international broadcast rules is approximately 10 and only a small percentage, if any, of the 10 could be categorized as a small entity. Also, the paperwork burdens accounted for in this collection are minimal.

6. If the Commission did not collect this information, it would not be in a position to effectively coordinate spectrum for international broadcasters or to act for entities in times of frequency interference or adverse propagation conditions. The orderly nature of the provision of international broadcast service would be in jeopardy without the Commission's involvement.

7. This information collection is not conducted in a manner that is inconsistent with the guidelines in 5 C.F.R 1320.5.

8. On July 14, 2020, a 60-day notice was published in the Federal Register (85 FR 42398) to solicit comments from the public on the extension of this collection. No comments were received from the public.

9. The Commission does not provide any payment or gift to respondents.

10. There is no need for confidentiality pertaining to the information collection requirements in this collection.

11. This collection does not contain questions of a sensitive nature.

12. An estimate of the annual hour burden for the 10 respondents to this collection is as follows:

FCC Form 421-IB	Number of Responses	Frequency of Response & Hours	Number of Responses X Hour/Response = Burden Hours
Complete Application	10	6 hours/response On-occasion	60 hours
Total:	10 Annual Responses	6 Hours Per Response	60 Annual Burden Hours

13. The estimated costs of **\$40,500** are summarized in the chart below.

FCC Form 421-IB	Respondents	Hours	Costs	Total
Application Fees	10	N/A	\$2,400 per application	\$24,000
Outside Legal Assistance	10	3 Hours	\$300 per hour	\$9,000
Outside Engineering Assistance	10	3 Hours	\$250 per hour	\$7,500
Total:				\$40,500 Total Cost

14. The estimated annualized costs to the Federal government is **\$23,796.80** and is calculated as follows:

10 international broadcast license applications X 32 annual hours = 320 annual hours
(legal review 160 hours; engineering review 160 hours)

GS-855-15/Step 5 Electronics Engineer @ \$77.49 per hour X 160 annual hours = \$12,398.40

GS-905-15/Step 5 Attorney @ \$77.49 per hour X 160 annual hours = \$12,398.40

$\$12,398.40 + \$12,398.40$ (Engineer and Attorney) = **\$24,796.80**

15. The Commission does not have any adjustments or program changes to this collection.

16. The results of this information collection requirement will not be published for statistical use.

17. We are seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of this information collection. The Commission will use an edition date in lieu of the OMB expiration date. Additionally, the OMB expiration date and OMB control number are “displayed” in 47 CFR 0.408.

18. There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

Part B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods:

Not applicable. This information collection does not employ statistical methods.