

PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission - 1919 M Street, NW. - Washington, D.C. 20554



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COMMISSION ADOPTS INTERIM POLICY PENDING AMENDMENT OF FM RULES RELATING TO POWER VS. HEIGHT

40542

FCC 76-438

In concluding our rulemaking which culminated in the adoption of revised FM field strength curves, Report and Order in Dockets 16004 and 18052, 53 FCC 2d 855, 34 RR 2d 361 (1975), we did not amend Figure 3 of section 73.333 of our rules. Figure 3 contains power versus height curves for class A, B, and C FM stations and governs the reductions in power arising from the use of tall towers. We are presently preparing a replacement for figure 3 which takes into account the effect of the new field strength curves. Until such time as figure 3 is replaced, we will follow a policy of processing and granting applications with the average of the heights above average terrain for the eight radials greater than the maximum for the class of station provided that the distance to the 1 mV/m (60 dBu) contour is no greater than would occur if the station operated with the maximum power and height for the class of station. These determinations are, of course, made with the newly-adopted F(50,50) field strength curves. Thus, proposals with average heights above average terrain greater than the following values may propose powers such that the distance to the proposed 60 dBu contour does not exceed the specified distances:

| <u>CLASS</u> | <u>HEIGHT</u> | <u>DISTANCE</u> |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| A | 300 ft. | 14.5 miles |
| B | 500 ft. | 32.5 miles |
| C | 2000 ft. | 57.5 miles |

While this reflects a new Commission policy, this does not eliminate the necessity of complying with our agreements with Canada and Mexico. Thus, stations within 250 miles of the Canadian - United States border must comply with the Working Arrangement for Allocation of FM Broadcasting Stations on Channels 221-300 under the Canada - United States FM Agreement of 1947. And stations within 199 miles of the Mexican - United States border must comply with the Agreement Between the United States of America and the United Mexican States Concerning Frequency Modulation Broadcasting in the 88 to 108 MHz Band.