FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-0027, OMB 3060-0029, OMB 3060-0031, OMB 3060-0110, OMB 3060-0213, OMB 3060-0214, OMB 3060-0405, OMB 3060-0920; FRS 16799]

Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collections. Comments are requested concerning: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission’s burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS FROM PUBLICATION IN FEDERAL REGISTER]. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contacts below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Cathy Williams, FCC, via email PRA@fcc.gov and to Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information about the information collection, contact Cathy Williams at (202) 418-2918.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of
information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the PRA of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the FCC invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collections. Comments are requested concerning: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission’s burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

**OMB Control No.:** 3060-0027.

**Title:** Application for Construction Permit for Commercial Broadcast Station, FCC Form 301; Form 2100, Schedule A—Application for Media Bureau Video Service Authorization; 47 Sections 73.3700(b)(1) and (b)(2) and Section 73.3800, Post Auction Licensing; Form 2100, Schedule 301-FM—Commercial FM Station Construction Permit Application.

**Form No.:** FCC Form 2100, Schedule A, FCC Form 301, FCC Form 2100, Schedule 301-FM.

**Type of Review:** Revision of a currently approved information collection.

**Respondents:** Business or other for-profit entities; Not for profit institutions; State, local or Tribal Government.

**Number of Respondents and Responses:** 3,092 respondents and 4,199 responses.

**Estimated Time per Response:** 0.075 hours - 6.25 hours.

**Frequency of Response:** One-time reporting requirement; On occasion reporting requirement; Third party disclosure requirement.
**Obligation To Respond:** Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for this collection is contained in Sections 154(i), 303 and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

**Total Annual Burden:** 12,435 hours.

**Annual Cost Burden:** $62,308,388.

**Privacy Act Impact Assessment:** No impact(s).

**Nature and Extent of Confidentiality:** There is no need for confidentiality with this collection of information.

**Needs and Uses:** On May 12, 2020, the Commission adopted Amendment of Section 73.3580 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Public Notice of the Filing of Applications; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative; Revision of the Public Notice Requirements of Section 73.3580, Second Report and Order, MB Docket Nos. 17-254, 17-105, & 05-6, FCC 20-65 (rel. May 13, 2020). The Commission adopted new, streamlined procedures for stations to provide public notice of the filing of certain applications. Stations, including stations filing for new construction permits or major modifications to facilities, that were previously required to post public notice in a local newspaper, must now post notice online, either on the station website or a website affiliated with the station, its licensee, or its parent entity, or else must post notice on a publicly accessible, locally targeted website, for 30 continuous days following acceptance of the application for filing. Stations that are required to make on-air announcements of the filing of certain applications, must continue to do so, but the announcements are shorter and direct viewers and listeners to the application as filed and displayed in either the station’s Online Public Inspection File or another Commission database. A total of six on-air announcements are required, at least one per week and no more than one per day or two per week, to be broadcast between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday, beginning after the application is accepted for filing.

This submission is being made to OMB for approval of the modified third-party disclosure requirements for this Information Collection, as adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and
Order. The changes pertaining to this Information Collection and to 47 CFR 73.3580 and 47 CFR 73.3594 adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order, do not necessitate changes to the Schedule 301, nor do they affect the substance, burden hours, or costs of completing the forms. The rule changes do, however, reduce burdens and costs associated with filing the application. 47 CFR 73.3571(j)(3) and 73.3573(g)(3) require that applicants must comply with the local public notice provisions of §73.3580(c)(5).

OMB Control Number: 3060-0029.

Title: FCC Form 2100, Schedule 340, Noncommercial Educational Station for Reserved Channel Construction Permit Application

Form Number: FCC Form 2100, Schedule 340.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities, not for profit institutions and State, local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 2,820 respondents; 2,820 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 0.5 hours - 6 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement and Third party disclosure requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for this collection is contained in Sections 154(i), 303 and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Total Annual Burden: 6,603 hours.

Total Annual Cost: $30,039,119.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: No impact(s).

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: There is no need for confidentiality with this collection of information.

Needs and Uses: This submission is being made to the Office of Management (OMB) for the approval of
information collection requirements contained in the Commission’s Reexamination of the Comparative Standards and Procedures for Licensing Noncommercial Educational Broadcast Stations and Low Power FM Stations, Report and Order, FCC 19-127, 34 FCC Rcd 12519 (2019) (NCE LPFM Report and Order), adopted December 10, 2019, and released on December 11, 2019, where the Commission revised its rules and procedures for considering competing applications for new and major modifications to noncommercial educational full-service FM and full-power television (NCE), and low power FM (LPFM) broadcast stations. The changes are designed to improve the comparative selection and licensing procedures, expedite the initiation of new service to the public, eliminate unnecessary applicant burdens, and reduce the number of appeals of NCE comparative licensing decisions.

