

- (2) Party hold, join, drop on conference calls;
- (3) Subject-initiated dialing and signaling information;
- (4) In-band and out-of-band signaling;
- (5) Timing information;
- (6) Dialed digit extraction, with a toggle feature that can activate/deactivate this capability.

[64 FR 51717, Sept. 24, 1999; 65 FR 18255, Apr. 7, 2000, as amended at 67 FR 22007, May 2, 2002]

## PART 25—SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

### Subpart A—General

Sec.

- 25.101 Basis and scope.
- 25.102 Station authorization required.
- 25.103 Definitions.
- 25.104 Preemption of local zoning of earth stations.
- 25.105–25.108 [Reserved]
- 25.109 Cross-reference.

### Subpart B—Applications and Licenses

#### GENERAL APPLICATION FILING REQUIREMENTS

- 25.110 Filing of applications, fees, and number of copies.
- 25.111 Additional information.
- 25.112 Defective applications.
- 25.113 Construction permits, station licenses, launch authority.
- 25.114 Applications for space station authorizations.
- 25.115 Application for earth station authorizations.
- 25.116 Amendments to applications.
- 25.117 Modification of station license.
- 25.118 Modifications not requiring prior authorization.
- 25.119 Assignment or transfer of control of station authorization.
- 25.120 Application for special temporary authorization.
- 25.121 License term and renewals.
- 25.129 Equipment authorization for portable earth-station transceivers.

#### EARTH STATIONS

- 25.130 Filing requirements for transmitting earth stations.
- 25.131 Filing requirements for receive-only earth stations.
- 25.132 Verification of earth station antenna performance standards.
- 25.133 Period of construction; certification of commencement of operation.
- 25.134 Licensing provisions of Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) and C-band

Small Aperture Terminal (CSAT) networks.

- 25.135 Licensing provisions for earth station networks in the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service.
- 25.136 Licensing provisions for user transceivers in the 1.6/2.4 GHz, 1.5/1.6 GHz, and 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Services.
- 25.137 Application requirements for earth stations operating with non-U.S. licensed space stations.
- 25.138 Blanket licensing provisions of GSO FSS Earth Stations in the 18.3–18.8 GHz (space-to-Earth), 19.7–20.2 GHz (space-to-Earth), 28.35–28.6 GHz (Earth-to-space) and 29.25–30.0 GHz (Earth-to-space) bands.
- 25.139 NGSO FSS coordination and information sharing between MVDDS licensees in the 12.2 GHz to 12.7 GHz band.

#### SPACE STATIONS

- 25.140 Qualifications of fixed-satellite space station licensees.
- 25.142 Licensing provisions for the non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service.
- 25.143 Licensing provisions for the 1.6/2.4 GHz mobile-satellite service and 2 GHz mobile-satellite service.
- 25.144 Licensing provisions for the 2.3 GHz satellite digital audio radio service.
- 25.145 Licensing conditions for the Fixed-Satellite Service in the 20/30 GHz bands.
- 25.146 Licensing and operating authorization provisions for the non-geostationary satellite orbit fixed-satellite service (NGSO FSS) in the bands 10.7 GHz to 14.5 GHz.
- 25.147 Licensing provision for NGSO MSS feeder downlinks in the band 6700–6875 MHz.
- 25.148 Licensing provisions for the Direct Broadcast Satellite Service.
- 25.149 Application requirements for ancillary terrestrial components in the mobile-satellite service networks operating in the 1.5/1.6 GHz, 1.6/2.4 GHz and 2 GHz mobile-satellite service.

#### PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS

- 25.150 Receipt of applications.
- 25.151 Public notice period.
- 25.152 Dismissal and return of applications.
- 25.153 Repetitious applications.
- 25.154 Opposition to applications and other pleadings.
- 25.155 Mutually exclusive applications.
- 25.156 Consideration of applications.
- 25.157 Consideration of NGSO-like satellite applications.
- 25.158 Consideration of GSO-like satellite applications.
- 25.159 Limits on pending applications and unbuilt satellite systems.

