Section 90.215, Transmitter Measurements

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

A. Justification:

1. The Commission is seeking an extension of this collection in order to obtain the full threeyear clearance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Section 90.215 requires station licensees to measure the carrier frequency, output power, and modulation of each transmitter authorized to operate with power in excess of two watts when the transmitter is initially installed and when any changes are made which would likely affect the modulation characteristics. Such measurements, which help ensure proper operation of transmitters, are to be made by a qualified engineering measurement service, and are required to be retained in the station records, along with name and address of the engineering measurement service, and the name of the person making the measurements.

Statutory authority for this collection of information is contained in 47 U.S.C. § 303(f), as amended.

There are no impacts under the Privacy Act because individual or households are involved with this collection.

- 2. The information is normally used by the licensee to ensure that equipment is operating within prescribed tolerances. Prior technical operation of transmitters helps limit interference to other users and provides the licensee with the maximum possible utilization of equipment.
- 3. Prior to finalizing the rule makings the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau conducts an analysis to insure that improved information technology cannot be used to reduce the burden on the public. This analysis considers the possibility of obtaining and/or computer-generating the required data from existing data bases in the Commission or other federal agencies.
- 4. No similar information is available.
- 5. In conformance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Commission is making an effort to minimize the burden on all respondents, regardless of size. The Commission has limited the information requirements to that absolutely necessary for evaluating and processing applications and to deter against possible abuses.
- 6. Since the required measurements are normally made only upon initial installation of a transmitter, and when licensees make changes to their transmitters which would likely affect the technical parameters, less frequent collection of the information is not possible.
- 7. Current data collection is consistent with 5 C.F.R. § 1320.5.
- 8. The Commission published a 60-day Notice in the Federal Register on September 2021 (86 FR 50352) seeking public comments for the information collection requirements contained in

this collection pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 1320.8(d). No PRA comments were received from the public.

- 9. There are no payments or gifts to respondents for this collection.
- 10. There is no need for confidentiality with this collection of information.
- 11. This collection does not address any private matters of a sensitive nature.
- 12. According to the Bureau's Universal Licensing System ("ULS"), there are 150,081 private land mobile licensees authorized to operate 234,439 licenses (with output power over 2 watts) that must make transmitter measurements. We estimate the requirements of this rule places a two-minute burden (.033 hours) on licensees (per license) per annum to keep records of such measurements. The measurements will normally be made routinely by service personnel while installing equipment. Section 90.215 requires such transmitter measurements upon initial installation and when licensees make changes to their transmitters which would likely affect the technical parameters, and our experience indicates that such measurements are taken, at a minimum, on an annual basis and keeping records of these measurements will not be burdensome of respondents.

234,439 responses x .033 hours = 7,727 hours (rounded).

Total Annual Hour Burden is: 7,727 hours.

Total Number of Respondents: 150,081 licensees.

Total Number of Annual Responses: 234,439 licenses (responses).

In-House Cost: This is a recordkeeping requirement. Transmitter measurements are entered in the station's records. We assume that the information will be prepared by "in-house" engineers at \$50 p/hr. requiring 2 minutes per response.

7,727 hours x \$50/hr. (in-house engineers) = **\$386,350**.

- 13. There are no external or contracting cost for this collection.
- 14. There are no cost to the Federal Government for this collection of information.
- 15. The Commission reporting adjustments/increase to this collection represents an accurate accounting of the active PLMR licenses with an output power exceeding 2 watts in ULS. It is assumed that the logic used to extract the prior data was faulty. The Commission is reporting more accurate estimates with this submission to OMB which is the reason behind the adjustments to this collection of +131,830 to the number of respondents, +209,661 to the annual number of annual responses and +6,909 annual burden hours.
- 16. The data will not be published for statistical use.
- 17. No expiration date will be displayed.
- 18. There are exceptions to the certification statement.

B. <u>Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods:</u>

No statistical methods were employed.