First, to improve the NCE comparative process, the NCE LPFM Report and Order: (1) eliminates the governing document requirements for established local applicants and applicants claiming diversity points; (2) establishes a uniform divestiture pledge policy; (3) expands the tie-breaker criteria and revises the procedures for allocating time in mandatory time-sharing situations; and (4) clarifies and modifies the “holding period” rule.

Second, the NCE LPFM Report and Order adopts the following changes to the LPFM comparative process: (1) prohibits amendments that attempt to cure past unauthorized station violations; (2) authorizes time-sharing discussions prior to tentative selectee designations; and (3) establishes procedures for remaining tentative selectees following dismissal of point aggregation time-share agreements.

Third, the NCE LPFM Report and Order adopts the following general changes: (1) defines which applicant board changes are major changes; (2) clarifies the reasonable site assurance requirements; (3) streamlines construction deadline tolling procedures and notification requirements; (4) lengthens the
LPFM construction period; and (5) eliminates restrictions on the assignment and transfer of LPFM authorizations.

Specifically, pertaining to this Information Collection and NCE stations, the Commission is revising the relevant rules, 47 CFR 73.7002, 73.7003, and 73.7005, the form, and corresponding instructions, as follows:

(1) Changing all former references to “holding period” to “maintenance of comparative qualifications.” During the four-year “maintenance of comparative qualifications” period, an NCE station receiving a decisive preference for fair distribution of service, in accordance with the provisions of 47 CFR 73.7002, must certify that any technical modification to its authorized facilities satisfies the technical requirements of 47 CFR 73.7005(b).

(2) Adding an “Established Local Applicant Pledge,” requiring an applicant to pledge to maintain localism characteristics during the four-year maintenance of comparative qualifications period, if the applicant certifies that it qualifies for points as an “established local applicant” in the Point System Factors of 47 CFR 73.7003.

(3) Adding a “Diversity Pledge,” requiring an applicant to pledge to comply with all of the restrictions on station modifications and acquisitions (as defined in 47 CFR 73.7005) during the four-year maintenance of comparative qualifications period, if the applicant certifies that it qualifies for “local diversity of ownership” points in the Point System Factors of 47 CFR 73.7003.

(4) Modifying the divestiture sub-question certification, to reflect the new divestiture policies, in the Diversity of Ownership question in the Point System Factors Section.

(5) Adding a new question in the Tie Breakers section of the form, reflecting the new third tie-breaker criterion of 47 CFR 73.7003(c)(3).

(6) Adding a new question in the Tie Breakers Section of the form, requiring the applicant to provide
its initial date of establishment.

(7) Adding a Reasonable Site Assurance Certification in the Technical Certifications Section of the form, requiring the applicant to certify that it has obtained reasonable assurance from the tower owner or authorized representative, that its specified site will be available.

The revisions to the relevant rules, and the changes to the questions in Schedule 340 listed above affect the substance, burden hours, and costs of completing the Schedule 340. Therefore, this submission is being made to OMB for approval of revised Information Collection requirements.

On May 12, 2020, the Commission adopted Amendment of Section 73.3580 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Public Notice of the Filing of Applications; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative; Revision of the Public Notice Requirements of Section 73.3580, Second Report and Order, MB Docket Nos. 17-254, 17-105, & 05-6, FCC 20-65 (rel. May 13, 2020). The Commission adopted new, streamlined procedures for stations to provide public notice of the filing of certain applications. Stations, including stations filing for new construction permits or major modifications to facilities, that were previously required to post public notice in a local newspaper, must now post notice online, either on the station website or a website affiliated with the station, its licensee, or its parent entity, or else must post notice on a publicly accessible, locally targeted website, for 30 continuous days following acceptance of the application for filing. Stations that are required to make on-air announcements of the filing of certain applications, must continue to do so, but the announcements are shorter and direct viewers and listeners to the application as filed and displayed in either the station’s Online Public Inspection File or another Commission database. A total of six on-air announcements are required, at least one per week and no more than one per day or two per week, to be broadcast between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday, beginning after the application is accepted for filing.
This submission is being made to OMB for approval of the modified third-party disclosure requirements for this Information Collection, as adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order. The changes pertaining to this Information Collection and to 47 CFR 73.3580 adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order, do not necessitate changes to the Schedule 340, nor do they affect the substance, burden hours, or costs of completing the forms. The rule changes do, however, reduce burdens and costs associated with filing the application.

Control Number: 3060-0031.

