

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

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

[FR Doc. 97-4293 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 97-67; RM-8996]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Freeport, IL

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission requests comments on a petition filed by Highland Broadcasting Company proposing the allotment of Channel 295A at Freeport, Illinois, as the community's third local FM transmission service. Channel 295A can be allotted to Freeport in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements with a site restriction of 5.4 kilometers (3.4 miles) north to avoid short-spacings to the licensed sites of Station WSWT(FM), Channel 295B, Peoria, Illinois, and Station WSJY(FM), Channel 297B, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. The coordinates for Channel 295A at Freeport are North Latitude 42-19-28 and West Longitude 89-35-13.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before April 7, 1997, and reply comments on or before April 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: Henry E. Crawford, Esq., 1150 Connecticut Ave., NW., Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036 (Counsel for Petitioner).

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 97-67, adopted February 7, 1997, and released February 14, 1997. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW., Washington, DC. The

complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, NW., Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contacts.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

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

[FR Doc. 97-4292 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

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47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 97-60, RM-8982]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Waynesboro and Collinwood, TN

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission requests comments on a petition by Ohio Broadcast Associates requesting the reallocation of Channel 235C3 from Waynesboro to Collinwood, Tennessee, as the community's first local aural broadcast service, and the modification of Station WFRQ(FM)'s license to specify Collinwood as its community of license. Channel 235C3 can be allotted to Collinwood in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements at the site specified in Station WFRQ(FM)'s license, at coordinates 35-08-16 and 87-49-43.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before April 7, 1997, and reply comments on or before April 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: Audrey Malkan, Owner,

Ohio Broadcast Associates, 404 Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals, Alabama 35662 (petitioner).

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 97-60, adopted February 7, 1997, and released February 14, 1997. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC's Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, ITS, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, NW, Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contacts.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

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

[FR Doc. 97-4291 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

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47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 97-61, RM-9010]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Superior, MT

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This document requests comments on a petition filed by Mountain Tower Broadcasting proposing the allotment of Channel 298A to Superior, Montana, as that community's first local broadcast service. The coordinates for Channel 298A are 47-11-30 and 114-53-18. Canadian concurrence will be requested for the allotment of Channel 298A at Superior.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before April 7, 1997, and reply comments on or before April 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC. 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, as follows: Victor A. Michael Jr., President, Mountain Tower Broadcasting, c/o Magic City Media, 1912 Capitol Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 97-61, adopted February 7, 1997, and released February 14, 1997. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the Commission's Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW., Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractors, International Transcription Services, Inc., 2100 M Street, NW., Suite 140, Washington, DC. 20037, (202) 857-3800.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contact.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

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

[FR Doc. 97-4290 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

49 CFR Parts 192 and 195

[Docket No. PS-94; Notice 6]

RIN 2137-AB38

Qualification of Pipeline Personnel

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This document announces the first meeting of an advisory committee to conduct a negotiated rulemaking to develop a proposed rule on qualifications of pipeline employees performing certain safety-related functions on pipelines subject to the pipeline safety regulations. The advisory committee is composed of persons who represent the interests that would be affected by the rule, such as gas pipeline operators, hazardous liquid and carbon dioxide pipeline operators, representatives of state and federal governments, and other interested parties.

DATES: The advisory committee's first meeting will be held from 8:30 am to 5 pm on April 23-24, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The advisory committee meeting will be held in Room 3200-3204 at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, 400 7th Street SW, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eben M. Wyman, (202) 366-0918, regarding the subject matter of this Notice; or the Dockets Unit, (202) 366-4453, for copies of this document or other material in the docket.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Congressional Mandates

Under sections 106 and 205 of the Pipeline Safety Act of 1992 (Pub. L. No. 102-508; October 24, 1992), 49 U.S.C. 60102, Congress mandated DOT to require that "all individuals responsible for the operation and maintenance of pipeline facilities be tested for qualifications and certified to perform such functions." Section 4 of the Accountable Pipeline Safety and Partnership Act of 1996 (Pub. L. No. 104-304; October 12, 1996), amended that mandate to require that "all individuals who operate and maintain pipeline facilities shall be qualified to operate and maintain the pipeline facilities." The new mandate retains the requirement that "qualifications applicable to an individual who operates and maintains a pipeline

facility shall address the ability to recognize and react appropriately to abnormal operating conditions that may indicate a dangerous situation or a condition exceeding design limits. The operator of a pipeline facility shall ensure that employees who operate and maintain the facility are qualified to operate and maintain the pipeline facilities."

Notice of Intent To Form a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee

On July 2, 1996, RSPA issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) (61 FR 34410) to inform the public of RSPA's intent to form a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee to develop a proposed rule on the qualification of pipeline personnel who are engaged in pipeline operations, maintenance, and emergency-response functions. Concurrently with the issuance of the NOI, RSPA issued a Notice (61 FR 34413) withdrawing a previous Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in Docket No. PS-94 titled "Qualification of Pipeline Personnel" (59 FR 39506). The NOI listed interests that could be affected by a qualification rule and tentatively identified various organizations that could represent those interests. The NOI also invited comments on the issues to be negotiated, and invited interested parties to apply for appointment to the committee if they could demonstrate that their interests could not be adequately represented by the proposed committee members.

RSPA received over 20 comments to the NOI, all of which supported the negotiated rulemaking initiative. A few comments focused on the "Key Issues for Negotiation" in the NOI. These commenters requested a more general approach to the pipeline qualification issue, and urged RSPA to avoid involvement with specific pipeline-related functions. Further, a gas trade association said that it would be premature to discuss the "key issues," and suggested a number of basic "guiding principals" for discussions during the negotiation.

RSPA did not intend to limit the Committee's discussion to the "key issues" described in the NOI. RSPA is willing to address the comments to the NOI directly, or allow the representatives of these organizations to bring their concerns to the negotiating table. The meeting's agenda and processes will be left to the Committee's discretion, with the help of the facilitator. These procedural issues will be resolved at this initial meeting.