Information Collection Request (ICR)

Supporting Statement for the Standard for Omnidirectional CB Base Antennas

OMB Control Number 3041-0006

A. Justification

1. Information to be collected and circumstances that make the collection of information necessary

In 1982, the Consumer Product Safety Commission estimated that during the period from 1979 to 1981, about 45 to 50 persons each year were electrocuted when an omnidirectional citizens band (CB) base station antenna came into contact with overhead electrical power lines while the antenna was being erected or removed from its site. The Commission also estimated that during the same period more than 25 persons each year sustained serious injuries when omnidirectional CB base station antennas contacted overhead power lines.

To address these risks of death and injury, the Commission issued the Safety Standard for Omnidirectional CB Antennas in 1982. The standard contains performance tests to demonstrate that an antenna will not transmit a harmful electric current if it contacts an electric power line with a voltage of 14,500 volts phase-to-ground. The standard is codified at 16 C.F.R. Part 1204, Subpart A.

Certification regulations implementing the standard require manufacturers, importers, and private labelers of antennas subject to the standard to perform tests to demonstrate that those products comply with the standard, and to maintain records of those tests. The certification regulations are codified at 16 C.F.R. Part 1204, Subpart B.

2. Use and sharing of collected information

The Commission uses the information compiled and maintained by manufacturers, importers, and private labelers of antennas subject to the standard to determine whether the products they produce or import comply with the requirements of the standard. The Commission also uses this information to obtain corrective actions if omnidirectional CB base station antennas fail to comply with the standard in a manner that creates a substantial risk of injury to the public.

3. Use of information technology (IT) in information collection

Manufacturers, importers, and private labelers of antennas that are subject to the standard may establish and maintain the records required by the certification regulations by any appropriate means, including automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology. Those records must be maintained for at least three years from the date of creation of the records, and must be made available to any designated employee of the Commission upon request.

4. Efforts to identify duplication

Until the Commission issued the Safety Standard for Omnidirectional CB Base Station Antennas, the information required by the certification regulations did not exist. No source exists for the information required by the certification regulations other than manufacturers, importers, and private labelers of antennas subject to the standard.

5. Impact on small businesses

In 1993, the Commission reviewed the Safety Standard for Omnidirectional CB Base Station Antennas and certification regulations in accordance with provisions of section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 610). The Commission concluded that the standard and certification rules did not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small businesses (March 24, 1993, 58 FR 15815).

6. Consequences to Federal program or policy activities if collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently

When the Commission issued the standard, it estimated that its requirements could be expected to prevent approximately eight deaths and eight other injuries a year. If manufacturers, importers, and private labelers of antennas subject to the standard did not perform the testing required by the standard and certification regulations, the number and severity of injuries resulting from accidental contact of omnidirectional CB base station antennas with overhead powerlines could increase.

If manufacturers, importers, and private labelers did not establish and maintain the records of testing required by the certification regulations, the Commission could obtain that information only by collecting samples of antennas and performing its own tests of those samples.

The certification regulations allow manufacturers, importers, or private labelers to use either the tests in the standard or other reasonable test procedures. Those regulations also allow the manufacturer to define production lots and sample

from those production lots in any manner that provides a high degree of assurance that all antennas manufactured during the applicable production interval will pass the standard.

7. Special circumstances requiring respondents to report information more often than quarterly or to prepare responses in fewer than 30 days

The collection of information in the standard and certification regulations is not conducted under any of the conditions described in item seven.

8. Agency's Federal Register Notice and related information

A Federal Register Notice was published Friday, June 13, 2025. The Commission did not receive any public comments.

9. Decision to provide payment or gift

The Commission does not provide any payment or gift to firms which perform the testing and maintain the records required by the standard and certification regulations.

10. Assurance of confidentiality

If the Commission collects any information from a manufacturer, importer, or private labeler from records that are required by the certification regulations and the firm claims that such information is trade secret or confidential business information, that information is subject to the Commission's procedures for withholding confidential information from public disclosure. Those procedures are codified at 16 C.F.R. Part 1015, Subpart B. If such information is requested under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, the manufacturer, importer, or private labeler is notified and given the opportunity to respond before the Commission releases the information.

11. Questions of a sensitive nature

The standard for omnidirectional CB base station antennas and certification regulations does not require manufacturers, importers, or private labelers to provide any information of a sensitive nature.

12. Estimate of hour burden to respondents

The Commission staff estimates that 10 suppliers may respond to the collection annually. Staff estimates that the annual testing and recordkeeping burden imposed is approximately 220 hours on average. Thus, the total annual burden imposed by the certification regulations on manufacturers, importers and private labelers of omnidirectional CB base station antennas is about 2,200 hours.

The Commission staff estimates that the average hourly cost to reporting firms for the time required to perform the required testing and maintain the required records is about $74.73, based on the reported total compensation for management, professional, and related employees in goods-producing private industries.[1] However, this may be an over estimate because respondents to this collection may be foreign manufacturers that are compensated at a lower average wage rate. Total annual cost to the industry is approximately $164,406 ($74.73 per hour × 2,200 hours = $164,406).

13. Estimates of other total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers

There are no costs to respondents beyond those presented in Section A.12. There are no operating, maintenance, or capital costs associated with the collection.

14. Estimate of annualized costs to the federal government

Approximately 40 staff hours are needed for agency employees to examine and evaluate the information, as needed, for compliance activities.
Estimated cost to the federal government is based on performance of this work by employees paid at a GS-12 Step 5 pay rate of $55.07 per hour.[2] According to the most recent Employer Costs for Employee Compensation, these wages represent approximately 67.8 percent of total compensation for civilian management, professional and related workers.[3] Therefore, total hourly compensation, including benefits, for an employee at the GS-12 Step 5 pay rate is estimated to be $81.22 per hour. Accordingly, the annual cost to the federal government of the collection of information is estimated to be about $3,249 ($81.22 per hour × 40 hours = $3,248.80).

15. Program changes or adjustments

No change has been made to the collection of information in the Safety Standard for Omnidirectional CB Base Station Antennas and certification regulations since it was last approved by OMB.

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[1] U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, “Employer Costs for Employee Compensation,” December 2024, Table 4. Private industry workers by occupational and industry group: https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/ecec_03142025.pdf.
[2] 2025 General Schedule (GS) Locality Pay Tables for Washington-Baltimore-Northern Virginia, https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/25Tables/pdf/DCB_h.pdf.
[3] U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, “Employer Costs for Employee Compensation,” December 2024, Table 2, https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/ecec_03142025.pdf.

16. Plans for tabulation and publication

The Commission will not publish the results of this collection of information.

17. Rationale for not displaying the expiration date for OMB approval

The Commission does not seek to avoid display of the expiration date for the OMB approval of this collection of information.

18. Exception to the certification statement

Not applicable.

B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

Not applicable.