Title: Application for Consent to Assignment of Broadcast Station Construction Permit or License, FCC Form 314; Application for Consent to Transfer Control of Entity Holding Broadcast Station Construction Permit or License, FCC Form 315; Section 73.3580, Local Public Notice of Filing of Broadcast Applications.

Form Number: FCC Forms 314 and 315.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities; Not-for-profit institutions; State, local or Tribal government.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 4,920 respondents and 13,160 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 0.075 to 7 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement; Third party disclosure requirement.

Obligation To Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this collection of information is contained in Sections 154(i), 303(b) and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Total Annual Burden: 17,159 hours.

Total Annual Cost: $51,493,759.

Privacy Impact Assessment(s): No impacts.
**Nature and Extent of Confidentiality:** There is no need for confidentiality and respondents are not being asked to submit confidential information to the Commission.

**Needs and Uses:** This submission is being made to the Office of Management (OMB) for the approval of information collection requirements contained in the Commission’s Reexamination of the Comparative Standards and Procedures for Licensing Noncommercial Educational Broadcast Stations and Low Power FM Stations, Report and Order, FCC 19-127, 34 FCC Rcd 12519 (2019) (NCE LPFM Report and Order), adopted December 10, 2019, and released on December 11, 2019, where the Commission revised its rules and procedures for considering competing applications for new and major modifications to noncommercial educational full-service FM and full-power television (NCE), and low power FM (LPFM) broadcast stations. The changes are designed to improve the comparative selection and licensing procedures, expedite the initiation of new service to the public, eliminate unnecessary applicant burdens, and reduce the number of appeals of NCE comparative licensing decisions.

First, to improve the NCE comparative process, the NCE LPFM Report and Order: (1) eliminates the governing document requirements for established local applicants and applicants claiming diversity points; (2) establishes a uniform divestiture pledge policy; (3) expands the tie-breaker criteria and revises the procedures for allocating time in mandatory time-sharing situations; and (4) clarifies and modifies the “holding period” rule.

Second, the NCE LPFM Report and Order adopts the following changes to the LPFM comparative process: (1) prohibits amendments that attempt to cure past unauthorized station violations; (2) authorizes time-sharing discussions prior to tentative selectee designations; and (3) establishes procedures for remaining tentative selectees following dismissal of point aggregation time-share agreements.

Third, the NCE LPFM Report and Order adopts the following general changes: (1) defines which
applicant board changes are major changes; (2) clarifies the reasonable site assurance requirements; (3) streamlines construction deadline tolling procedures and notification requirements; (4) lengthens the LPFM construction period; and (5) eliminates restrictions on the assignment and transfer of LPFM authorizations.

Specifically, pertaining to this Information Collection and NCE and LPFM stations, the Commission is removing the restrictive LPFM station three-year “holding period” certification from CDBS Forms 314 and 315, and revising the relevant rules, 47 CFR 73.865 and 73.7005, the forms, and corresponding instructions, as follows:

(1) changing all references to “holding period” to “maintenance of comparative qualifications,” and requiring NCE stations awarded by the point system to certify satisfying the four-year “maintenance of comparative qualifications” period;

(2) requiring LPFM applicants to certify that it has been at least 18 months since the station’s initial construction permit was granted in accordance with 47 CFR 73.865(c);

(3) requiring LPFM applicants to certify that the assignment/transfer of the LPFM authorization satisfies the consideration restrictions of 47 CFR 73.865(a)(1);

(4) requiring LPFM authorizations awarded by the LPFM comparative point system, to indicate whether the LPFM station has operated on-air for at least four years since grant;

(5) requiring NCE applicants to certify that the proposed acquisition comports with 47 CFR 73.7005(c) diversity requirements, based on any “diversity of ownership” points awarded in an NCE points system analysis.

Moreover, the NCE LPFM Report and Order will increase the number of applicants eligible to file FCC Forms 314 and 315 by eliminating both the absolute prohibition on the assignment/transfer of LPFM construction permits and the three-year holding period restriction on assigning LPFM licenses.
The elimination of these restrictions will benefit the LPFM service by increasing the likelihood that LPFM permits will be constructed, provide new service to communities, and help make the LPFM stations more viable.

On May 12, 2020, the Commission adopted Amendment of Section 73.3580 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Public Notice of the Filing of Applications; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative; Revision of the Public Notice Requirements of Section 73.3580, Second Report and Order, MB Docket Nos. 17-254, 17-105, & 05-6, FCC 20-65 (rel. May 13, 2020). The Commission adopted new, streamlined procedures for stations to provide public notice of the filing of certain applications. Stations, including commercial stations filing assignment and transfer applications, that were previously required to post public notice in a local newspaper, must now post notice online either on the station website or a website affiliated with the station, its licensee, or its parent entity, or else must post notice on a publicly accessible, locally targeted website, for 30 continuous days following acceptance of the application for filing. Stations, including those filing assignment and transfer applications, that are required to make on-air announcements of the filing of certain applications, must continue to do so, but the announcements are shorter and direct viewers and listeners to the application as filed and displayed in either the station’s Online Public Inspection File or another Commission database. A total of six on-air announcements are required, at least one per week and no more than one per day or two per week, to be broadcast between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday, beginning after the application is accepted for filing.

