



PUBLIC NOTICE

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MASS MEDIA BUREAU RELEASES LOW POWER FM RADIO SPECTRUM AVAILABILITY COMPUTER PROGRAM

In response to requests for additional information, the Mass Media Bureau is making available the spectrum availability analysis program described in Appendix D to *Notice of Proposed Rule Making, Creation of a Low Power Radio Service*, MM Docket No. 99-25, FCC 99-6 (released February 3, 1999) (*NPRM*). The Commission used this program to investigate the extent to which 1000-watt (LP1000) and 100-watt (LP100) low power FM stations could be located in sixty communities of various sizes throughout the United States. For each of a uniform array of grid points, the program found FM frequencies for which LP1000 or LP100 stations could be located in conformance with the proposed minimum distance separation requirements toward existing FM stations.

Interested parties may use the program to explore the potential availability of frequencies for low power stations at locations throughout the United States. This version of the program identifies available frequencies at each grid point (by latitude and longitude) but does not take into account the preclusion of a frequency at one point due to the location of another low power FM station at a nearby grid point on the same or adjacent channel. The program may also identify as "available" grid points that, in fact, are unavailable for other reasons, *e.g.*, current site use, zoning or aeronautical restrictions, or other environmental considerations.

This version of the LPFM program has been modified from the FCC's version to conform to Microsoft FORTRAN PowerStation 1.0. Use of other compilers may require minor adjustments to the source code. Sixteen of the sixty communities included in the FCC study are located near large bodies of water. For this version of the program, the grid points located over water for these sixteen communities have been identified and stored in data files provided on the diskette.

The Bureau will provide interested parties a diskette containing the following files:

- (1) README file that briefly describes the contents of the diskette;
- (2) LPFM_SRC.ZIP zipped file that contains the source code for the program; and
- (3) LPFM_EXE.ZIP zipped file that contains the executable program and associated data files.

The source code is provided for those interested in modifying the program. To run the program using the executable code provided with the diskette, it is necessary to unzip the executable file and associated data files in a single directory and download the FM Engineering Database (fmfxeng.zip) and TV Engineering Database (tvdb.zip). These databases are available from the following Mass Media web site: http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Mass_Media/Databases. To run the program in DOS, download DOSXMSF.EXE, unzip the databases, using PKUNZIP, and enter the name of the executable, "LPFM", at the command line. (The DOSXMSF.EXE file is not at the FCC web site, but can be easily located through a web search.)

For further information, contact Jorden Brinn, Audio Services Division, Mass Media Bureau at (202) 418-2700.