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47 CFR Parts 73 and 74

[FCC 79-609]

Radio Broadcast Services;
Deregulation of Radio and TV
BroadcastingAGENCY: Federal Communications
Commission.

ACTION: Order.

SUMMARY: As a result of continuing study of reregulation of broadcasting, rules for broadcast stations are amended to update certain procedures, delete regulations that are no longer

necessary, and make corrections and editorial revisions for clarity.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 22, 1979.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

John Reiser, Philip Cross, or Steve Crane, Broadcast Bureau, (202) 632-9660.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Order

Adopted: September 27, 1979.

Released: October 5, 1979.

In the matter of Reregulation of Radio and TV Broadcasting.

By the Commission: Commissioner Lee absent.

1. As a result its continuing study of the reregulation of broadcasting and the oversight of the AM, FM and TV rules the Commission herein makes certain changes in its regulations. The amendments, corrections, and clarifications, being made in Parts 73 and 74 of the Rules are necessary because of apparent conflicting provisions and restrictions which have made certain rules either impractical or unnecessary. Additional editorial changes covered by this Order include deletion of past dates and cross references to non-existent rule sections deleted by rule making proceedings. Summaries of the corrections and changes are as follows:

(a) Special field test authorizations are issued by the FCC to assist in technical studies of ground conductivity and wave propagation conditions used in the design of directional antenna systems, selection of suitable sites for transmitters, and of other factors relating to broadcast transmissions. The three similar sections in the AM, FM, and TV Subparts of the FCC rules are combined into a single new rule included in Subpart H applicable to all services. (Appendix paragraphs 1, 14, 19, 20, and 33.)

(b) The operating power of all broadcast stations must be maintained within a certain tolerance range, except when the normal power cannot be held due to technical circumstances beyond the licensee's control. The separate but similar rules for AM, FM, NCE-FM, and TV, are being deleted and a single rule § 73.1560 is being added to Subpart H for all stations. The operating tolerances of the existing rules are being retained without modification.

(c) The provisions of the existing AM Rule § 73.52(b), covering the operation of directional antennas, is incorporated in a new rule § 73.62, "Directional antenna system tolerance." This will enable users of the rules to locate the information on these antennas more

readily. (Appendix paragraphs 2, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, 21, 22, and 35.)

(d) The separate modulation level tolerance rules for each of the broadcast services (AM, FM, and TV sound) are combined into a single rule § 73.1570, applicable to all services for ease of use. The existing tolerances are not modified. (Appendix paragraphs 3, 12, 17, 25, and 37.)

(e) Many AM stations use remote reading, remote control or extension meters for observing the antenna or common point current indications required to determine and maintain the station operating power by the "direct" method. Whenever the regular antenna or common point ammeter located at the antenna tower base or transmitter output terminals becomes defective, stations may temporarily use the alternate but less accurate, "indirect" method to determine the operating power. In a recent Reregulation Order, rule Section 73.51 describing the operating power procedures was amended to also permit the use of the "indirect" method to be used when the circuitry or meters used to obtain remote reading, remote control, or extension indications of the regular meter became defective, until repairs could be completed. This eliminated a need to have an operator on duty at the transmitter building, or to make periodic trips to the tower base or transmitter position to read the regular meter. With this Order, we are modifying the three separate rules covering remote reading meters (Section 73.57), remote control operation (Section 73.67), and extension meters (§ 73.1550) to remove restrictive language, to include cross references to the previously amended power rule, and to specifically mention that alternative operating procedures may be used for certain failures in the metering systems. (Appendix paragraphs 4, 7, and 34.)

(f) Another technical subject common in five separate rules in Part 73 is the frequency tolerance (carrier frequency departure) for stations in the broadcast services. The five separate rules for AM, FM, NCE-FM, TV, and International broadcast stations are contained in a single new rule: § 73.1565. (Appendix paragraphs 5, 13, 18, 23, 30, and 36.)

(g) AM stations using directional antennas with sampling systems installed according to specifications adopted in 1976, may be exempted from a number of inspection and logging requirements applicable to stations not having such sampling systems. The exemptions are based on a showing of compliance with the technical standards. Based on suggestions by both station licensees and the FCC staff responsible for processing the requests

for sampling system approval and exemption, a listing of the specific information required for evaluating the request is being added to the rule. This guidance should reduce the number of incomplete requests returned for additional information, avoid delays for the licensee in obtaining relief, and help reduce FCC backlogs of pending applications. (Appendix paragraph 8.)

(h) The note in the AM operator requirement rule § 73.93 following paragraph (e) is being editorially deleted. This note was only applicable prior to June 1, 1977, and references another rule note that no longer exists. (Appendix paragraph 9.)

(i) One of the technical rules that generates frequent inquiries for explanation from station technical personnel is the one concerning the determination of operating power for FM broadcast stations. (§ 73.267, Operating power, determination and maintenance). Because of previous changes in certain parts of the rule, the existing text is difficult to follow in a sequential manner. The entire rule is being restructured and rewritten for clarification and ease of use. Since the operating power rules for TV stations are very similar, the TV rules are also restructured and rewritten in a similar manner. The existing FM and TV rule covering both the procedures for determining the operating power and the operating tolerances for maintaining power are being divided into separate sections, similar to the existing AM rules. The power tolerance rule was discussed in paragraph (b), above. Although numerous suggestions have been received for modifying the procedures for determining operating power, such suggestions are beyond the scope of a Reregulation Order and will be incorporated into a Notice of Proposed Rule Making upon which licensees may comment. (Appendix paragraphs 10, 11, 15, 16, 21, and 22.)