This submission is being made to OMB for approval of the modified third-party disclosure requirements for this Information Collection, as adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order. The changes pertaining to this Information Collection and to 47 CFR 73.3580 adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order, do not necessitate changes to the Forms 314 or 315, nor do
they affect the substance, burden hours, or costs of completing the forms. The rule changes do, however, reduce burdens and costs associated with filing the application.

**OMB Control Number:** 3060-0110.

**Title:** FCC Form 2100, Application for Renewal of Broadcast Station License, LMS Schedule 303-S.

**Form Number:** FCC 2100, LMS Schedule 303-S.

**Type of Review:** Revision of a currently approved collection.

**Respondents:** Business or other for-profit entities; Not for profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal Governments.

**Number of Respondent and Responses:** 5,126 respondents, 5,126 responses.

**Obligation to Respond:** Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for this collection of information is contained in Sections 154(i), 303, 307 and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 204 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

**Estimated Time per Response:** 0.5 hours -12 hours.

**Frequency of Response:** Every eight-year reporting requirement; Third party disclosure requirement.

**Total Annual Burden:** 14,868 hours.

**Total Annual Costs:** $3,994,164.

**Obligation of Response:** Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for the collection is contained Sections 154(i), 303, 307 and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 204 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

**Nature and Extent of Confidentiality:** There is no need for confidentiality with this information collection.

**Privacy Act Impact Assessment:** No impact(s).

**Needs and Uses:** On May 12, 2020, the Commission adopted Amendment of Section 73.3580 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Public Notice of the Filing of Applications; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative; Revision of the Public Notice Requirements of Section 73.3580, Second Report and
Order, MB Docket Nos. 17-254, 17-105, & 05-6, FCC 20-65 (rel. May 13, 2020). The Commission adopted new, streamlined procedures for stations to provide public notice of the filing of certain applications. Some stations that were previously required to post public notice in a local newspaper, must now post notice online, either on the station website or a website affiliated with the station, its licensee, or its parent entity, or else must post notice on a publicly accessible, locally targeted website, for 30 continuous days following acceptance of the application for filing. Stations that are required to make on-air announcements of the filing of certain applications, including applications for the renewal of broadcast licenses, must continue to do so, but the announcements are shorter and direct viewers and listeners to the application as filed and displayed in either the station’s Online Public Inspection File or another Commission database. A total of six on-air announcements are required, at least one per week and no more than one per day or two per week, to be broadcast between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday, beginning after the application is accepted for filing. The Commission also clarified low-power FM (LPFM) stations’ obligations to provide local public notice, and amended section 73.801 of the rules (47 CFR 73.801, listing FCC rules that apply to the LPFM service) to include the local public notice rule, 47 CFR 73.3580.

This submission is being made to OMB for approval of the modified third-party disclosure requirements for this Information Collection, as adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order. The changes pertaining to this Information Collection and to 47 CFR 73.3580 adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order, do not necessitate changes to Schedule 303-S, nor do they affect the substance, burden hours, or costs of completing the forms. The rule changes do, however, reduce burdens and costs associated with filing the application.

OMB Control Number: 3060-0213.

Title: Section 73.3525, Agreements for Removing Application Conflicts.
Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities; Not for profit institutions.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 38 respondents; 38 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 1 hour.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement; Third party disclosure requirement.

Total Annual Burden: 38 hours.

Total Annual Cost: $91,200.

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: There is no need for confidentiality with this collection of information.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for this collection of information is contained in Sections 154(i) and 311 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Privacy Impact Assessment: No impact(s).

Needs and Uses: The Commission is submitting this revision to the Office of Management and Budget for approval to remove the information collection requirements, annual burden hours and annual cost contained in this collection for 47 CFR 73.3535(b). The Commission removed this rule section when it adopted the Amendment of Section 73.3580 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Public Notice of the Filing of Applications, MB Docket No. 17-264, FCC 20-65 on May 12, 2020.