**Pt. 25**

**47 CFR Ch. I (10–1–04 Edition)**

FORFEITURE, TERMINATION, AND  
REINSTATEMENT OF STATION AUTHORIZATION

- 25.160 Administrative sanctions.
- 25.161 Automatic termination of station authorization.
- 25.162 Cause for termination of interference protection.
- 25.163 Reinstatement.
- 25.164 Milestones.
- 25.165 Posting of bonds.

**Subpart C—Technical Standards**

- 25.201 Definitions.
- 25.202 Frequencies, frequency tolerance and emission limitations.
- 25.203 Choice of sites and frequencies.
- 25.204 Power limits.
- 25.205 Minimum angle of antenna elevation.
- 25.206 Station identification.
- 25.207 Cessation of emissions.
- 25.208 Power flux density limits.
- 25.209 Antenna performance standards.
- 25.210 Technical requirements for space stations in the Fixed-Satellite Service.
- 25.211 Video transmissions in the Fixed-Satellite Service.
- 25.212 Narrowband transmissions in the 12/14 GHz GSO Fixed-Satellite Service.
- 25.213 Inter-Service coordination requirements for the 1.6/2.4 GHz mobile-satellite service.
- 25.214 Technical requirements for space stations in the satellite digital audio radio service.
- 25.215 Technical requirements for space stations in the Direct Broadcast Satellite Service.
- 25.216 Limits on emissions from mobile earth stations for protection of aeronautical radionavigation-satellite service.
- 25.217 Default service rules.
- 25.218–25.249 [Reserved]
- 25.250 Sharing between NGSO MSS Feeder links Earth Stations in the 19.3–19.7 GHz and 29.1–29.5 GHz Bands.
- 25.251 Special requirements for coordination.
- 25.252 Special requirements for ancillary terrestrial components operating in the 2000–2020 MHz/2180–2200 MHz bands.
- 25.253 Special requirements for ancillary terrestrial components operating in the 1626.5–1660.5 MHz/1525–1559 MHz bands.
- 25.254 Special requirements for ancillary terrestrial components operating in the 1610–1626.5 MHz/2483.5–2500 MHz bands.
- 25.255 Procedures for resolving harmful interference related to operation of ancillary terrestrial components operating in the 1.5/1.6 GHz, 1.6/2.4 GHz and 2 GHz bands.
- 25.256 [Reserved]
- 25.257 Special requirements for operations in the band 29.1–29.25 GHz between NGSO MSS and LMDS.

- 25.258 Sharing between NGSO MSS Feeder links Stations and GSO FSS services in the 29.25–29.5 GHz Bands.
- 25.259 Time sharing between NOAA meteorological satellite systems and non-voice, non-geostationary satellite systems in the 137–138 MHz band.
- 25.260 Time sharing between DoD meteorological satellite systems and non-voice, non-geostationary satellite systems in the 400.15–401 MHz band.
- 25.261 Procedures for avoidance of in-line interference events for Non Geostationary Satellite Orbit (NGSO) Satellite Network Operations in the Fixed Satellite Service (FSS) Bands.

**Subpart D—Technical Operations**

- 25.271 Control of transmitting stations.
- 25.272 General inter-system coordination procedures.
- 25.273 Duties regarding space communications transmissions.
- 25.274 Procedures to be followed in the event of harmful interference.
- 25.275 Particulars of operation.
- 25.276 Points of communication.
- 25.277 Temporary fixed earth station operations.
- 25.278 Additional coordination obligation for non-geostationary and geostationary satellite systems in frequencies allocated to the fixed-satellite service.
- 25.279 Inter-satellite service.
- 25.280 Inclined orbit operations.
- 25.281 Automatic Transmitter Identification System (ATIS).
- 25.282 Orbit raising maneuvers.
- 25.283 End-of-life disposal.
- 25.284 Emergency Call Center Service.

