

Federal Communications Commission

§ 73.611

(f) The distances listed below apply only to allotments and assignments on Channel 6 (82–88 MHz). The Commission will not accept petitions to amend the Table of Allotments, applications for new stations, or applications to change the channel or location of existing assignments where the following minimum distances (between transmitter sites, in kilometers) from any FM Channel 253 allotment or assignment are not met:

MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION FROM FM
CHANNEL 253 (98.5 MHz)

| Fm Class | TV Zone I | TV Zones II & III |
|----------|-----------|----------------------|
| A | 17 | 22 |
| B1 | 19 | 23 |
| B | 22 | 26 |
| C3 | 19 | 23 |
| C2 | 22 | 26 |
| C1 | 29 | 33 |
| C | 36 | 41 |

(Secs. 4, 5, 303, 48 Stat., as amended, 1066, 1068, 1082 (47 U.S.C. 154, 155, 303))

[28 FR 13660, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 37 FR 25842, Dec. 5, 1972; 44 FR 65765, Nov. 15, 1979; 47 FR 35990, Aug. 18, 1982; 50 FR 23698, June 5, 1985; 51 FR 44070, Dec. 8, 1986; 54 FR 14964, Apr. 14, 1989; 54 FR 16368, Apr. 24, 1989; 54 FR 35340, Aug. 25, 1989]

§ 73.611 Reference points and distance computations.

(a) In considering petitions to amend the Table of Allotments (§ 73.606(b)), the following reference points shall be used by the Commission in determining assignment separations between communities:

(1) Where transmitter sites for the pertinent channels have been authorized in communities involved in a petition to amend the Table of Allotments, separations between such communities shall be determined by the distance between the coordinates of the authorized transmitter sites in the respective communities as set forth in the Commission's authorizations therefor.

(2) Where an authorized transmitter site is available for use as a reference point in one community but not in the other for the pertinent channels, separations shall be determined by the distance between the coordinates of the transmitter site as set forth in the FCC's authorization therefor and the

coordinates of the other community as set forth in the publication of the United States Department of the Interior entitled, Index to *The National Atlas of the United States of America*. If this publication does not contain the coordinates for said other community, the coordinates of the main post office thereof shall be used.

(3) Where no authorized transmitter sites are available for use as reference points in both communities for the pertinent channels, the distance between the two communities listed in the above publication shall be used. If said publication does not contain such distance, the separation between the two communities shall be determined by the distance between the coordinates thereof as set forth in the publication. Where such coordinates are not contained in the publication, the coordinates of the main post offices of said communities shall be used.

(4) Where the distance between the reference point in a community to which a channel is proposed to be assigned and the reference point in another community or communities does not meet the minimum separation requirements of § 73.610, the channel may be assigned to such community upon a showing that a transmitter site is available that would meet the minimum separation requirements of § 73.610 and the minimum field strength requirements of § 73.685. In such cases, where a station is not authorized in the community or communities to which measurements from the proposed channel assignment must be made pursuant to § 73.610 a showing should also be made that the distance between suitable transmitter sites in such other community or communities and the proposed transmitter site for the new channel meet the Commission's minimum spacing and coverage requirements.

(b) Station separations in licensing proceedings shall be determined by the distance between the coordinates of the proposed transmitter site in one community and

(1) The coordinates of an authorized transmitter site for the pertinent channel in the other community; or, where such transmitter site is not available for use as a reference point,

(2) The coordinates of the other community as set forth in the Index to *The National Atlas of the United States of America*; or if not contained therein,

(3) The coordinates of the main post office of such other community.

(4) In addition, where there are pending applications in other communities which, if granted, would have to be considered in determining station separations, the coordinates of the transmitter sites proposed in such applications must be used to determine whether the requirements with respect to minimum separations between the proposed stations in the respective cities have been met.

(c) In measuring assignment and station separations involving cities listed in the Table in combination, where there is no authorized transmitter site in any of the combination cities on the channel involved, separation measurements shall be made from the reference point which will result in the lowest separation.

(d) To calculate the distance between two reference points see paragraph (c), § 73.208. However, distances shall be rounded to the nearest tenth of a kilometer.

[52 FR 11655, Apr. 10, 1987]

§ 73.612 Protection from interference.

(a) Permittees and licensees of TV broadcast stations are not protected from any interference which may be caused by the grant of a new station or of authority to modify the facilities of an existing station in accordance with the provisions of this subpart. The nature and extent of the protection from interference accorded to TV broadcast stations is limited solely to the protection which results from the minimum allotment and station separation requirements and the rules and regulations with respect to maximum powers and antenna heights set forth in this subpart.

(b) When the Commission determines that grant of an application would serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity and the instrument of authorization specifies an antenna location in a designated antenna farm area which results in distance separation less than those specified in this subpart, TV broadcast station permit-

tees and licensees shall be afforded protection from interference equivalent to the protection afforded under the minimum distance separations specified in this subpart.

NOTE: The nature and extent of the protection from interference accorded to TV broadcast stations which were authorized prior to April 14, 1952, and which were operating on said date is limited not only as specified above but is further limited by any smaller separations existing between such stations on said date. Where, as a result of the adoption of the Table of Allotments or of changes in transmitter sites made by such stations after said date, separations smaller than the required minimum are increased but still remain lower than the required minimum, protection accorded such stations will be limited to the new separations.

[28 FR 13660, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 32 FR 8814, June 21, 1967; 50 FR 23698, June 5, 1985; 51 FR 44070, Dec. 8, 1986]

§ 73.613 Protection of Class A TV stations.

(a) An application for a new TV broadcast station or for changes in the operating facilities of an existing TV broadcast station will not be accepted for filing if it fails to comply with the requirements specified in this section.

NOTE TO § 73.613(a): Licensees and permittees of TV broadcast stations that were authorized on November 29, 1999 (and applicants for new TV stations that had been cut-off without competing applications or that were the winning bidder in a TV broadcast station auction as of that date, or that were the proposed remaining applicant in a group of mutually exclusive applications for which a settlement agreement was on file as of that date) may continue to operate with facilities that do not protect Class A TV stations. Applications filed on or before November 29, 1999 for a change in the operating facilities of such stations also are not required to protect Class A TV stations under the provisions of this section.

(b) Due to the frequency spacing which exists between TV channels 4 and 5, between channels 6 and 7, and between channels 13 and 14, first-adjacent channel protection standards shall not be applicable to these pairs of channels. Some interference protection requirements of this section only apply to stations transmitting on the UHF TV channels 14 through 51 (See § 73.603(a) of this part).