



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commis
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 05-2521

Released: September 24, 2005

WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU ANNOUNCES EXTENSION OF FILING AND REGULATORY DEADLINES FOR WIRELESS LICENSEES IN AREAS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE RITA

In anticipation of the impact from Hurricane Rita, President Bush issued a major disaster declaration for Texas and Louisiana on September 20, 2005.¹ Pursuant to our authority to waive rules for good cause² and to alleviate any additional burden that may be caused by our filing requirements and regulatory deadlines, we hereby extend certain deadlines occurring between September 20, 2005 and November 20, 2005, until November 21, 2005 for affected licensees and applicants in Texas and Louisiana, including the Gulf of Mexico (“affected areas”). In this context, “affected” licensees and applicants include those licensees and applicants that operate facilities, or, in a significant manner essential to the business operation, rely on personnel, records, or financial institutions located in these areas to provide services or to conduct substantial business activities with the Commission.

(1) We extend until November 21, 2005, deadlines associated with Wireless Radio Service³ applications, notifications, and reports pursuant to Parts 1 (Subpart F only), 13, 20, 22, 24, 27, 74 (excluding Subparts A, G, and L), 80, 87, 90, 95, 97, or 101 of the Commission’s rules occurring between September 20, 2005 and November 20, 2005, including, but not limited to, filings regarding license modifications, license renewals, and notifications of construction. Licensees filing in accordance with this extension must include with their filing a certification upon the penalty of perjury that the deadlines could not be met within the time otherwise provided in the Commission’s rules because of the hurricane.

(2) We also extend until November 21, 2005, all construction deadlines and other regulatory deadlines applicable to wireless radio services pursuant to Parts 1 (Subpart F only), 13, 20, 22, 24, 27, 74 (excluding Subparts A, G, and L), 80, 87, 90, 95, 97, or 101 of the Commission’s rules occurring from September 20, 2005 to November 20, 2005.

In addition to the relief granted above, Section 1.931(a) of the Commission’s rules is hereby waived on our own motion through November 20, 2005, to allow the filing of STA requests for Wireless Radio Services in manners other than electronically on FCC Form 601.⁴ Furthermore, because the President

¹ See <http://www.fema.gov/media/index.shtm#rita> (September 23, 2005).

² 47 C.F.R. § 1.3.

³ *Wireless Radio Services*. All radio services authorized in Parts 13, 20, 22, 24, 27, 74, 80, 87, 90, 95, 97 and 101 of this chapter, whether commercial or private in nature.

⁴ 47 C.F.R. § 1.931(a).

issued a major disaster declaration for Texas and Louisiana, all STA filings related to Hurricane Rita will be considered “emergency filings” pursuant to Section 1.915(b) of the Commission’s rules⁵ and will be processed as expeditiously as possible. Affected licensees must include a certification that the STA request is in response to the hurricane. To file STA requests via email or fax, or to receive an oral STA, licensees may contact the following personnel:

- Parts 22, 24, and 27 (excluding the Broadband Radio Service and Educational Broadband Service): James Gumbert (202) 418-1337; fax (202) 418-1412; James.Gumbert@fcc.gov.
- Parts 27 (Broadband Radio Service and Educational Broadband Service only), 74, and 101: Mary Shultz (717) 338-2656; fax (717) 338-2696; Mary.Shultz@fcc.gov.
- Parts 87, 90, 95, and 97: Tracy Simmons (717) 338-2657; fax (717) 338-2696; Tracy.Simmons@fcc.gov.

Finally, licensees are reminded that Sections 22.307, 90.407, and 101.205 of the Commission’s rules address operation during periods of emergency for licensees authorized under these rule parts.⁶ These rules allow licensees to provide emergency communications during a period of emergency in a manner or configuration not specified in the station authorization or in the rules governing such stations.

By the Acting Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

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⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 1.915(b).

⁶ 47 C.F.R. §§ 22.307, 90.407, 101.205.