**Subpart E [Reserved]**

**Subpart F—Competitive Bidding  
Procedures for DARS**

- 25.401 Satellite DARS applications subject to competitive bidding.
- 25.402 [Reserved]
- 25.403 Bidding application and certification procedures.
- 25.404 Submission of down payment and filing of long-form applications.
- 25.405–25.406 [Reserved]

**Subparts G—H [Reserved]**

**Subpart I—Equal Employment  
Opportunities**

- 25.601 Equal employment opportunity requirement.

**Subpart J—Public Interest Obligations**

- 25.701 Public interest obligations.

AUTHORITY: 47 U.S.C. 701-744. Interprets or applies Sections 4, 301, 302, 303, 307, 309 and 332 of the Communications Act, as amended, 47 U.S.C. Sections 154, 301, 302, 303, 307, 309 and 332, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—General

#### § 25.101 Basis and scope.

(a) The rules and regulations in this part are issued pursuant to the authority contained in section 201(c)(11) of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962, as amended, section 501(c)(6) of the International Maritime Satellite Telecommunications Act, and titles I through III of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

(b) The rules and regulations in this part supplement, and are in addition to the rules and regulations contained in or to be added to, other parts of this chapter currently in force, or which may subsequently be promulgated, and which are applicable to matters relating to communications by satellites.

[28 FR 13037, Dec. 5, 1963, as amended at 56 FR 24015, May 28, 1991]

#### § 25.102 Station authorization required.

(a) No person shall use or operate apparatus for the transmission of energy or communications or signals by space or earth stations except under, and in accordance with, an appropriate authorization granted by the Federal Communications Commission.

(b) Protection from impermissible levels of interference to the reception of signals by earth stations in the Fixed-Satellite Service from terrestrial stations in a co-equally shared band is provided through the authorizations granted under this part.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991]

#### § 25.103 Definitions.

(a) *Communications common carrier.* The term “communications common carrier” as used in this part means any person (individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or other entity) engaged as a common carrier for hire, in interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio or in interstate or foreign radio transmission of energy, including such carriers as are described in sub-

section 2(b) (2) and (3) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and, in addition, for purposes of subpart H of this part, includes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or other entity which owns or controls, directly or indirectly, or is under direct or indirect common control with, any such carrier.

(b) *Authorized carrier.* The term “authorized carrier” means a communications common carrier which is authorized by the Federal Communications Commission under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to provide services by means of communications satellites.

(c) *Communications satellite corporation.* (1) The terms “communications satellite corporation” or “corporation” as used in this part mean the corporation created pursuant to the provisions of Title III of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962.

(2) The corporation shall be deemed to be a common carrier within the meaning of section 3(10) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

(d) *Communication-satellite earth station complex.* The term communication-satellite earth station complex includes transmitters, receivers, and communications antennas at the earth station site together with the interconnecting terrestrial facilities (cables, lines, or microwave facilities) and modulating and demodulating equipment necessary for processing of traffic received from the terrestrial distribution system(s) prior to transmission via satellite and of traffic received from the satellite prior to transfer of channels of communication to terrestrial distribution system(s).

(e) *Communication-satellite earth station complex functions.* The communication-satellite earth station complex interconnects with terminal equipment of common carriers or authorized entities at the interface; accepts traffic from such entities at the interface, processes for transmission via satellite and performs the transmission function; receives traffic from a satellite or satellites, processes it in a form necessary to deliver channels of communication to terrestrial common carriers or such other authorized entities and

delivers the processed traffic to such entities at the interface.

(f) *Interface.* The point of interconnection between two distinct but adjacent communications systems having different functions. The interface in the communication-satellite service is that point where communications terminal equipment of the terrestrial common carriers or other authorized entities interconnects with the terminal equipment of the communication-satellite earth station complex. The interface in the communication-satellite service shall be located at the earth station site, or if this is impracticable, as close thereto as possible.

(g) *Emergency call center (ECC).* A facility that subscribers of satellite commercial mobile radio services call when in need of emergency assistance by dialing “911” on their mobile satellite earth terminal.