The following information collection requirements remain in this collection:

47 CFR Section 73.3525 states (a) except as provided in § 73.3523 regarding dismissal of applications in comparative renewal proceedings, whenever applicants for a construction permit for a broadcast station enter into an agreement to procure the removal of a conflict between applications pending before the FCC by withdrawal or amendment of an application or by its dismissal pursuant to §73.3568, all parties thereto shall, within 5 days after entering into the agreement, file with the FCC a joint request for approval of
such agreement. The joint request shall be accompanied by a copy of the agreement, including any ancillary agreements, and an affidavit of each party to the agreement setting forth:

(1) The reasons why it is considered that such agreement is in the public interest;

(2) A statement that its application was not filed for the purpose of reaching or carrying out such agreement;

(3) A certification that neither the applicant nor its principals has received any money or other consideration in excess of the legitimate and prudent expenses of the applicant; Provided That this provision shall not apply to bona fide merger agreements;

(4) The exact nature and amount of any consideration paid or promised;

(5) An itemized accounting of the expenses for which it seeks reimbursement; and

(6) The terms of any oral agreement relating to the dismissal or withdrawal of its application.

OMB Control Number: 3060-0214.

Title: Sections 73.3526 and 73.3527, Local Public Inspection Files; Sections 73.1212, 76.1701 and 73.1943, Political Files.

Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for profit entities; Not for profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal government; Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 23,984 respondents; 62,839 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 1-52 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement, Recordkeeping requirement, Third party disclosure requirement.
Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for these collections is contained in Sections 151, 152, 154(i), 303, 307 and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Total Annual Burden: 2,043,805 hours.

Total Annual Cost: None.

Privacy Impact Assessment: The Commission prepared a system of records notice (SORN), FCC/MB-2, “Broadcast Station Public Inspection Files,” that covers the PII contained in the broadcast station public inspection files located on the Commission's website. The Commission will revise appropriate privacy requirements as necessary to include any entities and information added to the online public file in this proceeding.

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: Most of the documents comprising the public file consist of materials that are not of a confidential nature. Respondents complying with the information collection requirements may request that the information they submit be withheld from disclosure. If confidentiality is requested, such requests will be processed in accordance with the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 0.459. In addition, the Commission has adopted provisions that permit respondents subject to the information collection requirement for Shared Service Agreements to redact confidential or proprietary information from their disclosures.

Needs and Uses: On May 12, 2020, the Commission adopted Amendment of Section 73.3580 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Public Notice of the Filing of Applications; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative; Revision of the Public Notice Requirements of Section 73.3580, Second Report and Order, MB Docket Nos. 17-254, 17-105, & 05-6, FCC 20-65 (rel. May 13, 2020). The Commission adopted new, streamlined procedures for stations to provide public notice of the filing of certain applications. Stations, including stations filing for new construction permits or major modifications to facilities, that were previously required to post public notice in a local newspaper, must now post notice online, either on the station website or a website affiliated with the station, its licensee, or its parent entity, or else must post notice on a publicly accessible, locally targeted website, for 30 continuous days
following acceptance of the application for filing. Stations that are required to make on-air announcements of the filing of certain applications, must continue to do so, but the announcements are shorter and direct viewers and listeners to the application as filed and displayed in either the station’s Online Public Inspection File or another Commission database. A total of six on-air announcements are required, at least one per week and no more than one per day or two per week, to be broadcast between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday, beginning after the application is accepted for filing.

This submission is being made to OMB for approval of the modified third-party disclosure requirements for this Information Collection, as adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order. The modified information collection requirements, revising rules 47 CFR 73.3526(e)(13) and 47 CFR 73.3527(e)(10) covering local public notice announcements, are as follows:

47 CFR 73.3526(e)(13) - Local public notice announcements. Each applicant for renewal of license shall, within 7 days of the last day of broadcast of the local public notice of filing announcements required pursuant to §73.3580(c)(3), place in the station's online public inspection file a statement certifying compliance with this requirement. The dates and times that the on-air announcements were broadcast shall be made part of the certifying statement. The certifying statement shall be retained in the public file for the period specified in §73.3580(e)(2) (for as long as the application to which it refers).

47 CFR 73.3527(e)(10) - Local public notice announcements. Each applicant for renewal of license shall, within 7 days of the last day of broadcast of the local public notice of filing announcements required pursuant to §73.3580(c)(3), place in the station's online public inspection file a statement certifying compliance with this requirement. The dates and times that the on-air announcements were broadcast shall be made part of the certifying statement. The certifying statement shall be retained in the public file for the period specified in § 73.3580(e)(2) (for as long as the application to which it refers).
OMB Control Number: 3060-0405.

Title: Form 2100, Schedule 349—FM Translator or FM Booster Station Construction Permit Application.

Form Number: FCC Form 2100, Schedule 349.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities; State, Local or Tribal Government; Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 1,250 respondents; 3,750 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 0.5 hours - 1.5 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement; Third party disclosure requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for this information collection is contained in Sections 154(i), 303 and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Total Annual Burden: 4,050 hours.

