

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities.

Number of Respondents: 1,996.

Estimated Hour Per Response: 37—159 hours (average) per response.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement.

Cost to Respondents: \$23,118,660.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 8,071 hours.

Needs and Uses: On 4/3/97, the Commission adopted a Fifth Report and Order in MM Docket No. 87-268. This Order adopted several rules with the following objectives: (1) to promote the success of free, universally available, local broadcast television in a digital world, thereby preserving free, widely accessible programming that serves the public interest; and (2) to attract consumers swiftly to digital broadcast service, thus allowing the NTSC spectrum to be recovered and turned to use for other beneficial purposes more rapidly.

Section 336 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 requires that the Commission limit the initial eligibility for digital television (DTV) licenses to persons that, as of the date of such issuance, are licensed to operate a television broadcast station or hold a permit to construct a television broadcast station. The Commission has issued a license to all eligible licensees and permittees in the form of an Appendix to the Fifth Report and Order in MM Docket No. 87-268. By issuing these DTV licenses with the Fifth Report and Order, the Commission has frozen initial eligibility and allowed the completion of the Table of Allotments. The license that we issued is a general instrument of authorization for licensees/permittees to receive and hold a second 6 MHz channel for the purpose of concerting to DTV. It is not an authorization to begin construction or operation.

To receive authorization for commencement of DTV operation, commercial broadcast licensees must file FCC 301 for a construction permit. This application may be filed anytime after receiving the initial DTV license but must be filed before the mid-point in a particular applicant's required construction period. The Commission has developed a new Section V-D for DTV engineering which will be added to the FCC 301. The Commission will consider these applications as minor changes in facilities. Applicants will not have to supply full legal or financial qualification information.

Federal Communications Commission.

William F. Caton,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-26419 Filed 10-3-97; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Public Information Collections Approved by Office of Management and Budget

September 30, 1997.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has received Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the following public information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. For further information contact Shoko B. Hair, Federal Communications Commission, (202) 418-1379.

Federal Communications Commission

OMB Control No.: 3060-0512.

Expiration Date: 09/30/2000.

Title: ARMIS Annual Summary Report (Formerly titled, "ARMIS Quarterly Report").

Form No.: FCC Report 43-01.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 150 respondents; 220 hours per response (avg.); 33,000 total annual burden hours for all collections.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Description: ARMIS was implemented to facilitate the timely and efficient analysis of revenue requirements and rate of return to provide an improved basis for audits and other oversight functions, and to enhance the Commission's ability to quantify the effects of alternative policy. The ARMIS Annual Summary Report (FCC Report 43-01), formerly the ARMIS quarterly Report, contains financial and operating data and is used to monitor the local exchange carrier industry and to perform routine analyses of costs and revenues. FCC Report 43-01 facilitates the annual collection of the results of accounting, rate base and cost allocation requirements prescribed in parts 32, 36, 64, 65, and 69. The information contained in the ARMIS Annual Summary Report provides the necessary detail to enable the Commission to fulfill its regulatory responsibilities.

Automated reporting of these data greatly enhances the Commission's ability to process and analyze the extensive amounts of data that are needed to administer its rules. It facilitates the timely and efficient analyses of revenue requirements, rates of return and price caps, and provides an improved basis for auditing and other oversight functions. It also enhances the Commission's ability to quantify the effects of policy proposals. Section 220 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 220, allows the Commission, at its discretion, to prescribe the forms of any and all accounts, records, and memoranda to be kept by carriers subject to this Act, including the accounts, records, and memoranda of the movement of traffic, as well as of the receipts and expenditures of moneys. Section 219(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 219(b), authorizes the Commission by general or special orders to require any carriers subject to this Act to file annual reports concerning any matters with respect to which the Commission is authorized or required by law to act. Section 43.21 of the Commission's rules details that requirement. Obligation to respond: mandatory.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0793.

Expiration Date: 03/31/98.

Title: Procedures for States Regarding Lifeline Consents, Adoption of Intrastate Discount Matrix for Schools and Libraries, and Designation of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers.