(j) The obsolete note following § 73.676(f)(5), TV remote control operation, is being deleted, since the note provisions were only applicable prior to November 15, 1975. (Appendix paragraph 24.)

(k) Numerous regulations applicable in common to all broadcast stations are listed in Subpart H of Part 73 of the rules. However, some of these rules were separately retained in Subpart F for International Broadcast stations. Many of the editorial corrections and amendments previously made to the common rules in Subpart H, were not concurrently made in Subpart F. The primary purpose to having a rule common to all services is to avoid unintentional variations and incomplete

amendments previously occurring when five separate rules were written for AM, FM, NCE-FM, TV and the International Radio services. With this Order, six separate rules in Subpart F, for International Broadcast stations, are being cross referenced to the existing common rules covering the identical requirements or procedures in Subpart H. The rules are, "Cross references to rules in other Parts," "Notification of filing of applications," "Station inspection," "Station license and seasonal schedules, posting of," "Antenna structure, marking and lighting," and "Discontinuance of operation." (Appendix paragraphs 26, 27, 28, 31, and 32.)

(l) A typographical error in the cross reference is corrected and a subparagraph on indirect power is rewritten for clarity and ease of use in operating log rule § 73.1820(a)(2)(ii). (Appendix paragraph 38.)

(m) Recent editorial corrections made in § 73.1030, a rule concerning notification of construction of broadcast facilities in the vicinity of radio astronomy, research or receiving facilities are required in the rules for the broadcast auxiliary services, § 74.12. Since the two rules have identical functions, the existing text of § 74.12 is being deleted and cross reference is being made to § 73.1030. (Appendix paragraph 39.)

2. Many of the changes described above clarify present operating requirements; however, no substantive changes are made which would impose additional burdens or remove provisions relied upon by licensees or the public. We therefore conclude that, for the reasons set forth above, adoption of these revisions will serve the public interest, and inasmuch as these amendments impose no additional burdens and raise no issues upon which comments would serve any useful purpose, prior notice of rule making, effective date provisions and public procedure thereon are unnecessary pursuant to the Administrative Procedure and Judicial Review Act provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552(b) (3)(B).

3. Therefore, IT IS ORDERED, That pursuant to Sections 4(i) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, the Commission's Rules and Regulations ARE AMENDED as set forth in the attached Appendix, effective October 22, 1979.

4. For further information concerning this Order, contact John W. Reiser, Philip Cross, or Steve Crane, Broadcast Bureau, (202) 632-9660.

(Secs. 4, 303, 48 Stat., as amended, 1066, 1082; 47 U.S.C. 154, 303.)

Federal Communications Commission,
William J. Tricarico,
Secretary.

Appendix

1. Section 73.36 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.36 Special field test authorization.

See § 73.1515.

2. Section 73.52, including headnote, is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.52 Operating power.

See §§ 73.62 and 73.1560.

3. Section 73.55 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.55 Modulation.

See § 73.1570.

4. In § 73.57, paragraph (g) is amended to read as follows:

§ 73.57 Remote reading antenna and common point ammeters.

(g) If a malfunction affects the remote reading indications of the antenna or common point ammeter, the operating power may be determined by the indirect method using the procedures described in § 73.51(e) for a period not to exceed 60 days. Alternatively, the operating power may be determined by the direct method on a continued basis by reading the regular antenna or common point ammeters with indications entered in the operating log once each day for each mode of operation until the defective remote metering is repaired.

5. Section 73.59 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.59 Frequency tolerance.

See § 73.1545.

6. New § 73.62 is added to Part 73, Subpart A to read as follows:

§ 73.62 Directional antenna system tolerances.

Each AM station operating a directional antenna must maintain the indicated relative amplitudes of the antenna base currents and antenna monitor currents within 5% of the values specified on the instrument of authorization, unless other tolerances are specified therein.

7. In § 73.67, paragraph (a)(3) is amended to read as follows:

§ 73.67 Remote control operation.

(a) * * *

(3) A malfunction of any part of the remote control system resulting in improper control shall be cause for the immediate cessation of operation by remote control. A malfunction of any part of the remote control system which

results in inaccurate meter indications used in determining operating power or directional antenna performance shall be cause for the termination of use of remote control no longer than 1 hour after the malfunction is detected. If the malfunction only affects the indications of the antenna or common point ammeter, the operating power may be determined by the indirect method using the procedures described in § 73.51(e) for a period not to exceed 60 days.

8. In Section 73.68, the introduction of paragraph (a) and paragraph (c) are amended, and new paragraph (f) is added to read as follows:

§ 73.68 Sampling systems for antenna monitors.

(a) The following requirements govern the installation of systems employed to extract samples of the currents flowing in the elements of a directional antenna, and to deliver these samples, to the antenna monitor. Each new station issued a construction permit, each existing station issued a construction permit authorizing tower construction, and any existing station undertaking modification or reconstruction of its sampling system must install the system meeting the following requirements. The application for license or modification of license must describe the system in sufficient detail to demonstrate its compliance with the following:

(1) * * *

(c) An existing station with an antenna monitor sampling system meeting the specifications of paragraphs (a) (1) and (2) of this Section, wishing to be exempted from the logging and measurement requirements listed in paragraph (b) may send an informal request to the FCC in Washington, D.C. The request must be signed by the licensee or officer of the licensee and contain sufficient information to show compliance with the requirements of paragraph (a), including the following:

(1) The brand and type number of the coaxial sampling line cable, with a description of the dielectric material and electrical characteristics.

(2) The overall length of each sampling line. If cables of different length are installed, the calculations to show that the phase difference of signals at the monitor are less than 0.5 degrees between the shortest and longest cable lengths.

(3) A description of the sampling elements (loops or current transformers) and the position of their installation,

and when loops are installed, whether bonded or insulated mounting is used.

