

Federal Communications Commission.

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Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[DA 00-1179; MM Docket No. 98-216; RM-9381]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Arnoldsburg, WV

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission, at the request of Mountaineer Communications, allots Channel 264A at Arnoldsburg, West Virginia, as the community's first local aural transmission service. *See* 63 FR 68720, December 14, 1998. Channel 264A can be allotted in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements with a site restriction of 3.9 kilometers (2.4 miles) northeast to avoid a short-spacing to the licensed for Station WJYP(FM), Channel 265A, South Charleston, West Virginia. The coordinates for Channel 264A are 38-49-00 North Latitude and 81-06-00 West Longitude.

DATES: Effective July 10, 2000. A filing window for Channel 264A at Arnoldsburg, West Virginia, will not be opened at this time. Instead, the issue of opening a filing window for this channel will be addressed by the Commission in a subsequent order.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon P. McDonald, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Report and Order, MM Docket No. 98-216, adopted May 17, 2000, and released May 26, 2000. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center (Room CY-A257), 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractors, International Transcription Service, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Part 73 of title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334, 336.

§ 73.202 [Amended]

2. Section 73.202(b), the Table of FM Allotments under West Virginia, is amended by adding Arnoldsburg, Channel 264A.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 00-14605 Filed 6-8-00; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[DA 00-1156; MM Docket No. 99-42; RM-9467; RM-9618]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Whitefield and Northumberland, NH

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission, at the request of Dana Puopolo, allots Channel 256A to Whitefield, NH, as the community's first local aural service. *See* 64 FR 7841, February 17, 1999. Channel 256A can be allotted to Whitefield in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements with a site restriction of 10.9 kilometers (6.8 miles) northeast, at coordinates 44-27-17 NL; 71-31-36 WL, to avoid a short-spacing to Station WOKO, Channel 255C1, Burlington, VT. Canadian concurrence in the allotment has been obtained since Whitefield is located within 320 kilometers (200 miles) of the U.S.-Canadian border. The counterproposal filed by Barry P. Lunderville to allot Channel 256A to Northumberland, NH, is denied based on a finding that Northumberland is not a community for allotment purposes. A filing window for Channel 256A at Whitefield will not be opened at this time. Instead, the issue of opening a filing window for this channel will be addressed by the Commission in a subsequent order.

DATES: Effective July 10, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leslie K. Shapiro, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Report and Order, MM Docket No. 99-42, adopted May 17, 2000, and released May 26, 2000. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Part 73 of title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334, 336.

§ 73.202 [Amended]

2. Section 73.202(b), the Table of FM Allotments under New Hampshire, is amended by adding Whitefield, Channel 256A.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 00-14606 Filed 6-8-00; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[DA 00-1145; MM Docket No. 00-43; RM-9833]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Ebro, FL

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document allots Channel 236A to Ebro, Florida, in response to a petition filed by Washington County Communications. *See* 65 FR 16160, March 27, 2000. The coordinates for Channel 236A at Ebro are 30-28-15 NL and 85-53-45 WL. With this action, this proceeding is terminated. A filing window for Channel 236A at Ebro will not be opened at this time. Instead, the issue of opening a filing window for this channel will be addressed by the Commission in a subsequent order.

DATES: Effective July 10, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen Scheuerle, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Report and Order, MM Docket No. 00-43, adopted May 17, 2000, and released May 26, 2000. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the Commission's Reference Center, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractors, International Transcription Services, Inc., 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 857-3800, facsimile (202) 857-3805.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Part 73 of title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334 and 336.

§ 73.202 [Amended]

2. Section 73.202(b), the Table of FM Allotments under Florida, is amended by adding Ebro, Channel 236A.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 00-14608 Filed 6-8-00; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[ET Docket No. 00-11; FCC 00-185]

Establishment of an Improved Model for Predicting the Broadcast Television Field Strength Received at Individual Locations

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document prescribes an improved point-to-point predictive model for determining the ability of individual locations to receive an over-the-air television broadcast signal of a specific intensity through the use of a conventional, outdoor rooftop receiving antenna. This document also provides for the model's continued refinement by the use of additional data as they

become available. In the absence of on-site measurements of signal intensity, the model will be used to establish whether individual households are eligible to receive certain satellite home viewing services. The Commission is complying with new statutory requirements set forth in the Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act of 1999.

DATES: Effective June 26, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Eckert (202-418-2433), Office of Engineering and Technology.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's First Report and Order in ET Docket No. 00-11, FCC 00-185, adopted May 22, 2000, and released May 26, 2000. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room CY-A257) 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC, and may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036.

Summary of the First Report and Order

1. In this First Report and Order (Report and Order), the Commission prescribes an improved point-to-point predictive model for determining the ability of individual locations to receive an over-the-air television broadcast signal of a specific intensity through the use of a conventional, outdoor rooftop receiving antenna. The Report and Order also provides for the model's continued refinement by the use of additional data as they become available. Under the provisions of the 1988 Satellite Home Viewer Act (SHVA), a household that cannot receive the over-the-air signal of a local network affiliate is eligible to receive the distant network signal through satellite carriers. In the absence of on-site measurements of signal intensity, the predictive model will provide a reliable and presumptive means for determining whether the over-the-air signal of a network affiliated television station can be received at an individual location.

2. A Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) issued on January 20, 2000, 65 FR 4923 (February 2, 2000) addressed the SHVA statutory requirement for prescribing the Individual Location Longley-Rice model, a version of Longley-Rice 1.2.2. At issue is how the basic Longley-Rice radio propagation prediction model should be refined so that it will accurately take land cover variations into account as required by the SHVA. The Notice proposed a

specific computational procedure based on a certain database of land cover variations published by the United States Geological Survey. According to this procedure, individual locations are to be identified as lying in one of 10 land use and land cover (LULC) categories ranging from open land to urban environments. The computational procedure then finds a clutter loss value (a reduction in available signal intensity) associated with this environmental class for the TV channel of interest, and subtracts that clutter loss from the signal intensity predicted by the Longley-Rice model. The Notice proposed a specific set of clutter loss values based on the results published in a recent engineering journal by Thomas N. Rubinstein.

3. There are three major issues to be resolved in this matter. These are first, whether it would improve the accuracy of the ILLR model to assign clutter loss values as a function of the LULC category of the receiving location, as proposed in the Notice. Second, whether there are specific clutter loss values that would have the desired effect of improving prediction accuracy. Third, the provisions to be made for the introduction of further improvements in prediction accuracy as additional data become available. The Report and Order also addresses certain matters of technical detail raised by the comments having to do with error flags and the surface refractivity parameter of the ILLR model. In a separate but related matter, an independent and neutral entity is designated that will in turn designate who shall conduct the objective test of received signal intensity for verification purposes in case a satellite provider and network station cannot agree on a person to conduct such a test.

4. *Clutter Loss Assignment by LULC Category.* The proposal to assign clutter loss values according to LULC category was supported by the major providers of direct-to-home satellite services, DIRECTV, Inc. (DIRECTV) and EchoStar Satellite Corporation (EchoStar). These organizations stated that the LULC database is a source of credible and verifiable information regarding vegetation, water and other features on the land surface, and that it is widely relied upon by the scientific and technical communities for a variety of applications. Engineering firms generally agreed that this approach has merit, at least until a more up-to-date source of land use and land clutter information with finer resolution, such as Landsat, becomes available. Commenters representing terrestrial broadcasting interests, however, argued