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for profit; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 890 respondents; 1.25 hours per response (avg.); 1120 total annual burden hours for all collections.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion; annually.

Description: On May 8, 1997 the Commission released Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Report and Order, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 97-157 (Order). In that Order, the Commission adopted rules providing funding for discounts to eligible schools and libraries. The Commission also adopted rules mandating that state commissions designate common carriers as eligible telecommunications carriers for service areas selected by state commissions in accordance with section 214(e). States and carriers are subject to the following requirements in order to receive universal service support. Section 54.403(a) of the Federal

Communications Commission's rules requires states to approve an additional reduction in the amount paid by any low-income consumer in order to receive additional federal Lifeline support. 47 CFR 54.403(a). We request states to send a one-page letter authorizing the reduction of intrastate rates. (No. of respondents: 50; annual burden per respondent: .5 hours; total annual burden: 25 hours). Section 54.505(e)(1) of the rules requires states to adopt discounts at least equal to the discounts established for interstate services. 47 CFR 54.505(e)(1). Each state must adopt an intrastate discount matrix with entries at least equal to those of the interstate discount matrix and send a notification letter indicating that it has done so. (No. of respondents: 50; annual burden per respondent: 2 hours; total annual burden: 100 hours). Section 54.201(b) requires states to designate common carriers as eligible telecommunications carriers for service areas designated by the state commission. 47 CFR 54.201(b). We request that states submit a list of carriers designated as eligible telecommunications carriers and the service areas such non-rural carriers are required to serve. (No. of respondents: 50; annual burden per respondent: 1 hour; total annual hour burden: 50 hours). Section 153(37) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, requires any local exchange carrier that seeks to be classified as a rural telephone company to certify to its status as a rural telephone company. 47 U.S.C. 153(37). Any local exchange carrier that seeks to be classified as a rural telephone company must file a letter with the Commission by April 30 of each year notifying the Commission that the LEC certifies itself to be a rural telephone company and explaining how the carrier meets at least one of the four criteria. (No. of respondents: 840; annual burden per respondent: 1 hour; total annual hour burden: 840 hours). If a LEC's status changes so that it becomes ineligible for certification as a rural carrier, that carrier must inform the Commission and the Universal Service Administrator within one month of the change in status. (No. of respondents: 210; annual burden per respondent: .5 hours; total annual hour burden: 105 hours). All of the requirements are necessary to implement the congressional mandate for universal service. These reporting requirements are necessary to verify that particular carriers and other respondents are eligible to receive universal service support. Obligation to respond: mandatory.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0756.

Expiration Date: 03/31/98.

Title: Procedural Requirements and Policies for Commission Processing of InterLATA Services Under Section 271 of the Communications Act.

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 75 respondents; 250 hours per response (avg.); 18,820 total annual burden hours for all collections.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Description: In a Public Notice released 9/19/97, the Commission revises various procedural requirements and policies relating to the Commission's processing of Bell Operating Company (BOC) applications to provide in-region, interLATA services pursuant to section 271 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 271 (Act). These procedures were originally established in a Public Notice released December 6, 1996 (FCC 96-469). Section 271 provides for applications on a state-by-state basis. a. Submission of Applications by the BOCs: BOCs must file applications which provide information on which the applicant intends to rely in order to satisfy the requirements of section 271. The applications will contain two parts, which include: (1) A stand-alone document entitled Brief in Support of Application by (Bell company name) for Provision of In-region, InterLATA Services in (State name) and (2) any supporting documentation. The Brief in Support will contain a concise summary of substantive arguments presented in the Brief, a statement identifying all of the agreements that the applicant has entered into pursuant to negotiations and/or arbitration under section 252, a statement identifying how the applicant meets the requirements of section 271(c)(1), a statement summarizing the status and findings of the relevant State proceedings (if any) examining the applicant's compliance with section 271, a statement describing the efforts the applicant has made to meet with likely objectors to narrow the issues in dispute, and all factual and legal arguments that the three requirements of section 271(d)(3) have been met. The application must also contain the name, address and phone number of the person who will address inquiries relating to access to any confidential information submitted by the applicant, and must contain an affidavit by an officer or duly authorized employee that "all information supplied in the