[28 FR 13037, Dec. 5, 1963, as amended at 31 FR 3289, Mar. 2, 1966; 68 FR 63997, Nov. 12, 2003; 69 FR 6582, Feb. 11, 2004]

**§ 25.104 Preemption of local zoning of earth stations.**

(a) Any state or local zoning, land-use, building, or similar regulation that materially limits transmission or reception by satellite earth station antennas, or imposes more than minimal costs on users of such antennas, is preempted unless the promulgating authority can demonstrate that such regulation is reasonable, except that non-federal regulation of radio frequency emissions is not preempted by this section. For purposes of this paragraph (a), reasonable means that the local regulation:

(1) Has a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic objective that is stated in the text of the regulation itself; and

(2) Furthers the stated health, safety or aesthetic objective without unnecessarily burdening the federal interests in ensuring access to satellite services and in promoting fair and effective competition among competing communications service providers.

(b)(1) Any state or local zoning, land-use, building, or similar regulation that affects the installation, maintenance, or use of a satellite earth station antenna that is two meters or less in diameter and is located or proposed

to be located in any area where commercial or industrial uses are generally permitted by non-federal land-use regulation shall be presumed unreasonable and is therefore preempted subject to paragraph (b)(2) of this section. No civil, criminal, administrative, or other legal action of any kind shall be taken to enforce any regulation covered by this presumption unless the promulgating authority has obtained a waiver from the Commission pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section, or a final declaration from the Commission or a court of competent jurisdiction that the presumption has been rebutted pursuant to paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(2) Any presumption arising from paragraph (b)(1) of this section may be rebutted upon a showing that the regulation in question:

(i) Is necessary to accomplish a clearly defined health or safety objective that is stated in the text of the regulation itself;

(ii) Is no more burdensome to satellite users than is necessary to achieve the health or safety objective; and

(iii) Is specifically applicable on its face to antennas of the class described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(c) Any person aggrieved by the application or potential application of a state or local zoning or other regulation in violation of paragraph (a) of this section may, after exhausting all nonfederal administrative remedies, file a petition with the Commission requesting a declaration that the state or local regulation in question is preempted by this section. Nonfederal administrative remedies, which do not include judicial appeals of administrative determinations, shall be deemed exhausted when:

(1) The petitioner’s application for a permit or other authorization required by the state or local authority has been denied and any administrative appeal and variance procedure has been exhausted;

(2) The petitioner’s application for a permit or other authorization required by the state or local authority has been on file for ninety days without final action;

## Federal Communications Commission

## § 25.110

(3) The petitioner has received a permit or other authorization required by the state or local authority that is conditioned upon the petitioner's expenditure of a sum of money, including costs required to screen, pole-mount, or otherwise specially install the antenna, greater than the aggregate purchase or total lease cost of the equipment as normally installed; or

(4) A state or local authority has notified the petitioner of impending civil or criminal action in a court of law and there are no more nonfederal administrative steps to be taken.

(d) Procedures regarding filing of petitions requesting declaratory rulings and other related pleadings will be set forth in subsequent Public Notices. All allegations of fact contained in petitions and related pleadings must be supported by affidavit of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof.

(e) Any state or local authority that wishes to maintain and enforce zoning or other regulations inconsistent with this section may apply to the Commission for a full or partial waiver of this section. Such waivers may be granted by the Commission in its sole discretion, upon a showing by the applicant that local concerns of a highly specialized or unusual nature create a necessity for regulation inconsistent with this section. No application for waiver shall be considered unless it specifically sets forth the particular regulation for which waiver is sought. Waivers granted in accordance with this section shall not apply to later-enacted or amended regulations by the local authority unless the Commission expressly orders otherwise.

(f) A satellite earth station antenna that is designed to receive direct broadcast satellite service, including direct-to-home satellite services, that is one meter or less in diameter or is located in Alaska is covered by the regulations in § 1.4000 of this chapter.

