PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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COMMON CARRIER PUBLIC MOBILE SERVICES INFORMATION

REPUBLICATION OF STANDARD BROADCAST RERADIATION AND TOWER CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZED UNDER PART 22 OF THE RULES

Report No. CL-90-40 November 14, 1989

Public Notice, Mimeo Number 4396, dated August 11, 1987 is republished to again advise Part 22 cellular licensees and permittees of their obligations to protect existing AM broadcasting licensees prior to construction of Cellular Radio towers.

The Mobile Services Division of the Common Carrier Bureau has received a number of complaints from AM Broadcasters concerning the construction of Cellular Radio towers near their AM facilities that modify the authorized pattern of the AM facilities.

The Mobile Services Division is hereby reminding Part 22 licensees and permittees of their responsibility to protect existing licensees. The Commission's policy is clear. Whether by imposition of specific conditions or by operation of law, a licensee building a new facility is obligated to take all the necessary steps, including the financial burden, to correct interference problems caused by new or modified construction. See e.g. Sudbrink Broadcasting of Georgia, 65 F.C.C 2d 691 (1977); Athens Broadcasting Co., 68 F.C.C. 2d 920 (1978); Midnight Sun Broadcasting Co., 11 F.C.C.119 (1947); B & W Truck Service, 15 F.C.C. 2d 769 (1986).

Licensees and permittees planning to construct or modify a tower within 2 miles of a directional AM array or within 1/2 mile of a non-directional AM tower should take certain precautions.

If construction is planned within 1/2 mile of a nondirectional AM tower the licensee should, prior to construction of the proposed tower, notify the AM station so that the station may commence determining operating power by the indirect method (See Section 73.51 (e)&(f)). The common carrier shall be responsible for the installation and continued maintenance of any detuning apparatus necessary to prevent adverse affects upon the radiation pattern of the AM station. Measurements shall be taken both prior to the construction of the tower and subsequent to the installation of all appurtenances thereon. Antenna impedance measurements of the AM station shall be made and sufficient field strength measurements taken at a minimum of ten locations along each of eight equally spaced radials to establish

that the AM radiation pattern is essentially omnidirectional. The results of the field strength and impedance measurements should be reported to the Commission in an application for the AM station to return to the direct method of power determination.

If construction is planned within 2 miles of a directional AM array the licensee should notify the AM station so that, if necessary, the AM station may determine operating power by the indirect method and request temporary authority from the Commission in Washington, DC to operate with parameters at variance in order to maintain monitoring point field strengths within authorized limits (See Section 73.51 (e)&(f)). The common carrier shall be responsible for the installation and continued maintenance of detuning apparatus necessary to prevent adverse affects upon the radiation pattern of the AM station. Both prior to construction of the tower and subsequent to the installation of all appurtenances thereon a partial proof of performance, as defined by Section 73.154(a) of the Commission's Rules, shall be conducted to establish that the AM array has not been adversely affected. Prior to or simultaneous with the filing of the FCC 489 notification, the results of the measurements must be submitted to the Commission.

For further information contact Sid Briggs at (202) 653-5560.

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