application is true and accurate to the best of its information and belief." The supporting documentation will contain, at a minimum, the complete public record of the relevant State proceedings (if any) examining the applicant's compliance with section 271, records of interconnection agreements, affidavits, etc. The supporting documentation shall be provided in appendices, separated by tabs and divided into volumes as appropriate. Each volume shall contain a table of contents that lists the subject of each tabbed section of that volume. The application shall include a list of all affidavits and the location of and subjects covered by each of those affidavits. The requirements of section 271(c)(2) will be met with this supporting documentation. All factual assertions, as well as expert testimony, must be supported by an affidavit or verified statement. All substantive arguments must be made in a legal brief (i.e., Brief in Support, comments, reply, ex parte comments) and not in affidavits or other supporting documentation. (No. of respondents: 7; annual hour burden per respondent: 125 hours; total annual burden: 6125 hours). b. Submission of Written Consultations by the State Regulatory Commissions: State regulatory commissions will file written consultations relating to the applications not later than approximately 20 days after the issuance of an Initial Public Notice establishing specific due dates for various filings. (No. of respondents: 49; annual hour burden per respondent: 120 hours; total annual burden: 5880 hours). c. Submission of Written Consultations by the U. S. Department of Justice: The Department of Justice will file written consultations relating to the applications not later than approximately 35 days after the issuance of the Initial Public Notice. (No. of respondents: 1; annual hour burden per respondent: 100 hours; total annual burden: 4900 hours). d. Submission of Written Comments by Interested Third Parties: Interested third parties may file comments on the applications not later than approximately 20 days after the issuance of the Initial Public Notice. All substantive arguments must be made in a legal brief (i.e., Brief in Support, comments, reply, ex parte comments) and not in affidavits or other supporting documentation. All parties submitting confidential information must identify a contact person who will address inquiries relating to access to that confidential information. Each volume of supporting documentation submitted by a party shall contain a table of

contents that lists the subject of each tabbed section of that volume. The party shall include a list of all affidavits and the location of and subjects covered by each of those affidavits. Parties shall not incorporate by reference, in their comment or replies, entire documents or significant portion of documents that were filed in other proceedings, such as comments filed in a previous section 271 proceeding. (No. of respondents: 75; annual hour burden per respondent: 25 hours; total annual burden: 1875 hours).

e. Replies: All participants in the proceeding may file a reply to any comment made by any other participant. Such replies will be due approximately 45 days after the Initial Public Notice is issued. (No. of respondents: 10; annual hour burden per respondent: 2 hours; total annual burden: 20 hours).

f. Motions: A dispositive motion filed with the Commission in a section 271 proceeding will be treated as an early-filed pleading and will not be subject to a separate pleading cycle, unless the Commission or Bureau determines otherwise. Non-dispositive motions will be subject to the default pleading cycle in section 1.45 or our rules, unless the Commission determines otherwise in a public notice. (No. of respondents: 10; annual hour burden per respondent: 2 hours; total annual burden: 20 hours). All of the requirements would be used to ensure that BOCs have complied with their obligations under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended before being authorized to provide in-region, interLATA services pursuant to section 271. Obligation to comply: mandatory.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0579.

Expiration Date: 09/30/2000.

Title: Expanded Interconnection with Local Telephone Company Facilities For Interstate Switched Transport Services