(f) If an existing sampling system is found to be patently of marginal construction, or where the performance of a directional antenna is found to be unsatisfactory, and this deficiency reasonably may be attributed, in whole or in part, to inadequacies in the antenna monitoring system, the FCC may require the reconstruction of the sampling system in accordance with requirements specified above.

§ 73.93 [Amended]

9. In § 73.93, Note 1 following paragraph (e)(3) is deleted.

10. New § 73.266 is added to read as follows:

§ 73.266 Operating power.

(a) *Determination.* See § 73.267.

(b) *Maintenance.* See § 73.1560.

(c) *Reduced power.* See § 73.1560.

11. Section 73.267, including headnote, is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.267 Determining operating power.

(a) The operating power of each FM station is to be determined by either the direct or indirect method.

(b) *Direct method.* The direct method of power determination for an FM station uses the indications of a calibrated transmission line meter (responsive to relative voltage, current, or power) located at the RF output terminals of the transmitter. The indications of the calibrated meter are used to observe and maintain the authorized operating power of the station. This meter must be calibrated by the licensee at intervals not exceeding 6 months and whenever there is any indication that the calibration is inaccurate or whenever any component in the metering circuit is repaired or replaced. The following calibration procedures are to be used:

(1) The transmission line meter is calibrated by measuring the power at output terminals of the transmitter while operating into a dummy load of substantially zero reactance and a resistance equal to the transmission line characteristic impedance. The transmitter is to be unmodulated during this measurement.

(2) If electrical devices are used to determine the power output, such devices must permit determination of this power to within an accuracy of $\pm 5\%$ of the power indicated by the full scale reading of the electrical indicating instrument of the device. If temperature and coolant flow indicating devices are used to determine the power output, such devices must permit determination

of this power to within an accuracy of $\pm 4\%$ of measured average power output. During this calibration, the input voltage and current of the final radio-frequency amplifier stage and the transmission line meter are to be read and compared with similar readings taken with the dummy load replaced by the antenna. These readings should be in substantial agreement.

(3) The calibration must cover, as a minimum, the range from 90% to 105% of authorized power and the meter must provide clear indications which will permit maintaining the operating power within the prescribed tolerance or the meter shall be calibrated to read directly in power units.

(c) *Indirect method.* The operating power is determined by the indirect method by applying an appropriate factor to the input power to the last radio-frequency power amplifier stage of the transmitter, using the following formula:

Transmitter output power = $E_p \times I_p \times F$

Where:

E_p = DC input voltage of final radio stage.

I_p = Total DC input current of final radio stage.

F = Efficiency factor.

(1) If the above formula is not appropriate for the design of the transmitter final amplifier, use a formula specified by the transmitter manufacturer with other appropriate operating parameters.

(2) The value of the efficiency factor, F , established for the authorized transmitter output power is to be used for maintaining the operating power, even though there may be some variation in F over the power operating range of the transmitter.

(3) The value of F is to be determined and a record kept thereof, by one of the following procedures listed in order of preference:

(i) Using the most recent measurement data for calibration of the transmission line meter according to the procedures described in paragraph (a) of this Section or the most recent measurements made by the licensee to establish the value of F . In the case of composite transmitters or those in which the final amplifier stages have been modified pursuant to FCC approval, the licensee must furnish the FCC and retain with the station records the measurement data used as a basis for determining the value F .

(ii) Using measurement data shown on the transmitter manufacturer's test data supplied to the licensee; provided that measurements were made at the authorized frequency and transmitter output power.

(iii) Using the transmitter manufacturer's measurement data submitted to the FCC for type approval and as shown in the instruction book supplied to the licensee.

12. Section 73.268 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.268 Modulation.

See § 73.1570.

13. Section 73.269 is revised to read:

§ 73.269 Frequency tolerance.

See § 73.1545.

14. Section 73.278 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.278 Special field test authorization.

See § 73.1515.

15. New § 73.566 is added to read as follows:

§ 73.566 Operating power.

(a) *Determination.* See § 73.267.

(b) *Maintenance.* See § 73.1560.

(c) *Reduced power.* See § 73.1560.

16. Section 73.567, including headnote, is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.567 Determining operating power.

The procedures for determining operating power described in § 73.267 are applicable to noncommercial educational FM stations.

17. Section 73.568 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.568 Modulation.

See § 73.1570.

18. Section 73.569 is amended to read:

§ 73.569 Frequency tolerance.

See § 73.1545.

19. New § 73.578 is added to Subpart C to read as follows:

§ 73.578 Special field test authorization.

See § 73.1515.

20. Section 73.627 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.627 Special field test authorization.

See § 73.1515.

21. Section 73.689 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.689 Operating power.

(a) *Determination.* See § 73.663.

(b) *Maintenance.* See § 73.1560.

(c) *Reduced power.* See § 73.1560.

22. New § 73.663 is added to Subpart E to read as follows:

§ 73.663 Determining operating power.

(a) The operating power of the visual transmitter of each TV station shall normally be determined by the direct method. The operating power of the aural transmitter may be determined by either the direct or indirect method.

(b) Direct method, visual transmitter.

The direct method of power determination for a TV visual transmitter uses the indications of a calibrated transmission line meter (responsive to peak power) located at the RF output terminals of the transmitter. The indications of the calibrated meter are used to observe and maintain the authorized operating power of the visual transmitter. This meter must be calibrated by the licensee at intervals not exceeding 6 months and whenever there is any indication that the calibration is inaccurate or whenever any component in the metering circuit is repaired or replaced. The following calibration procedures are to be used:

(1) The transmission line meter is calibrated by measuring the average power at the output terminals of the transmitter, including any vestigial sideband and harmonic filters which may be used in normal operation. For this determination the average power output is measured while operating into a dummy load of substantially zero reactance and a resistance equal to the transmission line characteristic impedance. During this measurement the transmitter is to be modulated only by a standard synchronizing signal with blanking level set at 75% of peak amplitude as observed in an output waveform monitor, and with this blanketing level amplitude maintained throughout the time interval between synchronizing pulses.

