

section may be waived by a Coast Guard Notice to Mariners.

4. Section 100.108 is amended by revising paragraph (c) as follows:

§ 100.108 Great Kennebec River Whatever Race.

* * * * *

(c) *Effective period.* This section is in effect from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. annually on the first Sunday in July. However, the requirements of this section may be waived by a Coast Guard Notice to Mariners.

5. Section 100.109 is amended by revising paragraph (c) as follows:

§ 100.109 Whatever Festival Hydroplanes, Augusta, ME.

* * * * *

(c) *Effective period.* This section is in effect annually on the fourth weekend in June. However, the requirements of this section may be waived by a Coast Guard Notice to Mariners.

6. Section 100.111 is amended by revising paragraph (c) as follows:

§ 100.111 Stonington Lobster Boat Races, Stonington, ME.

* * * * *

(c) *Effective period.* This section is in effect from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. annually on the third or fourth Saturday in July. However, the requirements of this section may be waived by a Coast Guard Notice to Mariners.

7. Section 100.505 is amended by revising paragraph (b) as follows:

§ 100.505 New Jersey Offshore Grand Prix.

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(b) *Effective period.* This section is in effect from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. annually on the third Wednesday in July. However, the requirements of this section may be waived by a Coast Guard Notice to Mariners.

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Dated: March 4, 1996.

J.L. Linnon,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, First Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 96-6548 Filed 3-21-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[RI-18-01-7262b; A-1-FRL-5427-9]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island; Emissions Caps

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submitted by the State of Rhode Island. This revision approves Air Pollution Control Regulation (APC) 29.3, entitled "Emissions Caps" into the Rhode Island SIP. EPA is also proposing to extend the federal enforceability of this regulation to hazardous air pollutants. In the Final Rules Section of this Federal Register, EPA is approving the State's SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to that direct final rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this proposed rule. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this proposal. Any parties interested in commenting on this proposal should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 22, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Dave Fierra, Director, Office of Ecosystem Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, JFK Federal Bldg., Boston, MA 02203-2211. Copies of the State submittal and EPA's technical support document are available for public inspection during normal business hours, by appointment at the Office of Ecosystem Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, One Congress Street, 11th floor, Boston, MA and the Division of Air and Hazardous Materials Department of Environmental Management, 291 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ida Gagnon (617) 565-3500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information, see the direct final rule which is located in the Rules Section of this Federal Register.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: January 30, 1996.

John P. DeVillars,

Regional Administrator, Region I.

[FR Doc. 96-6602 Filed 3-21-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

40 CFR Part 52

[WI64-01-7169b; FRL-5437-4]

Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plan; Wisconsin; Rate-of-Progress and Contingency Plans

AGENCY: United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The USEPA is proposing to approve a revision to the Wisconsin State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the purpose of satisfying the rate-of-progress and contingency plan requirements of the Clean Air Act which will aid in ensuring the attainment of the national ambient air quality for ozone.

DATES: Comments on this proposed action must be received by April 22, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to: Carlton T. Nash, Chief, Regulation Development Section, Air Programs Branch (AR-18J), Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information, see the Direct Final rule which is located in the Rules section of this Federal Register. Copies of the request and the USEPA's analysis are available for inspection at the following address: (Please telephone Brad Beeson at (312) 353-4779 before visiting the Region 5 office.) USEPA, Region 5, Air and Radiation Division, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: January 26, 1996.

Valdas V. Adamkus,

Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-6780 Filed 3-21-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Parts 74, 78, and 101

[ET Docket No. 96-35; FCC 96-80]

Flexible Standards for Directional Microwave Antennas

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: By this Notice of Proposed Rule Making ("NPRM"), the Commission proposes to amend its fixed service microwave rules to make them compatible with new, emerging technologies for directional antennas.

Adoption of this proposal would remove a regulatory impediment to the use of directional antennas employing new, emerging technologies by Commission licensees.

