PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
1919 M STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

2519

News media information 202/254-7674. Recorded listing of releases and texts 202/632-0002.

FEBRUARY 12, 1985

FCC ENCOURAGES FM APPLICANTS TO FILE EARLY WITH FAA

This Notice represents the Commission's continuing effort to expedite the processing of FM applications, in order to bring new broadcast service to the public as rapidly as possible.

In First Report and Order, MM Docket 84-231, adopted December 19, 1984, the Commission amended its Table of Assignments to allot 689 new FM channels to communities throughout the United States. It is expected that a large number of applications will be filed in response to the implementation of this omnibus rulemaking.

In order to avoid unnecessary processing delays, the Commission strongly encourages applicants which are required to file FAA Form 7460-1 (Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration) with the Federal Aviation Administration to do so at the earliest possible time. Generally, when an applicant receives reasonable assurance of site availability for its proposed site, it should file Form 7460-1 immediately with the FAA.

An applicant may file FAA Form 7460-1 prior to the effective date of the allocation for which it intends to file an FCC Form 301 (Applicatioon for Construction Permit for Commercial Stations). However, it is important to note that a positive determination by the FAA will automatically expire within six months of the date of the determination, unless the applicant files FCC Form 301 within that time. Ordinarily, the FAA will make a determination within 60 to 90 days of the date of filing FAA Form 7460-1 for proposed towers of less than 153 meters (500 feet) above ground. The FAA may take substantially longer to make a determination for higher towers.

No comparative advantage is derived by filing FAA Form 7460-1 early. However, the early filing of FAA Form 7460-1 will assist in avoiding potential processing delays that could result in the event the FAA makes a negative determination of the proposed site. In this regard, an early filing could mitigate an applicant's need to file an untimely engineering amendment or the Commission's need to include an Air Hazard Issue in a Hearing Designation Order.

Questions concerning the above should be directed to Drucilla Smalls, FM Branch, (202) 632-7166 or James Voigt, Chief, Antenna Survey Branch, (202) 632-7521.