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 16 respondents; 124.7 hours per response (avg.); 1996 total annual burden hours for all collections.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$10,000.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Description: In the Second Report and Order and Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Expanded Interconnection proceeding, CC Docket No. 91-141 (Order), the Commission took another step toward enhancing competition in the access marketplace by requiring Tier 1 local exchange carriers (LECs), except NECA pool members, to provide expanded interconnection for interstate switched

transport services. In the Order, the Commission required Tier 1 LECs, except for NECA pool members, to provide expanded opportunities for third-party interconnection with their interstate switched transport facilities. The Commission concluded that expanded interconnection will likely increase competition, producing significant benefits for consumers that will outweigh any potential drawbacks. In the Order, the Commission concluded that the LECs should be required to provide certain cost support to justify the rate levels for the tariff charges to be paid by interconnectors for expanded interconnection. The Commission required the price cap LECs to provide cost support for the connection charges using the same methodology employed to support new services under the price cap rules. The Commission required the LECs to develop and justify consistent methodologies for deriving the direct cost of providing similar types of offerings, including expanded interconnection services covered by the connection charge elements. The Commission also required the LECs to justify any deviations from uniform overhead loadings that they propose for pricing connection charges, although it did not specify a particular methodology in advance. Under this approach, if a LEC proposes to price connection charges to reflect fully distributed overhead loadings, the Commission will compare such loadings to the overhead loadings used for other services and require justification for any differences. Rate of return LECs must support their rates under traditional cost support requirements. The Commission believes that this cost information is necessary to ensure the proper pricing of expanded interconnection offerings since they will be used by the LECs' competitors. The LECs may use approved, commonly used public utility ratemaking methodologies to develop the required cost support, including sampling and averaging of certain costs, and thereby minimize the burden of this requirement. Absent these requirements, the Commission is concerned that the LECs would have a strong incentive to price these services in a manner that would undermine the growth of competition in interstate access. Unless the interconnectors can purchase expanded interconnection offerings at rates that are just, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory, mandating expanded interconnection will not lead to effective competition and the anticipated benefits. Tariff filings to implement the density pricing plans

and volume and term discounts generally will be accompanied by the support required under existing price cap rules. This information is necessary to ensure that rates for special access services subject to density zone pricing are just, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory, and comply with the Commission's rules. The tariffs and cost support information accompanying them will be used by the FCC staff to ensure that the tariff rates to be paid for expanded interconnection and switched transport services are just, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory, as sections 201 and 202 of the Communications Act require. Without this information, the FCC would be unable to determine whether the rates for these services are just, reasonable, nondiscriminatory, and otherwise in accordance with the law. Tariffs will also be used by parties using expanded interconnection and switched transport offerings to ascertain the charges and other terms and conditions applicable to those offerings. Your obligation to respond: mandatory.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0774.

Expiration Date: 09/30/2000.

Title: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service—CC Docket No. 96-45, 47 CFR 36.611-36.612, and 47 CFR part 54.

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities; individuals or households; not-for-profit institutions; state, local or tribal government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 5,565,451 respondents; 3.1 hours per response (avg.); 1,784,220 total annual burden hours for all collections.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion; annually, one-time requirements.

Description: Congress directed the Commission to implement a new set of universal service support mechanisms that are explicit and sufficient to advance the universal service principles enumerated in section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and such other principles as the Commission believes are necessary and appropriate for the protection of the public interest, convenience and necessity, and are consistent with the Act. In the Report and Order issued in CC Docket No. 96-45, the Commission adopts rules that are designed to implement the universal service provisions of section 254. Specifically, the Order addresses: (1) Universal service principles; (2) services eligible for support; (3) affordability; (4) carriers eligible for universal service support; (5) support mechanisms for rural, insular,

and high cost areas; (6) support for low-income consumers; (7) support for schools, libraries, and health care providers; (8) interstate subscriber line charge and common line cost recovery; and (9) administration of support mechanisms. The reporting and

recordkeeping requirements contained in CC Docket No. 96-45 are designed to implement section 254 follow. The reporting and recordkeeping are necessary to ensure the integrity of the program. All the collections are necessary to implement the

congressional mandate for universal service. The reporting and recordkeeping requirements are necessary to verify that the carriers and other respondents are eligible to receive universal service support. Obligation to comply: mandatory.