Total Annual Cost: $4,447,539.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: No impact(s).

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: There is no need for confidentiality with this information collection.

Needs and Uses: On May 12, 2020, the Commission adopted Amendment of Section 73.3580 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Public Notice of the Filing of Applications; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative; Revision of the Public Notice Requirements of Section 73.3580, Second Report and Order, MB Docket Nos. 17-254, 17-105, & 05-6, FCC 20-65 (rel. May 13, 2020). The Commission adopted new, streamlined procedures for stations to provide public notice of the filing of certain applications. Stations, including stations filing for new construction permits or major modifications to facilities, that were previously required to post public notice in a local newspaper, must now post notice online, either on the station website or a website affiliated with the station, its licensee, or its parent entity,
or else must post notice on a publicly accessible, locally targeted website, for 30 continuous days following acceptance of the application for filing.

This submission is being made to OMB for approval of the modified third-party disclosure requirements for this Information Collection, as adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order. The changes pertaining to this Information Collection and to 47 CFR 73.3580 adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order, do not necessitate changes to the Schedule 349, nor do they affect the substance, burden hours, or costs of completing the forms. The rule changes do, however, reduce burdens and costs associated with filing the application.


LPFM stations provide a secondary, noncommercial radio service with a community focus. The Commission originally designed LPFM engineering requirements to be simple so that non-profit organizations with limited engineering expertise and small budgets could readily apply for, construct, and operate community-oriented stations serving highly localized areas. LPFM organizations suggested that the service has matured and requires additional engineering options to improve reception. Thus, the 2020 Technical Report and Order adopted the following rules:

Allow expanded LPFM use of directional antennas. All LPFM stations may use directional facilities, with either off-the-shelf or composite antennas, upon a satisfactory engineering showing. Such antennas
could improve service near international borders by allowing LPFM stations to serve more listeners in the United States while continuing to protect Mexican and Canadian stations.

Redefine “Minor Changes” for LPFM stations. An LPFM station may apply for approval to relocate its transmitter site without awaiting a filing window if the change is “minor,” redefined in the 2020 Technical Report and Order as a move of 11.2 kilometers or less. The 2020 Technical Report and Order also allowed proposals of greater distances to qualify as minor if the existing and proposed service contours overlap.

Permit LPFM Use of FM Booster Stations. FM booster stations amplify and retransmit a station’s signal. The 2020 Technical Report and Order amended rules that had prohibited LPFM stations from operating booster stations, allowing LPFM stations to operate an FM booster in lieu of an FM translator when a booster would better address unique terrain challenges.

Allow Shared Emergency Alert System (EAS) Equipment. Co-owned, co-located radio stations can share EAS equipment, but this option was not available to LPFM stations because they cannot be co-owned. The 2020 Technical Report and Order permitted co-located LPFM stations (particularly those in time-share arrangements) to share an EAS decoder pursuant to an agreement for common access as well as common responsibility for any EAS rule violations, thus potentially reducing costs.

Facilitate Waivers of Requirement to Protect Television Stations Operating on Channel 6. Stations on the part of the FM band reserved for NCE use must currently protect adjacent television stations on Channel 6 (TV6). The 2020 Technical Report and Order deferred to a future proceeding consideration of a proposal to eliminate the protection of digital television stations operating on TV6. The 2020 Technical Report and Order stated that until such a proceeding is resolved, the Commission will accept FM proposals that are short-spaced to TV6 if the FM applicant demonstrates no interference. Alternatively,
the 2020 Technical Report and Order added language to the rules allowing reserved band radio stations to provide an agreement indicating the concurrence of all potentially affected digital TV6 stations.

Miscellaneous Changes. The 2020 Technical Report and Order added language to 47 CFR 73.850 requiring LPFM stations to notify the Commission if they are silent for ten days and to seek authority for silent periods over 30 days, as required for all other broadcasters, thus codifying a longstanding policy that the Bureau already applies to the LPFM service that allows it to identify and assist LPFM stations at risk of losing their licenses automatically under section 312(g) of the Communications Act.

Specifically, pertaining to this Information Collection and FM Booster (and LPFM) stations, the Commission is revising the form, the corresponding instructions, and the information collection as follows:

(1) Permitting LPFM licensees to own and operate FM Booster stations.

The 2020 Technical Report and Order will increase the number of applicants eligible to file LMS Schedule 349 by eliminating the absolute prohibition on the cross-ownership of FM Booster stations by LPFM licenses. The overall number of respondents may increase because these rule changes expand the universe of applicants eligible to apply for an FM Booster station construction permit. Therefore, this submission is being made to OMB for approval of revised Information Collection requirements.