(2) If electrical devices are used to determine the output power, such devices must permit determination of this power to within an accuracy of $\pm 5\%$ of the power indicated by the full scale reading of the electrical indicating instrument of the device. If temperature and coolant flow indicating devices are used to determine the power output, such devices must permit determination of this power to within an accuracy of $\pm 4\%$ of measured average power output. The peak power output is the power so measured in the dummy load multiplied by the factor 1.68. During this measurement the input voltage and current to the final radio frequency amplifier stage and the transmission line meter are to be read and compared with similar readings taken with the dummy load replaced by the antenna. These readings must be in substantial agreement.

(3) The meter must be calibrated with the transmitter operating at 80%, 100%, and 110% of the authorized power as often as may be necessary to insure compliance with the requirements of this paragraph and in any event at intervals

of no more than 6 months. In cases where the transmitter is incapable of operating at 110% of the authorized power output, the calibration may be made at a power output between 100% and 110% of the authorized power output. However, where this is done, the output meter must be marked at the point of calibration of maximum power output, and the station will be deemed to be in violation of this rule if that power is exceeded. The upper and lower limits of permissible power deviation as determined by the prescribed calibration, must be shown upon the meter either by means of adjustable red markers incorporated in the meter or by red marks placed upon the meter scale or glass face. These markings must be checked and changed, if necessary, each time the meter is calibrated.

(c) *Direct method, aural transmitter.* The direct method of power determination for a TV aural transmitter uses the indications of a calibrated transmission line meter (responsive to relative voltage, current, or power) located at the RF output terminals of the transmitter. The indications of this calibrated meter are used to observe and maintain the authorized aural operating power of the station. This meter must be calibrated by the licensee at intervals not exceeding 6 months and whenever there is any indication that the calibration is inaccurate or whenever any component in the metering circuit is repaired or replaced. The following calibration procedures are to be used:

(1) The transmission line meter is calibrated by measuring the average power at the output terminals of the transmitter which includes any harmonic filters that may be used during operation. For this determination the output power is measured while operating into a dummy load of substantially zero reactance and a resistance equal to the transmission line characteristic impedance. The transmitter must be unmodulated during this measurement.

(2) If the electrical devices are used to determine the output power, such devices must permit determination of this power to within an accuracy of $\pm 5\%$ of the power indicated by the full scale reading of the electrical indicating instrument of the device. If temperature and coolant flow indicating devices are used to determine the power output, such devices must permit determination of this power to within an accuracy of 4% of measured average power output. During this measurement the input voltage and current of the final radio-frequency amplifier stage and the

transmission line meter are to be read and compared with similar readings taken with the dummy load replaced by the antenna. These readings must be in substantial agreement.

(3) The meter must be calibrated with the transmitter operating at 80%, 100%, and 110% of the authorized power as often as may be necessary to insure compliance with the requirements of this paragraph and in all cases at intervals of not more than 6 months. In cases where the transmitter is incapable of operating at 110% of the authorized power output, the calibration may be made at a power output between 100% and 110% of the authorized power output. However, where this is done, the output meter must be marked at the point of calibration of maximum power output, and the station will be deemed to be in violation of this rule if that power is exceeded. The upper and lower limits of permissible power deviation as determined by the prescribed calibration, must be shown upon the meter either by means of adjustable red markers incorporated in the meter or by red marks placed upon the meter scale or glass face. These markings must be checked and changed, if necessary, each time the meter is calibrated.

(d) *Indirect method, visual or aural transmitter.* The operating power is determined by the indirect method by applying an appropriate factor to the input power to the final radio-frequency amplifier stage of the transmitter using the following formula:

$$\text{Transmitter output power} = E_p \times I_p \times T3F$$

Where:

E_p = DC input voltage of the final radio-frequency amplifier stage.

I_p = DC input current of the final radio-frequency amplifier stage.

F = Efficiency factor.

(1) If the above formula is not appropriate for the design of the transmitter final amplifier, use a formula specified by the transmitter manufacturer with other appropriate operating parameters.

(2) The value of the efficiency factor, F , established for the authorized transmitter output power is to be used for maintaining the operating power, even though there may be some variation in F over the power operating range of the transmitter.

(3) The value of F is to be determined and a record kept thereof by one of the following procedures listed in order of preference:

(i) Using the most recent measurement data for calibration of the transmission line meter according to the procedures described in paragraph (c) of this Section or the most recent

measurements made by the licensee to establish the value of F . In the case of composite transmitters or those in which the final amplifier stages have been modified pursuant to FCC approval, the licensee must furnish the FCC and also retain with the station records the measurement data used as a basis for determining the value F .

(ii) Using measurement data shown on the transmitter manufacturer's test data supplied to the licensee, provided that measurements were made at the authorized carrier frequency and transmitter output power.

(iii) Using the transmitter manufacturer's measurement data submitted to the FCC for type acceptance as shown in the instruction book supplied to the licensee.

23. Section 73.668 is revised to read:

§ 73.668 Frequency tolerance.

See § 73.1545.

§ 73.676 [Amended]

24. In § 73.676, the Note following paragraph (f)(5) is deleted in its entirety.

25. In § 73.687, paragraph (b)(7) is amended to read as follows:

§ 73.687 Transmitters and associated equipment.

