

Federal Communications Commission

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such directions a value exceeding the higher of:

(i) The value radiated in such directions with facilities last authorized before November 30, 1959, or

(ii) The limitation specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(b) To obtain the maximum permissible radiation for a Class B or Class D station on a given frequency from 640 through 990 kHz, multiply the radiation value obtained for the given distance and azimuth from the 500 kHz chart (Figure 9 of §73.190) by the appropriate interpolation factor shown in the K₅₀₀ column of paragraph (c) of this section; and multiply the radiation value obtained for the given distance and azimuth from the 1000 kHz chart (Figure 10 of §73.190) by the appropriate interpolation factor shown in the K₁₀₀₀ column of paragraph (c) of this section. Add the two products thus obtained; the result is the maximum radiation value applicable to the Class B or Class D station in the pertinent directions. For frequencies from 1010 to 1580 kHz, obtain in a similar manner the proper radiation values from the 1000 and 1600 kHz charts (Figures 10 and 11 of §73.190), multiply each of these values by the appropriate interpolation factors in the K₁₀₀₀ and K₁₆₀₀ columns in paragraph (c) of this section, and add the products.

(c) *Interpolation factors.* (1) Frequencies below 1000 kHz.

fkHz	K ⁵⁰⁰	K ¹⁰⁰⁰
640	0.720	0.280
650	0.700	0.300
660	0.680	0.320
670	0.660	0.340
680	0.640	0.360
690	0.620	0.380
700	0.600	0.400
710	0.580	0.420
720	0.560	0.440
730	0.540	0.460
740	0.520	0.480
750	0.500	0.500
760	0.480	0.520
770	0.460	0.540
780	0.440	0.560
800	0.400	0.600
810	0.380	0.620
820	0.360	0.640
830	0.340	0.660
840	0.320	0.680
850	0.300	0.700
860	0.280	0.720
870	0.260	0.740
880	0.240	0.760
890	0.220	0.780
900	0.200	0.800

fkHz	K ⁵⁰⁰	K ¹⁰⁰⁰
940	0.120	0.880
990	0.020	0.980

(2) Frequencies above 1000 kHz.

f'kHz	K ¹⁰⁰⁰	K ¹⁶⁰⁰
1010	0.983	0.017
1020	0.967	0.033
1030	0.950	0.050
1040	0.933	0.067
1050	0.917	0.083
1060	0.900	0.100
1070	0.883	0.117
1080	0.867	0.133
1090	0.850	0.150
1100	0.833	0.167
1110	0.817	0.183
1120	0.800	0.200
1130	0.783	0.217
1140	0.767	0.233
1160	0.733	0.267
1170	0.717	0.283
1180	0.700	0.300
1190	0.683	0.317
1200	0.667	0.333
1210	0.650	0.350
1220	0.633	0.367
1500	0.167	0.833
1510	0.150	0.850
1520	0.133	0.867
1530	0.117	0.883
1540	0.100	0.900
1550	0.083	0.917
1560	0.067	0.933
1570	0.050	0.950
1580	0.033	0.967

[28 FR 13574, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 49 FR 43962, Nov. 1, 1984; 56 FR 64868, Dec. 12, 1991]

§ 73.189 Minimum antenna heights or field strength requirements.

(a) Section 73.45 requires that all applicants for new, additional, or different broadcast facilities and all licensees requesting authority to move the transmitter of an existing station, shall specify a radiating system, the efficiency of which complies with the requirements of good engineering practice for the class and power of the station.

(b) The specifications deemed necessary to meet the requirements of good engineering practice at the present state of the art are set out in detail below.

(1) The licensee of a AM broadcast station requesting a change in power, time of operation, frequency, or transmitter location must also request authority to install a new antenna system or to make changes in the existing antenna system which will meet the

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minimum height requirements, or submit evidence that the present antenna system meets the minimum requirements with respect to field strength, before favorable consideration will be given thereto. (See § 73.186.) In the event it is proposed to make substantial changes in an existing antenna system, the changes shall be such as to meet the minimum height requirements or will be permitted subject to the submission of field strength measurements showing that it meets the minimum requirements with respect to effective field strength.

(2) These minimum actual physical vertical heights of antennas permitted to be installed are shown by curves A, B, and C of Figure 7 of § 73.190 as follows:

(i) Class C stations, and stations in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands on 1230, 1240, 1340, 1400, 1450 and 1490 kHz that were formerly Class C and were redesignated as Class B pursuant to § 73.26(b), 45 meters or a minimum effective field strength of 180 mV/m for 1 kW at 1 kilometer (90 mV/m for 0.25 kW at 1 kilometer). (This height applies to a Class C station on a local channel only. Curve A shall apply to any Class C stations in the 48 conterminous States that are assigned to Regional channels.)

(ii) Class A (Alaska), Class B and Class D stations other than those covered in § 73.189(b)(2)(i), a minimum effective field strength of 215 mV/m for 1 kW at 1 kilometer.

(iii) Class A stations, a minimum effective field strength of 275 mV/m for 1 kW at 1 kilometer.

(3) The heights given on the graph for the antenna apply regardless of whether the antenna is located on the ground or on a building. Except for the reduction of shadows, locating the antenna on a building does not necessarily increase the efficiency and where the height of the building is in the order of a quarter wave the efficiency may be materially reduced.

(4) At the present development of the art, it is considered that where a vertical radiator is employed with its base on the ground, the ground system should consist of buried radial wires at least one-fourth wave length long. There should be as many of these

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radials evenly spaced as practicable and in no event less than 90. (120 radials of 0.35 to 0.4 of a wave length in length and spaced 3° is considered an excellent ground system and in case of high base voltage, a base screen of suitable dimensions should be employed.)

(5) In case it is contended that the required antenna efficiency can be obtained with an antenna of height or ground system less than the minimum specified, a complete field strength survey must be supplied to the Commission showing that the field strength at a mile without absorption fulfills the minimum requirements. (See § 73.186.) This field survey must be made by a qualified engineer using equipment of acceptable accuracy.

(6) The main element or elements of a directional antenna system shall meet the above minimum requirements with respect to height or effective field strength. No directional antenna system will be approved which is so designed that the effective field of the array is less than the minimum prescribed for the class of station concerned, or in case of a Class A station less than 90 percent of the ground wave field which would be obtained from a perfect antenna of the height specified by Figure 7 of § 73.190 for operation on frequencies below 1000 kHz, and in the case of a Class B or Class D station less than 90 percent of the ground wave field which would be obtained from a perfect antenna of the height specified by Figure 7 of § 73.190 for operation on frequencies below 750 kHz.

[28 FR 13574, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 31 FR 8069, June 8, 1966; 33 FR 15420, Oct. 17, 1968; 44 FR 36033, June 20, 1979; 50 FR 18844, May 2, 1985; 51 FR 2707, Jan. 21, 1986; 51 FR 4753, Feb. 7, 1986; 52 FR 10570, Apr. 2, 1987; 56 FR 64868, Dec. 12, 1991; 81 FR 2760, Jan. 19, 2016]

§ 73.190 Engineering charts and related formulas.

(a) This section consists of the following Figures: 2, r3, 5, 6a, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13. Additionally, formulas that are directly related to graphs are included.

(b) Formula 1 is used for calculation of 50% skywave field strength values.

FORMULA 1. Skywave field strength, 50% of the time (at SS + 6):