DATES: Comments are due on or before April 26, 1996. Reply comments are due on or before May 13, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, NW., Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael J. Marcus, Office of Engineering and Technology, (202) 418-2418.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's NPRM in ET Docket No. 96-35, adopted February 29, 1996, and released March 14, 1996. The complete NPRM is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC, and also may be purchased from the Commission's duplication contractor, International Transcription Service, (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, NW., Suite 140, Washington DC 20037.

Summary of NPRM

1. For those frequency bands listed in 47 CFR Sections 74.536, 74.641, 78.105, and 101.115 that have only a minimum antenna gain requirement, the Commission proposes to allow directional antennas to comply with requirements for either minimum antenna gain or maximum beamwidth. The Commission does not propose to change any of the existing requirements with respect to sidelobe suppression because it believes that these requirements, which are designed to reduce potential interference, can readily be met by both conventional and new antenna technologies. The Commission proposes to convert the present antenna gain requirements to the comparable requirements for antenna beamwidths based on two assumptions: (1) A parabolic ("dish") antenna with an efficiency of 55% is used as a reference; and (2) the illumination function taper value is 70. Table I depicts the existing gain requirements and the new corresponding beamwidth requirements for bands that do not have an existing maximum beamwidth option:

TABLE I.—ANTENNA GAIN AND EQUIVALENT BEAM

Gain (dBi)	Equivalent beamwidth (degrees)
34	3.5
36	2.7
38	2.2

This technical equivalency is independent of the frequency bands.

2. The Commission notes that these new types of antennas may differ somewhat from conventional antennas in the exact shape of the mainlobe. Thus, even with sidelobe suppression required by the present rules, the beam shape for a planar array antenna may be different than for a dish antenna. While the Commission does not believe that these differences would have a significant impact on spectrum efficiency, it seeks comment on whether such differences might have an impact on coordination. The Commission proposes to address this problem by requiring the coordination process to treat all antennas as if they had the mainlobe shape and total gain of a conventional parabolic dish antenna. However, the Commission invites comments on this approach, and encourages alternative proposals.

List of Subjects

47 CFR Part 74

Radio broadcasting, Television broadcasting.

47 CFR Part 78

Cable television, Communications equipment, Radio.

47 CFR Part 101

Communications common carriers, Communications equipment, Radio.

Federal Communications Commission.

William F. Caton,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-6938 Filed 3-21-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

49 CFR Parts 1000 through 1149

[STB Ex Parte No. 527]

Expedited Procedures for Processing Rail Rate Reasonableness, Exemption and Revocation Proceedings

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Advance notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: Under new 49 U.S.C. 10704(d), enacted as part of section 102(a) of the ICC Termination Act of 1995 (ICCTA), the Surface Transportation Board (Board) is required to establish procedures to expedite the handling of challenges to the reasonableness of railroad rates and of proceedings involving the granting or revocation of railroad exemptions. Such procedures are to be promulgated by October 1, 1996. The Board solicits comments on how the existing regulations at 49 CFR Parts 1000 through 1149 can be modified to expedite the handling of rate reasonableness and exemption/revocation proceedings.

DATES: Comments are due on May 6, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Send comments (an original and 10 copies) referring to STB Ex Parte No. 527 to: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. Parties are encouraged to submit all pleadings and attachments on a 3.5-inch diskette in WordPerfect 5.1 format.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas J. Stilling, (202) 927-7312. [TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: New 49 U.S.C. 10704(d), which was enacted as part of section 102(a) of the ICC Termination Act of 1995 (ICCTA), Pub. L. No. 104-88, 109 Stat. 803, provides that:

Within 9 months after the effective date of the ICC Termination Act of 1995, the Board shall establish procedures to ensure expeditious handling of challenges to the reasonableness of railroad rates. The procedures shall include appropriate measures for avoiding delay in the discovery and evidentiary phases of such proceedings and exemption and revocation proceedings, including appropriate sanctions for such delay, and for ensuring prompt disposition of motions and interlocutory administrative appeals.