* * *

(b) * * *

(7) Aural modulation levels are specified in § 73.1570.

* * *

26. Section 73.710 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.710 Cross reference to rules in other Parts.

See § 73.1010.

27. Section 73.711 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.711 Notification of filing of applications.

See § 73.1030.

28. Section 73.762 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.762 Station inspection.

See § 73.1225.

29. Section 73.763 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.763 Station license and seasonal schedules, posting of.

See § 73.1230.

30. Section 73.767 is revised to read:

§ 73.767 Frequency tolerance.

See § 73.1545.

31. Section 73.768 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.768 Antenna structure, marking and lighting.

See § 73.1213.

32. Section 73.769 is revised to read as follows:

§ 73.769 Discontinuance of operation.

See § 73.1750.

33. New § 73.1515 is added to Subpart H to read as follows:

§ 73.1515 Special field test authorizations.

(a) A special field test authorization may be issued to conduct field strength surveys to aid in the selection of suitable sites for broadcast transmission facilities, determine coverage areas, or to study other factors influencing broadcast signal propagation. The applicant for the authorization must be qualified to hold a license under Section 303(1)(l) of the Communications Act.

(b) Requests for authorizations to operate a transmitter under a Special field test authorization must be in writing using an informal application in letter form, signed by the applicant and including the following information:

(1) Purpose, duration and need for the survey.

(2) Frequency, transmitter output powers and time of operation.

(3) A brief description of the test antenna system, its estimated effective radiated field and height above ground or average terrain, and the geographic coordinates of its proposed location(s).

(c) Operation under a special field test authorization is subject to the following conditions:

(1) No objectionable interference will result to the operation of other authorized radio services; in this connection, the power requested shall not exceed that necessary for the purposes of the test.

(2) The carriers will be unmodulated except for the transmission of a test-pattern on a visual TV transmitter, and for hourly voice station identification on aural AM, FM and TV transmitters.

(3) The transmitter output power or antenna input power may not exceed those specified in the test authorization and the operating power must be maintained at a constant value for each phase of the tests.

(4) The input power to the final amplifier stage, and the AM antenna current or the FM or TV transmitter output power must be logged at half-hour intervals and at any time that the power is adjusted or changed. Copies of the station logs must be submitted to the FCC with the required report.

(5) The test equipment may not be permanently installed, unless such installation has been separately authorized. Mobile units are not deemed permanent installations.

(6) AM and FM test transmitters must be operated by or under the personal

direction of an operator holding a First-Class or Second-Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate. TV test transmitters must be operated by or under the personal direction of an operator holding a First-Class Operator Certificate.

(7) A report, containing the measurements, their analysis and other results of the survey shall be filed with the FCC in Washington, D.C. within sixty (60) days following the termination of the test authorization.

(8) The test transmission equipment, installation and operation thereof need not comply with the requirements of FCC rules and standards except as specified in this Section if the equipment, installation and operation are consistent with good engineering principles and practices.

(d) A special field test authorization may be modified or terminated by notification from the FCC if in its judgment such action will promote the public interest, convenience and necessity.

34. In § 73.1550, paragraph (d)(2) is amended to read as follows:

§ 73.1550 Extension meters.

* * * * *

(d) * * *

* * * * *

(2) *AM stations.* In addition to (1) above, if the malfunction affects the extension indications of antenna or common point ammeter, the operating power may be determined by the indirect method using the procedures described in § 73.51(e) for a period not to exceed 60 days. Alternatively, the operating power may be determined by the direct method on a continued basis by reading the regular antenna or common point ammeter with indications entered in the operating log once each day for each mode of operation until the defective extension metering is repaired. If the malfunction affects the extended indications of the directional antenna monitor, the pertinent entries required in the operating log must be obtained at the specified intervals at the monitor location.

* * * * *

35. New § 73.1560 is added to Part 73, Subpart H to read as follows:

§ 73.1560 Operating power tolerance.

(a) *AM stations.* Except as provided for in paragraph (d), the antenna input power of an AM station as determined by the procedures specified in § 73.51 must be maintained as near as is practicable to the authorized antenna input power and may not be less than 90% nor more than 105% of the authorized power.

(b) *FM stations.* Except as provided in paragraph (d), the transmitter output power of an FM station with power output as determined by the procedures specified in § 73.267 (§ 73.567 for noncommercial educational FM stations) authorized for output power more than 10 watts must be maintained as near as practicable to the authorized transmitter output power and may not be less than 90% nor more than 105% of the authorized power. FM stations operating with authorized transmitter output power of 10 watts or less, may operate at less than the authorized power, but not more than 105% of the authorized power.

(c) *TV stations.* Except as provided in paragraph (d), the aural and visual transmitter output power of a TV station, as determined by the procedures specified in § 73.633 must be maintained as near as is practicable to the authorized transmitter output powers and may not be less than 80% nor more than 105% of the authorized powers. The FCC may specify deviation from the power tolerance requirements for subscription television operations to the extent it deems necessary to permit proper operation.

(d) *Reduced power operation.* In the event it becomes technically impossible to operate with the authorized power, a broadcast station may operate at reduced power for a period of not more than 30 days without specific authority from the FCC. If operation at reduced power will exceed 10 consecutive days, a notification must be sent to the FCC in Washington, D.C., not later than the 10th day of the lower power operation. In the event the normal power is restored prior to the expiration of the 30 day period, the licensee must notify the FCC upon restoration of normal operation. If causes beyond the control of the licensee prevent restoration of authorized power within 30 days, an informal written request must be made to the FCC in Washington, D.C., no later than the 30th day for the additional time as may be necessary.

36. New § 73.1545 is added to Part 73, Subpart H, to read as follows:

§ 73.1545 Carrier frequency departure tolerances.

