

The basis for these declarations was the actual and potential loss of life, the widespread nature of the event, and the need to supplement State and local emergency response efforts. During 1994, 11 major disaster declarations were approved for winter storms that caused significant physical damage to public infrastructure. In addition to heavy snow in certain areas, freezing rain and icing caused extensive power outages and health and safety hazards. More recently in the Blizzard of 1996, 14 major disaster declarations were approved for excessive snowfall, commonly referred to as the Storm of the Century.

Eligible costs for snow declarations in 1993 included all costs necessary to remove snow from one lane in each direction along all eligible roads as defined in 44 CFR 206.227. In 1996, eligible costs included those associated with removing snow from one lane in each direction along designated snow emergency routes, or similar routes in communities without officially designated snow emergency routes. In addition, removing snow from one lane in each direction along routes that provide access from the designated snow emergency routes to critical facilities such as hospitals, fire stations, police stations, custodial care facilities, etc. The rule also provides assistance for search and rescue activities along all roads and highways during the snow emergency period. This proposed rule is consistent with guidance used for the 1996 declarations for the Blizzard of 1996 with the addition of the search and rescue work.

Following the declarations in 1993 and 1996, several States and municipalities expressed their view that the amount of assistance FEMA provided was not consistent with the Stafford Act. They argued that all assistance authorized by the Stafford Act should be available for declarations resulting from snow. It is FEMA's position that snow removal is generally a maintenance responsibility of the State and local governments. Also, generally there is no permanent damage to facilities resulting from snow. Federal involvement should be supplemental to the State and local efforts and should be limited to providing for emergency access to address health and safety needs.

National Environmental Policy Act

This proposed rule would be categorically excluded from the preparation of environmental impact statements and environmental assessments as an administrative action in support of normal day-to-day grant

activities. No environmental assessment or environmental impact statement has been prepared.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Director certifies that this proposed rule would not be a major rule under Executive Order 12291, and would not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and is not expected (1) to affect adversely the availability of disaster assistance funding to small entities, (2) to have significant secondary or incidental effects on a substantial number of small entities, nor (3) to create any additional burden on small entities. Hence, no regulatory impact analysis has been prepared.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This proposed rule does not involve any collection of information for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Executive Order 12612, Federalism

In promulgating this rule, FEMA has considered the Executive Order 12612, Federalism. This rule makes no changes in the division of governmental responsibilities between the Federal government and the States. Grant administration procedures in accordance with 44 CFR part 13, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments, remain the same. No Federalism assessment has been prepared.

Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform

This rule meets the applicable standards of section 2(b)(2) of Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform, dated October 25, 1991, 3 CFR, 1991 Comp., p. 359.

List of Subjects in 44 CFR Part 206

Disaster assistance, Public assistance. Accordingly, 44 CFR part 206 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 206—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 206 continues to read as follows:

Authority: The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.*; Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978, 43 FR 41943, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p. 329, 5 U.S.C. App. 1; E.O. 12148, 44 FR 43239, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 412; and E.O. 12673, 54 FR 12571, 3 CFR, 1989 Comp., p. 214.

2. Section 206.227 is proposed to be revised to read as follows:

§ 206.227 Snow removal assistance

(a) The removal of snow from one lane in each direction along the following roads is eligible:

(1) Officially designated snow emergency routes.

(2) Roads similar to those listed in paragraph (a)(1) of this section in communities that do not have officially designated snow emergency routes.

(3) Roads that provide access from those listed in paragraphs (a) (1) and (2) of this section to critical facilities, such as emergency operations centers, police stations, hospitals and other critical care facilities.

(b) Snow emergency routes mean those roads posted as such that are required to remain clear of parked vehicles during designated snow emergencies to allow the passage of emergency vehicles.

(c) Search and rescue operations on roads and highways are eligible.

Dated: October 16, 1996.

James L. Witt,

Director.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No.96-209, RM-8885]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Belview, MN

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This document requests comments on a petition filed by Harbor Broadcasting, Inc., proposing the allotment of Channel 290A to Belview, Minnesota, as that community's first local broadcast service. The coordinates for Channel 290A are 44-42-08 and 95-14-46. There is a site restriction 12.4 kilometers (7.7 miles) northeast of the community.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before December 2, 1996, and reply comments on or before December 17, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, as follows: Thomas Lijewski, President, Harbor Broadcasting, Inc., 111 Marquette Avenue, No. 1501, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen Scheuerle, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 96-209, adopted October 4, 1996, and released October 11, 1996. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the Commission's Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW., Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractors, International Transcription Services, Inc., 2100 M Street, NW., Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037, (202) 857-3800.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contact.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 96-27287 Filed 10-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 96-207, RM-8874]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Cawker City, KS

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission requests comments on a petition by Ruby J. Hoeflicker proposing the allotment of Channel 242C3 at Cawker City, Kansas, as the community's first local FM service. Channel 242C3 can be allotted to Cawker City in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements without the imposition of site restriction. The coordinates for Channel 242C3 at Cawker City are 39-30-30 and 98-25-54.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before December 2, 1996, and reply comments on or before December 17, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: John B. Kenkel, Kenkel & Associates, 1901 L Street, N.W., Suite 290, Washington, D.C. 20036 (Counsel for petitioner).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Blumenthal, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 96-207, adopted October 4, 1996, and released October 11, 1996. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC's Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, D.C. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, ITS, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, NW, Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contacts.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 96-27284 Filed 10-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 96-206, RM-8877]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Raton, NM

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission requests comments on a petition filed by N'Joy Broadcasting, seeking the allotment of Channel 249A to Raton, NM, as the community's third local FM service. The Notice also proposes to allow the petitioner to amend its application (BPH-960124MA) for Channel 243A at Raton to reflect the new channel without loss of cut-off protection. The Notice also proposes to allot Channel 299A to Raton, as the community's fourth local FM service, if other parties express an interest in applying for Channel 249A. Channel 249A can be allotted to Raton in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements at a transmitter site 6.3 kilometers (3.9 miles) north of the community, at coordinates 36-57-18 NL; 104-25-22 WL, to accommodate the site proposed in petitioner's pending application. Channel 299A can be allotted to Raton with a site restriction of 5.5 kilometers (3.4 miles) southeast, at coordinates 36-51-21 NL; 104-22-16, to avoid a short-spacing to Station KDZA-FM, Channel 300C1, Pueblo, CO.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before December 2, 1996, and reply comments on or before December 17, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: Ms. Mary Alice Rateau, N'Joy Broadcasting, 8264 South Cody, Littleton, CO 80123 (Petitioner).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leslie K. Shapiro, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 96-206, adopted October 4, 1996, and released October 11, 1996. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, D.C. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in