

Federal Communications Commission

§ 5.309

§ 5.303 Frequencies.

Licensees may operate in any frequency band, except for the following:

(a) Frequency bands at or below 38.6 GHz that are designated as restricted in § 15.205(a) of this chapter; and

(b) Frequency bands above 38.6 GHz that are listed in footnote US246 of the Table of Frequency Allocations in § 2.106 of this chapter.

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§ 5.304 Area of operations.

Applications must specify, and the Commission will grant authorizations for, a geographic area that is inclusive of an institution's real-property facilities where the experimentation will be conducted and that is under the applicant's control. If an applicant wants to conduct experiments in more than one defined geographic area, it shall apply for a license for each location.

§ 5.305 Program license not permitted.

Experiments are not permitted under this subpart and a conventional experimental radio license is required when:

(a) An environmental assessment must be filed with the Commission as required by § 5.63(a), or

(b) An orbital debris mitigation plan must be filed with the Commission as required by § 5.64, or

(c) The applicant requires non-disclosure of proprietary information as part of its justification for its license application; or

(d) A product development or a market trial is to be conducted.

§ 5.307 Responsible party.

(a) Each program experimental radio applicant must identify a single point of contact responsible for all experiments conducted under the license, including

(1) Ensuring compliance with the notification requirements of § 5.309 of this part; and

(2) Ensuring compliance with all applicable FCC rules.

(b) The responsible individual will serve as the initial point of contact for all matters involving interference resolution and must have the authority to discontinue any and all experiments

being conducted under the license, if necessary.

(c) The license application must include the name of the responsible individual and contact information at which the person can be reached at any time of the day; this information will be listed on the license. Licensees are required to keep this information current.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 78 FR 25162, Apr. 29, 2013, §§ 5.307 was added. This section contains information collection and record-keeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

§ 5.308 Stop buzzer.

A "Stop Buzzer" point of contact must be identified and available at all times during operation of each experiment conducted under a program license. A "stop buzzer" point of contact is a person who can address interference concerns and cease all transmissions immediately if interference occurs.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 78 FR 25162, Apr. 29, 2013, §§ 5.308 was added. This section contains information collection and record-keeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

§ 5.309 Notification requirements.

(a) At least ten calendar days prior to commencement of any experiment, program experimental licensees must provide the following information to the Commission's program experimental registration Web site.

(1) A narrative statement describing the experiment, including a description and explanation of measures taken to avoid causing harmful interference to any existing service licensee;

(2) Contact information for the researcher-in-charge of the described experiment;

(3) Contact information for a "stop buzzer"; and

(4) Technical details including:

(i) The frequency or frequency bands;

(ii) The maximum equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) or effective radiated power (ERP) under consideration;

(iii) The emission designators to be used;

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(iv) A description of the geographic area in which the test will be conducted;

(v) The number of units to be used; and

(vi) A mitigation plan as required by §5.311, if necessary.

(5) For program license experiments that may affect frequency bands used for the provision of commercial mobile services, emergency notifications, or public safety purposes, a list of those critical service licensees that are authorized to operate in the same bands and geographic area of the planned experiment.

(b) Experiments may commence without specific approval or authorization once ten calendar days have elapsed from the time of posting to the above Web site. During that ten-day period, the licensee of an authorized service may contact the program licensee to resolve any objections to an experiment. It is expected that parties will work in good faith to resolve such objections, including modifying experiments if necessary to reach an agreeable resolution. However, only the Commission has the authority to prevent a program licensee from beginning operations (or to order the cessation of operations). Therefore, if an incumbent licensee believes that it will suffer interference (or in fact, has experienced interference), it must bring its concerns to the Commission for action. In such an event, the Commission will evaluate the concerns, and determine whether a planned experiment should be permitted to commence as proposed (or be terminated, if the experiment has commenced).

(c) The Commission can prohibit or require modification of specific experiments under a program experimental radio license at any time without notice or hearing if in its discretion the need for such action arises.

(d) Within 30 days after completion of each experiment conducted under a program experimental radio license, the licensee shall file a narrative statement describing the results of the experiment, including any interference incidents and steps taken to resolve them. This narrative statement must be filed to the Commission's program experimental registration Web site and

be associated with the materials described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(e)(1) The Commission may ask licensees for additional information to resolve an interference incident, gain a better understanding of new technology development, or for auditing purposes to ensure that licensees are actually conducting experiments. Failure to comply with a Commission request for additional information under this section, or if, upon review of such information, the Commission determines that a licensee is not actually conducting experimentation, could result in forfeiture of the program license and loss of privilege of obtaining such a license in the future.

(2) All information submitted pursuant to this section will be treated as routinely available for publicly inspection, within the meaning of §0.459 of this chapter. Licensees are permitted to request that information requested by the Commission pursuant to this section be withheld from public inspection. The Commission will consider such requests pursuant to the procedures set forth in §0.459 of this chapter.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 78 FR 25162, Apr. 29, 2013, §§5.309 was added. This section contains information collection and record-keeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

§5.311 Additional requirements related to safety of the public.

In addition to the notification requirements of §5.309, for experiments that may affect frequency bands used for the provision of commercial mobile services, emergency notifications, or public safety purposes, the program experimental radio licensee shall, prior to commencing transmissions, develop a specific plan to avoid interference to these bands. The plan must include provisions for:

(a) Providing notice to parties, including other Commission licensees that are authorized to operate in the same bands and geographic area as the planned experiment and, as appropriate, their end users;

(b) Rapid identification, and elimination, of any harm the experiment may cause; and