Rule section/title (47 CFR)	Hours per response	Total annual burden
a. 36.611(a) and 36.612—Submission and Updating information to NECA	20	26,800
b. 54.101(c)—Demonstration of exceptional circumstances for toll-limitation grace period	50	100
c. 54.201(b)—(c)—Submission of eligibility criteria	1	3,400
d. 54.201(d)(2)—Advertisement of services and charges	50	65,000
e. 54.205(a)—Advance notice of relinquishment of universal service5	50
f. 54.207(c)(1)—Submission of proposal for redefining a rural service area	125	6,250
g. 54.307(b)—Reporting of expenses and number of lines served	2.5 (avg.)	4,100
h. 54.401(b)(1)—(2)—Submission of disconnection waiver request	2	100
i. 54.401(d)—Lifeline certification to the Administrator	1	1,300
j. 54.407(c)—Lifeline recordkeeping	80	104,000
k. 54.409(a)—(b)—Consumer qualification for Lifeline	5 min	440,000
l. 54.409(b)—Consumer notification of Lifeline discontinuance	5 min	44,000
m. 54.418(b)—Link Up recordkeeping	80	104,000
n. 54.501(d)(4) and 54.516—Schools and Libraries recordkeeping	41 (avg.)	372,000
o. 54.504(b)—(c), 54.507(d) and 54.509(a)—Description of services requested and certification	2	100,000
p. 54.601(b)(4) and 54.609(b)—Calculating support for health care providers	100	340,000
q. 54.601(b)(3) and 54.619—Shared facility recordkeeping	21 (avg.)	160,000
r. 54.607(b)(1)—(2)—Submission of proposed rural rate	3	150
s. 54.603(b)(1), 54.615(c)—(d) and 54.623(d)—Description of services requested and certification	1	12,000
t. 54.619(d)—Submission of rural health care report	40	40
u. 54.701(f)(1) and (f)(2)—Submission of annual report and CAM	40	40
v. 54.701(g)—Submission of quarterly report	10	40
w. 54.707—Submission of state commission designation25	850

Public reporting burden for the collections of information is as noted above. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the collections of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Washington, DC 20554.

Federal Communications Commission.

William F. Caton,
Acting Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 6712-01-U

FEDERAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS EXAMINATION COUNCIL

Community Reinvestment Act; Interagency Questions and Answers Regarding Community Reinvestment

AGENCY: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Consumer Compliance Task Force of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) is supplementing, amending, and republishing its Interagency Questions and Answers Regarding Community Reinvestment. The Interagency Questions and Answers have been prepared by staff of the Office

of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), the Federal Reserve Board (Board), the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), and the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) (collectively, the "agencies") to answer most frequently asked questions about community reinvestment. The Interagency Questions and Answers contain informal staff guidance for agency personnel, financial institutions, and the public. Staff of the agencies seek comment on the proposed questions and answers concerning how to determine whether particular activities have a "primary purpose" of community development. In addition, staff also invite public comment on the new and revised questions and answers, particularly the guidance regarding home mortgage loans to middle- and upper-income individuals in low- or moderate-income areas.

DATES: Effective date of amended Interagency Questions and Answers on Community Reinvestment: October 6, 1997. The agencies request that comments on the proposed questions and answers be submitted on or before December 5, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Questions and comments may be sent to Joe M. Cleaver, Executive Secretary, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, 2100

Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 200, Washington, DC 20037, or by facsimile transmission to (202) 634-6556.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

OCC: Malloy Harris, National Bank Examiner, Community and Consumer Policy Division, (202) 874-4446; or Margaret Hesse, Senior Attorney, Community and Consumer Law Division, (202) 874-5750, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20219.

Board: Glenn E. Loney, Associate Director, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, (202) 452-3585; or Robert deV. Frierson, Assistant General Counsel, Legal Division, (202) 452-3711, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20551.

FDIC: Bobbie Jean Norris, National Coordinator, Community Affairs and Community Reinvestment, Division of Compliance and Consumer Affairs, (202) 942-3090; or Ann Hume Loikow, Counsel, Legal Division, (202) 898-3796, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20429.

OTS: Theresa A. Stark, Project Manager, Compliance Policy, (202) 906-7054; or Richard R. Riese, Project Manager, Compliance Policy, (202) 906-