[61 FR 10898, Mar. 18, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 46562, Sept. 4, 1996]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 61 FR 46562, Sept. 4, 1996, § 25.104 was amended by revising paragraph (b)(1) and adding paragraph (f). These paragraphs contain information collection and recordkeeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has

been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

### §§ 25.105–25.108 [Reserved]

### § 25.109 Cross-reference.

The space radiocommunications stations in the following services are not licensed under this part:

(a) Amateur Satellite Service, see 47 CFR part 97.

(b) Ship earth stations in the Maritime Mobile Satellite Service, see 47 CFR part 83.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 67 FR 51113, Aug. 7, 2002]

## Subpart B—Applications and Licenses

SOURCE: 56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

### GENERAL APPLICATION FILING REQUIREMENTS

### § 25.110 Filing of applications, fees, and number of copies.

(a) You can obtain application forms for this part by going online at [www.fcc.gov/ibfs](http://www.fcc.gov/ibfs), where you may complete the form prior to submission via IBFS, the IB electronic filing system.

(b) *Submitting your application.* All space station applications and all earth station applications must be filed electronically on Form 312. In this part, any party permitted or required to file information on Form 312 must file that information electronically through the International Bureau Filing System (IBFS) in accordance with the applicable provisions of part 1, subpart Y of this chapter.

(c) All correspondence and amendments concerning any application must identify:

- (1) The satellite radio service;
- (2) The applicant's name;
- (3) Station location;
- (4) The call sign or other identification of the station; and
- (5) The file number of the application involved.

(d) *Copies.* Applications must be filed electronically through IBFS. The Commission will not accept any paper version of any application.



to), in whole or in part, any rule, regulation or requirement.

(c) If an applicant is requested by the Commission to file any additional information or any supplementary or explanatory information not specifically required in the prescribed application form or these rules, a failure to comply with the request within a specified time period will be deemed to render the application defective and will subject it to dismissal.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 68 FR 51502, Aug. 27, 2003]

**§ 25.113 Construction permits, station licenses, launch authority.**

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section or in § 25.131, construction permits must be obtained for all fixed, temporary fixed or mobile earth stations governed by this part. Simultaneous application for a construction permit and station license may be made for all earth station facilities governed by this part.

(b) Construction permits are not required for satellite earth stations that operate with U.S.-licensed or non-U.S. licensed space stations. Construction of such stations may commence prior to grant of a license at the applicant's own risk. Applicants must comply with the provisions of 47 CFR 1.1312 relating to environmental processing prior to commencing construction.

(c) *FAA notification.* Before the construction of new antenna structures or alteration in the height of existing antenna structures is authorized by the FCC, a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) determination of "no hazard" may be required. To apply for this determination, the FAA must be notified of the planned construction. Criteria used to determine whether FAA notification is required for a particular antenna structure are contained in part 17 of this chapter. Applications proposing construction of one or more new antenna structures or alteration of the overall height of one or more existing antenna structures, where FAA notification prior to such construction or alteration is *not* required by part 17 of this chapter, must indicate such and, unless the reason is obvious (*e.g.* structure height is less than 6.10 meters AGL) must contain a statement ex-

plaining why FAA notification is not required.

(d) *Painting and lighting.* The owner of each antenna structure required to be painted and/or illuminated under the provisions of Section 303(q) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, shall operate and maintain the antenna structure painting and lighting in accordance with part 17 of this chapter. In the event of default by the owner, each licensee or permittee shall be individually responsible for conforming to the requirements pertaining to antenna structure painting and lighting.

(e) *Antenna Structure Registration Number.* Applications proposing construction of one or more new antenna structures or alteration of the overall height of one or more existing structures, where FAA notification prior to such construction or alteration is required by part 17 of this chapter, must include the FCC Antenna Structure Registration Number(s) for the affected structure(s). If no such number has been assigned at the time the application is filed, the applicant must state in the application whether or not the antenna structure owner has notified the FAA of the proposed construction or alteration and applied to the FCC for an Antenna Structure Registration Number in accordance with part 17 of this chapter for the antenna structure in question.