(a) *AM stations.* The departure of the carrier frequency of an AM station may not exceed ± 20 hertz from the assigned frequency.

(b) *FM stations.* (1) The departure of the carrier or center frequency of an FM station with an authorized transmitter output power more than 10 watts may not exceed ± 1000 hertz from the assigned frequency.

(2) The departure of the carrier or center frequency of an FM station with an authorized transmitter output power of 10 watts or less may not exceed ± 3000 hertz from the assigned frequency.

(c) *TV stations.* (1) The departure of the visual carrier frequency of a TV station may not exceed ± 1000 hertz from the assigned visual carrier frequency.

(2) The departure of the aural carrier frequency of a TV station may not exceed ± 1000 hertz from the actual visual carrier frequency plus exactly 4.5 MHz.

(d) *International broadcast stations.* The departure of the carrier frequency of an International broadcast station may not exceed 0.0015% of the assigned frequency on which the station is transmitting.

37. New § 73.1570 is added to Part 73, Subpart H to read as follows:

§ 73.1570 Modulation levels: AM, FM, and TV aural.

(a) The percentage of modulation is to be maintained at as high a level as is consistent with good quality of transmission and good broadcast service, with maximum levels not to exceed the values specified in paragraph (b). Generally, the modulation should not be less than 85% on peaks of frequent recurrence, but where lower modulation levels may be required to avoid objectionable loudness or to maintain the dynamic range of the program material, the degree of modulation may be reduced to whatever level is necessary for this purpose, even though under such circumstances, the level may be substantially less than that which produces peaks of frequent recurrence at a level of 85%.

(b) Maximum modulation levels must meet the following limitations:

(1) *AM stations.* In no case shall the modulation exceed 100% on negative peaks of frequent recurrence, or 125% on positive peaks at any time.

(2) *FM stations.* In no case shall the total modulation exceed 100% on peaks of frequent recurrence.

(i) FM stations transmitting stereophonic programs must meet the stereophonic signal modulation specifications of paragraphs (b), and (i) of § 73.322.

(ii) FM stations transmitting multiplex signals for SCA or telemetry purposes must meet the multiplex signal modulation specifications of § 73.319(c).

(3) *TV stations.* In no case shall the total modulation of the aural carrier exceed 100% on peaks of frequent recurrence, unless some other peak

modulation level is specified in an instrument of authorization.

(i) [Reserved]

(ii) TV stations transmitting multiplex signals on the aural carrier for telemetry, or Subscription Television Service, must limit the modulation of the main carrier by the arithmetic sum of the subcarriers to not more than 10%, unless some other subcarrier modulation level is specified in the instrument of authorization.

(c) If a limiting or compression amplifier is employed to maintain modulation levels, precaution must be taken so as not to substantially alter the dynamic characteristics of programs.

38. In § 73.1820, paragraph (a)(2)(ii) is corrected to read as follows:

§ 73.1820 Operating logs.

* * * * *

(a) * * *

* * * * *

(2) * * *

* * * * *

(ii) When the operating power is determined by the indirect method, the efficiency factor F and either the product of the final amplifier input voltage and current or the calculated antenna input power. See § 73.51(e).

* * * * *

PART 74—EXPERIMENTAL, AUXILIARY, AND SPECIAL BROADCAST AND OTHER PROGRAM DISTRIBUTIONAL SERVICES

39. Section 74.12 is revised to read as follows:

§ 74.12 Notification of filing of applications.

The provisions of § 73.1030 "Notification concerning interference to Radio Astronomy, Research, and Receiving Installations" apply to all stations authorized under this Part of the FCC Rules except the following:

(a) Mobile remote pickup stations (Subpart D).

(b) TV pickup stations (Subpart F).

(c) Low power auxiliary stations (Subpart H).

[FR Doc. 79-31377 Filed 10-10-79; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-M

47 CFR Part 83

[PR Docket No. 79-147; FCC 79-570]

Stations on Shipboard in the Maritime Services; Providing Specifications of Portable Radio Equipment To Be Used in Totally Enclosed Lifeboats

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: These rules amend current FCC rules to provide special requirements for portable radio equipment to be used in totally enclosed lifeboats. These lifeboats are now required on some vessels with flammable cargoes and on mobile offshore drilling units. Existing survival craft radio specifications were found to be inadequate for the totally enclosed lifeboats. The new rules will enhance safety and convenience in those situations where totally enclosed lifeboats and radio equipment are necessary.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 16, 1979.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Penny Wells, Private Radio Bureau, (202) 632-7175.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Report and Order

(*Proceeding Terminated*)

Adopted: September 18, 1979.

Released: October 9, 1979.

In the matter of amendment of Part 83 of the rules to provide specifications of portable radio equipment to be used in totally enclosed lifeboats. PR Docket No. 79-147.

By the Commission:

1. A Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the above-captioned matter was released on June 18, 1979, and was published in the *Federal Register* on June 25, 1979, 44 FR 37015. The time for filing comments and reply comments has expired. One interested party, the Central Committee on Telecommunications of the American Petroleum Institute (API), filed comments.

2. This rulemaking will provide specifications for portable radio equipment to be used in totally enclosed lifeboats. The Coast Guard requires that totally enclosed lifeboats be provided on cargo ships with flammable contents such as liquid natural gas tankers and, as of January 3, 1979, on mobile offshore drilling units (MODUs). The Commission discovered, however, that the portable survival craft radio equipment currently specified in our rules is unsatisfactory for use in totally enclosed lifeboats. The equipment is too heavy to be easily carried up the ladder to the lifeboat and too bulky to fit easily through the doorway to the lifeboat. The most troubling aspect of the currently-prescribed equipment, however, is the antenna system. To erect the antenna, a person must climb onto the roof of the

lifeboat and set up and secure the antenna. The new rules prescribe a lighter, more compact unit with a freestanding, collapsible rod antenna which can be erected without any person going outside of the lifeboat. The new rules also provide for an optional ground plate instead of a grounding conductor.

