



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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## OET SEEKS COMMENT ON BEST PRACTICES TO IMPLEMENT THE FAST-TRACK PRIORITY REVIEW PROCESS FOR APPLICATIONS TESTED IN TRUSTED LABS

ET Docket No. 26-119

**Comment Date: June 22, 2026**

**Reply Comment Date: July 6, 2026**

In the *Second Report and Order and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Second EA Integrity R&O)*, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) adopted a measure to strengthen national security and incentivize domestic testing and certification including the creation of a fast-track priority review process for applications tested in Trusted Test Labs.<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of equipment authorization, the Trusted Test Lab designation includes entities that have been accredited and recognized by the Commission and are located in the United States, in countries with Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) in which the FCC participates,<sup>2</sup> or in Reciprocal Economies.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) is currently seeking comment on best practices as the initiative is implemented.

### **Background**

FCC-recognized Telecommunications Certification Bodies (TCBs) are authorized to process most equipment authorization certifications for radio frequency equipment. However, some equipment authorization functions require additional oversight by the Commission. For these new and evolving technologies, the Pre-Approval Guidance (PAG) system provides the necessary review.<sup>4</sup> The PAG process applies to equipment types for which the Commission has not yet established specific guidelines. This may include new technologies, new rule parts that require Commission approval or case-by-case guidance, and technologies that raise recurring testing concerns. Current PAG items are named under the *KDB 388624 D02 Pre-Approval Guidance List* and include, but are not limited to: devices where RF

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<sup>1</sup> *Promoting the Integrity and Security of Telecommunications Certification Bodies, Measurement Facilities, and the Equipment Authorization Program*. ET Docket 24-136. Second Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration, and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 26-28, 91 FR 27843 (2026).

<sup>2</sup> The Commission participates in eight MRAs: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Telecom MRA; Intra-American Telecommunications Committee of the Organization of American States MRA; European Union MRA; European Free Trade Association (EFTA) MRA; Japan MRA; Israel MRA; Mexico MRA; and United Kingdom MRA. See FCC OET *KDB Publication 901874*, found at <https://www.fcc.gov/general/equipment-authorization-mutual-recognition-agreements>.

<sup>3</sup> The U.S. is a party to FTAs with the following countries: Australia, Bahrain, CAFTA-DR countries (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua), Chile, Colombia, Korea, Morocco, Oman, Panama, Peru, and USMCA countries (Mexico and Canada). The U.S. is a party to ARTs with the following economies: Argentina, Bangladesh, Cambodia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Ecuador.

<sup>4</sup> 47 CFR § 2.964.

exposure compliance demonstration relies on numerical simulations, portable transmitters operating at frequencies over 6GHz, devices that change their output power during transmission to meet RF exposure compliance, a device in which RF exposure compliance is supported by a phantom configuration, push-to-talk (PTT) radios, devices that use dynamic antenna tuning, devices operating with wide channel bandwidths, or in cases when it is necessary to account for a transmission duty factor to demonstrate compliance with exposure limits.<sup>5</sup>

Under our current procedures, when a device is subject to a PAG review and the TCB has finished its review of the complete application, the TCB must submit an inquiry to the Commission via OET and through the Knowledge Database (KDB) inquiry system.<sup>6</sup> This inquiry requests that OET review the portions of the application covered under the PAG. A device may be subject to one PAG or multiple PAGs. For example, a modern smartphone may fall under several distinct PAG items. After reviewing the PAG items, OET may request additional information or clarification from the TCB. Once OET completes its review, it notifies the TCB that it may proceed with certifying the device. Devices that are not subject to PAG generally move through the equipment authorization process more quickly because they do not require Commission review. In these cases, the TCB independently reviews the full application and issues the certification.

### **Request for Comment**

OET seeks general comment on best practices for the implementation of a fast-track PAG process for Trusted Test Labs, including:

- How should we best prioritize applications from Trusted Test Labs in the PAG review process? If an application includes components from multiple test labs, should only the PAG items tested by Trusted Test Labs qualify for the fast-track process?
- What should be removed from the PAG list to create a streamlined list with fewer equipment categories for fast-tracked applications that use Trusted Test Labs?
- Are there other measures we should consider that will aid in the removal of associated lag time with the PAG review and approval process for fast-tracked applications?
- Should we introduce a dedicated category into the KDB inquiry system for labs to identify applications tested by Trusted Labs?
- Are there any alternative approaches and additional considerations related to implementing a fast-track PAG process for Trusted Test Labs not listed in this Public Notice?

### **Procedural Matters**

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR §§ 1.415, 1.149, interested parties may file comments in ET Docket No. 26-119 on or before the date indicated on the first page of this document and should reference this public notice. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.

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<sup>5</sup> See FCC OET *KDB Publication 388624*: D01 Pre-Approval Guidance Procedure v13, and D02 Pre-Approval Guidance List, <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?id=28319&switch=P>.

<sup>6</sup> See *Id.* See also 47 CFR § 2.964.

- Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S. Postal Service mail. **All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.**
- All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
- Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
- U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be sent to 45 L St. NE, Washington, DC 20554.
- People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

We set deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 30 and 45 days, respectively, from the date of this Public Notice's release. Accordingly, comments must be filed on or before June 22, 2026, and reply comments must be filed on or before July 6, 2026.<sup>7</sup>

For further information, please contact Katherine Nevitt, Attorney Advisor, Office of Engineering and Technology, by email at [katherine.nevitt@fcc.gov](mailto:katherine.nevitt@fcc.gov) or by phone at (301) 362-3017.

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<sup>7</sup> See 47 CFR § 1.4(j).