(f) Construction permits are not required for U.S.-licensed space stations. Construction of such stations may commence, at the applicant's own risk, prior to grant of a license. Prior to commencing construction, however, applicants must notify the Commission in writing they plan to begin construction at their own risk.

(g) Except as set forth in paragraph (h) of this section, a launch authorization and station license (*i.e.*, operating authority) must be applied for and granted before a space station may be launched and operated in orbit. Request for launch authorization may be included in an application for space station license. However, an application for authority to launch and operate an on-ground spare satellite will be considered pursuant to the following procedures:

(1) Applications for launch and operation of an on-ground spare NGSO-like satellite will be considered pursuant to the procedures set forth in § 25.157, except as set forth in paragraph (g)(3) of this section.

(2) Applications for launch and operation of an on-ground spare GSO-like satellite will be considered pursuant to the procedures set forth in § 25.158, except as set forth in paragraph (g)(3) of this section.

(3) Neither paragraph (g)(1) nor (g)(2) of this section will apply in cases where the space station to be launched is determined to be an emergency replacement for a previously authorized space station that has been lost as a result of a launch failure or a catastrophic in-orbit failure.

(h) Licensees of Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit (NGSO) satellite systems need not file separate applications to operate technically identical in-orbit spares authorized as part of a blanket license pursuant to § 25.114(e) or any other satellite blanket licensing provision in this part. However, the licensee shall notify the Commission within 30 days of bringing the in-orbit spare into operation, and certify that operation of this space station did not cause the licensee to exceed the total number of operating space stations authorized by the Commission, and that the licensee will operate the space station within the applicable terms and conditions of its license. These notifications must be filed electronically on FCC Form 312.

[56 FR 24016, May 28, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 4366, Feb. 6, 1996; 61 FR 9951, Mar. 12, 1996; 61 FR 55582, Oct. 28, 1996; 62 FR 5927, Feb. 10, 1997; 62 FR 64172, Dec. 4, 1997; 68 FR 51502, Aug. 27, 2003; 69 FR 47794, Aug. 6, 2004]

**§ 25.114 Applications for space station authorizations.**

(a) A comprehensive proposal shall be submitted for each proposed space station on FCC Form 312, Main Form and Schedule S, together with attached exhibits as described in paragraph (d) of this section.

(b) Each application for a new or modified space station authorization must constitute a concrete proposal for Commission evaluation. Each application must also contain the formal

waiver required by section 304 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 304. The technical information for a proposed satellite system specified in paragraph (c) of this section must be filed on FCC Form 312, Main Form and Schedule S. The technical information for a proposed satellite system specified in paragraph (d) of this section need not be filed on any prescribed form but should be complete in all pertinent details. Applications for all new space station authorizations must be filed electronically through the International Bureau Filing System (IBFS) in accordance with the applicable provisions of part 1, subpart Y of this chapter.

(c) The following information shall be filed on FCC Form 312, Main Form and Schedule S:

(1) Name, address, and telephone number of the applicant;

(2) Name, address, and telephone number of the person(s), including counsel, to whom inquiries or correspondence should be directed;

(3) Type of authorization requested (*e.g.*, launch authority, station license, modification of authorization);

(4)(i) Radio frequencies and polarization plan (including beacon, telemetry, and telecommand functions), center frequency and polarization of transponders (both receiving and transmitting frequencies),

(ii) Emission designators and allocated bandwidth of emission, final amplifier output power (identify any net losses between output of final amplifier and input of antenna and specify the maximum EIRP for each antenna beam),

(iii) Identification of which antenna beams are connected or switchable to each transponder and TT&C function,

(iv) Receiving system noise temperature,

(v) The relationship between satellite receive antenna gain pattern and gain-to-temperature ratio and saturation flux density for each antenna beam (may be indicated on antenna gain plot),

(vi) The gain of each transponder channel (between output of receiving antenna and input of transmitting antenna) including any adjustable gain step capabilities, and