3. The commenter, API, responded favorably to these major changes in equipment specifications. They objected to the language we proposed in redefining acceptable equipment storage locations. They also recommended two additions to the rulemaking. One addition is relatively minor and we have accepted it, but the other addition involves a change in power source specifications and opens an area not contemplated by this rulemaking.

4. Our Notice of Proposed Rule Making recommended that the language specifying storage location of the survival craft equipment be amended to permit the option of storage "at a protected location near a lifeboat" as well as in the radio room or bridge. API suggests now that the words "radio room or bridge" are superfluous and should be deleted. We would like to keep the language "radio room or bridge" in the rule because, although we now permit more flexibility in storage location, we would still prefer that the radio be kept in the radio room or bridge if at all practicable.

5. API also recommends that the artificial antenna required by Section 83.557(g) be marked "USE FOR TEST ONLY." We have no objections to this recommendation and we have included a section in the rules to that effect.

6. Finally, API proposes that language be added to Section 83.557(d)(2) to require the portable survival craft equipment to be capable of connection to the electrical system which powers the lifeboat. Currently, the proposed radio has a self-contained power source which derives its supply from a hand generator.

7. The 1974 Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention does not contemplate the connection of external power sources to portable survival craft equipment. (See Chapter IV, Regulation 14(h)). We concur with the SOLAS regulation. We think there is substantial merit in the idea that emergency equipment should be completely self-contained. If an external power source connection option was included, the Commission would require that all possible sources of energy which could be connected to this emergency equipment be approved. Checking the sources of energy available in different models of the totally enclosed lifeboat

would be a large job in itself and possibly outside of the realm of our authority. Moreover, this portable radio equipment may be used in any number of situations not involving totally enclosed lifeboats. We think the effort to assure widespread electrical compatibility would be impracticable. We also believe that even with protective circuitry as suggested by API, the possibility exists that an untrained person would try to connect the survival craft equipment to an incompatible source. The danger of ruining the equipment outweighs the limited convenience to be gained by API's suggestion. Therefore, we are not requiring that the portable survival craft equipment provide for the connection of external power sources.

8. We are establishing a June 1, 1980 date for the installation of new equipment in totally enclosed lifeboats. This date will provide adequate time for the purchase, delivery and installation of the required portable survival craft equipment. During the interim portable survival craft equipment for other than totally enclosed lifeboats may continue to be used, however, we encourage the fitting of equipment complying with the new technical standards for totally enclosed lifeboat equipment as soon as possible.

9. In reviewing this proposed rulemaking, we noticed that through an oversight, the proposed Section 83.557(f), which specifies two alternative grounding systems, provides that electrical connection be able to be made from inside the boat only to the ground plate alternative. Therefore, we are adding a phrase to include the grounding conductor in the electrical connection requirement as well.

10. Regarding questions on matters covered in this document, contact Penny Wells, (202) 632-7175.

11. Accordingly, It is ordered, That Part 83 of the rules is amended as indicated in the attached Appendix effective November 18, 1979. Authority for the promulgation of these rules is contained in Sections 4(i), 303 (e), (f) and (r), and 357 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

12. It is further ordered, That this proceeding is terminated.

(Secs. 4, 303, 48 Stat., as amended, 1066, 1082; 47 U.S.C. 154, 303)

Federal Communications Commission.

William J. Tricarico,

Secretary.

Appendix

Part 83 of Chapter I of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 83—STATIONS ON SHIPBOARD IN THE MARITIME SERVICE

1. Section 83.472 (b) is amended and (c) is added to read as follows:

§ 83.472 Survival craft portable radiotelegraph equipment.

(b) The equipment shall be stowed in the radio room, bridge or a protected location near a lifeboat and shall be readily accessible for transfer to a lifeboat. However, in tankers of 3000 gross tons and over in which lifeboats are fitted amidships and aft, this equipment shall be kept in a suitable place in the vicinity of those lifeboats which are furthest away from the ship's main transmitter.

(c) In addition, equipment for totally enclosed lifeboats shall meet the extra requirements specified in Section 83.557.¹

2. Section 83.557(a) (4) and (8), (e), (f) and (g) are amended to read as follows:

§ 83.557 Requirements for survival craft portable radio equipment.

(a) There shall be provided as a single unit a portable buoyant apparatus consisting of a transmitter, receiver including headphones, power supply, grounding system, antenna system and line for lowering the apparatus. Each totally enclosed lifeboat shall comply with the additional equipment requirements specified in this section.

(1) * * *

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(4) The apparatus exclusive of the line for lowering shall not weigh more than sixty pounds. Apparatus for use in a totally enclosed lifeboat shall not weigh more than forty pounds.

(5) * * *

(6) * * *

(7) * * *

(8) The maximum overall dimensions of apparatus to be used in totally enclosed lifeboats including accessories shall not exceed 35 by 40 by 50 centimeters.

(e) The antenna system shall consist of a single wire antenna with a collapsible mast or a collapsible rod antenna conforming to the following requirements:

(1) The collapsible mast shall be of the maximum practicable height as approved by the Commission for each

¹ Applicable to equipment for use in totally enclosed lifeboats effective June 1, 1980.

particular type of survival craft radio apparatus. The single wire antenna shall consist of a length of at least 12 meters of extra-flexible stranded copper having a cross-sectional area of not less than 10,000 circular mils together with means for effective insulation of the antenna, means for fastening the wire to the antenna supports, and means for making electrical connection to the transmitter.