**OMB Control Number:** 3060-0920.

**Title:** Form 2100, Schedule 318 – Low Power FM Station Construction Permit Application; Report and Order in MM Docket No. 99-25 Creation of Low Power Radio Service; Sections 73.801, 73.807, 73.809, 73.810, 73.816, 73.827, 73.850, 73.865, 73.870, 73.871, 73.872, 73.877, 73.878, 73.318, 73.1030,
Form No.: Form 2100, Schedule 318.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; State, local or Tribal governments.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 24,606 respondents with multiple responses; 31,324 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: .0025-12 hours.

Frequency of Response: Recordkeeping requirement; On occasion reporting requirement; Monthly reporting requirement; Third party disclosure requirement.

Obligation To Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for this collection of information is contained in sections 154(i), 303, 308 and 325(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Total Annual Burden: 52,889 hours.

Total Annual Costs: $1,229,370.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: This information collection does not affect individuals or households; thus, there are no impacts under the Privacy Act.

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: There is no need for confidentiality with this information collection.

Needs and Uses: This submission is being made to the Office of Management (OMB) for the approval of information collection requirements contained in the Commission’s Reexamination of the Comparative Standards and Procedures for Licensing Noncommercial Educational Broadcast Stations and Low Power FM Stations, Report and Order, FCC 19-127, 34 FCC Rcd 12519 (2019) (NCE LPFM Report and Order), adopted December 10, 2019, and released on December 11, 2019, where the Commission revised its rules and procedures for considering competing applications for new and major modifications to noncommercial educational full-service FM and full-power television (NCE), and low power FM (LPFM)
broadcast stations. The changes are designed to improve the comparative selection and licensing procedures, expedite the initiation of new service to the public, eliminate unnecessary applicant burdens, and reduce the number of appeals of NCE comparative licensing decisions.

First, to improve the NCE comparative process, the NCE LPFM Report and Order: (1) eliminates the governing document requirements for established local applicants and applicants claiming diversity points; (2) establishes a uniform divestiture pledge policy; (3) expands the tie-breaker criteria and revises the procedures for allocating time in mandatory time-sharing situations; and (4) clarifies and modifies the “holding period” rule.

Second, the NCE LPFM Report and Order adopts the following changes to the LPFM comparative process: (1) prohibits amendments that attempt to cure past unauthorized station violations; (2) authorizes time-sharing discussions prior to tentative selectee designations; and (3) establishes procedures for remaining tentative selectees following dismissal of point aggregation time-share agreements.

Third, the NCE LPFM Report and Order adopts the following general changes: (1) defines which applicant board changes are major changes; (2) clarifies the reasonable site assurance requirements; (3) streamlines construction deadline tolling procedures and notification requirements; (4) lengthens the LPFM construction period; and (5) eliminates restrictions on the assignment and transfer of LPFM authorizations.

Specifically, pertaining to this Information Collection and LPFM stations, the Commission is revising the relevant rules, 47 CFR Section 73.872, the form, and corresponding instructions, as follows:

1. Adding a Reasonable Site Assurance Certification in the Technical Certifications Section of the
form, requiring the applicant to certify that it has obtained reasonable assurance from the tower owner or authorized representative, that its specified site will be available.

The revisions to the relevant rules, and the changes to the questions in Schedule 318 listed above affect the substance, burden hours, and costs of completing the Schedule 318. Therefore, this submission is being made to OMB for approval of revised Information Collection requirements.

On May 12, 2020, the Commission adopted Amendment of Section 73.3580 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Public Notice of the Filing of Applications; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative; Revision of the Public Notice Requirements of Section 73.3580, Second Report and Order, MB Docket Nos. 17-254, 17-105, & 05-6, FCC 20-65 (rel. May 13, 2020). The Commission adopted new, streamlined procedures for stations to provide public notice of the filing of certain applications. Stations, including stations filing for new construction permits or major modifications to facilities, that were previously required to post public notice in a local newspaper, must now post notice online, either on the station website or a website affiliated with the station, its licensee, or its parent entity, or else must post notice on a publicly accessible, locally targeted website, for 30 continuous days following acceptance of the application for filing. Stations that are required to make on-air announcements of the filing of certain applications, must continue to do so, but the announcements are shorter and direct viewers and listeners to the application as filed and displayed in either the station’s Online Public Inspection File or another Commission database. A total of six on-air announcements are required, at least one per week and no more than one per day or two per week, to be broadcast between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday, beginning after the application is accepted for filing. The Commission also clarified LPFM stations’ obligations to provide local public notice, and amended section 73.801 of the rules (47 CFR 73.801, listing FCC rules that apply to the LPFM service) to include the local public notice rule, 47 CFR 73.3580.
This submission is being made to OMB for approval of the modified third-party disclosure requirements for this Information Collection, as adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order. The changes pertaining to this Information Collection and to 47 CFR 73.3580 adopted in the 2020 Public Notice Second Report and Order, do not necessitate changes to the Schedule 318, nor do they affect the substance, burden hours, or costs of completing the forms. The rule changes do, however, reduce burdens and costs associated with filing the application.


