



PUBLIC NOTICE

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

3775

News media information 202/254-7674.

Recorded listing of releases and texts 202/632-0002.

April 9, 1985

SPACING REQUIREMENTS IN EFFECT UNTIL MARCH 1, 1987
PURSUANT TO BC DOCKET 80-90

This notice will seek to clarify a question regarding the "buffer zone" adopted in the Reconsideration of BC Docket 80-90 (Memorandum Opinion and Order, FCC #84-65, adopted March 1, 1984, released March 13, 1984). All existing Class 'C' stations, as of March 1, 1984, operating at an antenna height above average terrain (HAAT) of less than 300 meters were given the extra 16 kilometers of "buffer zone" protection from new FM allotments.

In adopting that Memorandum Opinion and Order, it was the Commission's intention not to overly restrict a station's ability to improve its facilities during the three year grace period. Therefore, all commercial applications for FM allotments adopted on or after March 1, 1984 must meet the minimum distance separations specified in Section 73.207 of the Commission's Rules PLUS an additional 16 kilometers to existing Class 'C' stations with the buffer zone.

For example, an application for a new station on a Class 'A' allotment adopted on or after March 1, 1984 must provide a distance of 238 kilometers to all existing co-channel Class 'C' stations which currently have a buffer zone. [Section 73.207 of the Commission's Rules specifies that a distance of 222 kilometers is required. Therefore, the total distance needed is 222 kilometers plus 16 kilometers to yield a total distance of 238 kilometers.]

Except as indicated below, this buffer zone protection shall continue until March 1, 1987. At that time, the buffer zone will be dropped and all channels will be reclassified to the operating parameters pursuant to Docket 80-90.

If a station moves to a new site or increases its antenna height above average terrain (HAAT) to 300 meters or more before March 1, 1987, the buffer zone will be dropped and the new site will not receive protection in excess of that provided by the distance separations specified in Section 73.207 of the Commission's Rules.

Questions regarding these procedures should be directed to Bob Greenberg on (202) 632-7166.