(2) The collapsible rod antenna shall be of the maximum practicable height as approved by the Commission for each particular type of survival craft radio apparatus.

(3) Each totally enclosed lifeboat shall be provided with a collapsible rod antenna which operates in either a freestanding position or supported only by a grommet in the canopy of the enclosed lifeboat. The antenna shall be capable of being erected without any person going outside of the enclosed lifeboat.

(f) The grounding system shall consist of either a conducting wire or plate to provide an efficient ground for the portable survival craft equipment. The conducting wire shall consist of a length of not less than 6 meters of No. 10 bare stranded copper or equivalent copper braid effectively weighted at one end for immersion in the sea. The ground plate shall consist of a bare plate and/or strips of corrosion resistant metal having a total area of at least .6 square meters and shall be located on the hull of the lifeboat below the waterline. Provisions shall be included to permit an electrical connection to be readily made to the grounding conductor and to the ground plate from inside the lifeboat.

(g)(1) The artificial antenna shall provide a reliable load for the transmitter for test purposes, at the frequencies 500 kHz and 8364 kHz, of approximately the same electrical characteristics as the single wire or collapsible rod antennas required by this section.

(2) The artificial antenna shall be housed in a single container and provided with appropriate terminals. If more than two terminals are provided on the artificial antenna, all the terminals shall be properly labelled.

(3) The artificial antenna shall be prominently labelled "FOR TEST USE ONLY."

[FR Doc. 79-31376 Filed 10-10-79; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-M

47 CFR Part 90

[FR Docket No. 79-106; FCC 79-583]

Changing the Cochannel Mileage Separation and Frequency Loading Standards for Conventional Land Mobile Radio Systems in the Bands 806-821 and 851-866 MHz

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Report and order.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission revises rules which prescribe the co-channel mileage separation and frequency loading standards for conventional land mobile radio systems in the bands 806-821 and 851-866 MHz. This action will increase the efficiency of spectrum utilization by conventional land mobile radio systems in these bands.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 12, 1979.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 2025 M Street NW., Washington, D.C., 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lewis H. Goldman, Private Radio Bureau, Rules Division, Washington, D.C. 20554, (202) 632-6497.

Report and Order

Adopted: September 25, 1979.

Released: October 3, 1979.

By the Commission: Commissioner Quello absent.

In the matter of amendment of §§ 90.365 and 90.377 of the Commission's rules to change the co-channel mileage separation and frequency loading standards for conventional land mobile radio systems in the bands 806-821 and 851-866 MHz.

Introduction

1. We initiated this proceeding by Notice of Proposed Rule Making adopted May 3, 1979 (FCC 79-282, released May 23, 1979) to review Sections 90.365 and 90.377 of the Commission's Rules which prescribe the co-channel mileage separation and frequency loading standards for conventional land mobile radio systems in the bands 806-821 and 851-866 MHz; and to propose certain revisions to those Rules.

2. For background, the Second Report and Order, *Land Mobile Radio Service*, Docket No. 18262 (46 FCC 2d 752, adopted May 1, 1974), the Commission allocated a total of 30 MHz of radio spectrum (the bands 806-821 and 851-855 MHz) for private land mobile communications systems. The 30 MHz thus set aside were divided into 600 two-frequency channels. One-third (200

channel pairs) was dedicated to so-called "trunked" systems. These are sophisticated multi-channel (5 to 20 frequency pairs) systems. One hundred channels were allocated for so-called "conventional" systems. These are the traditional, usually single-channel systems of the type used in the lower frequency bands for two-way mobile radio communications. The co-channel mileage separation and loading standards for these conventional systems are the subject of this proceeding. Finally, the remaining three hundred channels were placed in reserve for a later determination whether they should be allocated for trunked, conventional, or some other type of system.

3. In the Second Report and Order in Docket 18262, *supra*, the Commission pointed out that because it was then dealing with novel and untried standards in a previously unused frequency band, future revisions of the assignment standards might be necessary.¹

4. We have now been licensing conventional 800 MHz radio systems for three years, and that passage of time has provided us with considerable experience with the frequency assignment standards adopted in Docket No. 18262. That experience led us to

¹ We said there:

"... (W)e wish to be clear that it is our intention to review and study continually all aspects of our assignment plan. In this regard, we fully recognize that the subject concept is new. It is in part untried and untested. Most likely changes and modifications will have to be made; and we will be alert to adjust our policies, standards, and criteria to what the public interest requires. This will be done on our own motion; and, in addition, we would expect, and we request, significant input from the land mobile industry and from land mobile users and those representing them. However, we are confident of the soundness of the structure of the measures we have adopted; of the desirability of the goals and objectives we have set for ourselves; and of the benefits to the public that will flow out of our approach to licensing at 800 MHz." 46 FCC 2d at 781-2.

The Commission again addressed the possibility of future changes in the new mileage separation and loading standards for conventional systems in its *Memorandum Opinion and Order* disposing of petitions for reconsideration of the Second Report and Order. It is noted that the provisions for frequency assignment and loading of both conventional and trunked systems had been established with full consideration to accepted standards of good engineering practice, and were, in the Commission's view at that time, necessary to afford the quality of service that systems in this frequency band must have, if sufficient interest were to be generated in them to justify the additional expense of operating in that spectrum. However, the Commission reiterated that:

"... (W)e will revisit all of the system parameters as we gain knowledge from actual operating experience; and adjustments will be made as it becomes possible to do so." *Memorandum Opinion and Order, Land Mobile Services*, Docket 18262, 51 FCC 2d at 978-9.