LPFM stations provide a secondary, noncommercial radio service with a community focus. The Commission originally designed LPFM engineering requirements to be simple so that non-profit organizations with limited engineering expertise and small budgets could readily apply for, construct, and operate community-oriented stations serving highly localized areas. LPFM organizations suggested that the service has matured and requires additional engineering options to improve reception. Thus, the 2020 Technical Report and Order adopted the following rules:

Allow expanded LPFM use of directional antennas. All LPFM stations may use directional facilities, with either off-the-shelf or composite antennas, upon a satisfactory engineering showing. Such antennas could improve service near international borders by allowing LPFM stations to serve more listeners in the United States while continuing to protect Mexican and Canadian stations.
Redefine “Minor Changes” for LPFM stations. An LPFM station may apply for approval to relocate its transmitter site without awaiting a filing window if the change is “minor,” redefined in the 2020 Technical Report and Order as a move of 11.2 kilometers or less. The 2020 Technical Report and Order also allowed proposals of greater distances to qualify as minor if the existing and proposed service contours overlap.

Permit LPFM Use of FM Booster Stations. FM booster stations amplify and retransmit a station’s signal. The 2020 Technical Report and Order amended rules that had prohibited LPFM stations from operating booster stations, allowing LPFM stations to operate an FM booster in lieu of an FM translator when a booster would better address unique terrain challenges.

Allow Shared Emergency Alert System (EAS) Equipment. Co-owned, co-located radio stations can share EAS equipment, but this option was not available to LPFM stations because they cannot be co-owned. The 2020 Technical Report and Order permitted co-located LPFM stations (particularly those in time-share arrangements) to share an EAS decoder pursuant to an agreement for common access as well as common responsibility for any EAS rule violations, thus potentially reducing costs.

Facilitate Waivers of Requirement to Protect Television Stations Operating on Channel 6. Stations on the part of the FM band reserved for NCE use must currently protect adjacent television stations on Channel 6 (TV6). The 2020 Technical Report and Order deferred to a future proceeding consideration of a proposal to eliminate the protection of digital television stations operating on TV6. The 2020 Technical Report and Order stated that until such a proceeding is resolved, the Commission will accept FM proposals that are short-spaced to TV6 if the FM applicant demonstrates no interference. Alternatively, the 2020 Technical Report and Order added language to the rules allowing reserved band radio stations to provide an agreement indicating the concurrence of all potentially affected digital TV6 stations.
Miscellaneous Changes. The 2020 Technical Report and Order added language to 47 CFR 73.850 requiring LPFM stations to notify the Commission if they are silent for ten days and to seek authority for silent periods over 30 days, as required for all other broadcasters, thus codifying a longstanding policy that the Bureau already applies to the LPFM service that allows it to identify and assist LPFM stations at risk of losing their licenses automatically under section 312(g) of the Communications Act. The 2020 Technical Report and Order also made several non-substantive changes to remove duplicative and out-of-date information.

Specifically, pertaining to this Information Collection and LPFM stations, the Commission is revising the relevant rules, 47 CFR 73.816, 73.850, and 73.870, the form, and corresponding instructions, as follows:

(1) Adding an Antenna Type question in the Technical Certifications Section of the form, requiring the applicant to describe the proposed antenna type (directional or non-directional). Applicants proposing a directional antenna (as now permitted by section 73.816) must complete a data table, providing relative field values for every 10 degrees on the unit circle.

(2) Modifying section 73.850 to clarify that LPFM stations must, like other broadcast stations, notify the Commission if they temporarily stop broadcasting. The rules require radio stations to notify the Commission within 10 days of temporarily discontinuing operations and to obtain Commission authorization if the discontinued operations last beyond 30 days.

(3) Redefining the types of LPFM facility changes that qualify as “minor” (in section 73.870), to provide additional flexibility for LPFM stations to relocate their facilities.
The revisions to the relevant rules, and the changes to the questions in Schedule 318 listed above affect the substance, burden hours, and costs of completing the Schedule 318. Therefore, this submission is being made to OMB for approval of revised Information Collection requirements.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,
Secretary.
[FR Doc. 2020-12091 Filed: 6/3/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 6/4/2020]