

contact Cathy Williams, Federal Communications Commission, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554, regarding OMB Control Number 3060–1294. Please include the OMB Control Number in your correspondence. The Commission will also accept your comments via email at [PRA@fcc.gov](mailto:PRA@fcc.gov).

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice), (202) 418–0432 (TTY).

## Synopsis

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), the Commission is notifying the public that it received final OMB approval on October 19, 2021, for the information collection requirements contained in 47 CFR 2.106, 27.14(w), 27.1603, 27.1605, and 27.1607 Under 5 CFR part 1320, an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a current, valid OMB Control Number.

No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a current, valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for the information collection requirements in 47 CFR 2.106, 27.14, 27.1603, 27.1605, and 27.1607 is 3060–1294.

The foregoing is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13, October 1, 1995, and 44 U.S.C. 3507.

The total annual reporting burdens and costs for the respondents are as follows:

*OMB Control Number:* 3060–1294.

*OMB Approval Date:* October 19, 2021.

*OMB Expiration Date:* October 31, 2024.

*Title:* FCC Authorization for Radio Service License—3.45 GHz Band Service.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit entities, state, local, or tribal government, and not for profit institutions.

*Number of Respondents and Responses:* 56 respondents; 8,201 responses.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 5–20 hours.

*Frequency of Response:* Third party disclosure requirement; on occasion reporting requirement and periodic reporting requirement.

*Obligation to Respond:* Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory

authority for these collections are contained in 47 U.S.C. 151, 152, 154, 154(i), 155(c), 157, 201, 202, 208, 214, 301, 302a, 303, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 314, 316, 319, 324, 331, 332, 333, 336, 534, 535, and 554 of the Communications Act of 1934.

*Total Annual Burden:* 9,200 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* \$10,353,000.

*Privacy Act Impact Assessment:* No impact(s).

*Nature and Extent of Confidentiality:* In general, there is no need for confidentiality with this collection of information. Insofar as confidential information is submitted to the Department of Defense as part of the coordination by 3.45 GHz Service licensees with Federal incumbents, the Department of Defense will ensure that information remains confidential.

*Needs and Uses:* On March 17, 2021, the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission” or “FCC”) adopted a Second Report and Order, FCC 21–32, GN Docket No. WT–19–348 (Second Report and Order) that establishes rules for flexible-use wireless access to the 100 megahertz in the 3450–3550 MHz (3.45 GHz) band, creating the new 3.45 GHz Service. The rules will create additional capacity for wireless broadband allowing full-power operations across the band in the entire contiguous United States, while also ensuring full protection of incumbent Federal operations remaining in particular locations. As part of this process, the Commission also adopted rules related to the relocation of incumbent non-Federal radiolocation operations, the selection of a third-party reimbursement clearinghouse, and reimbursement of expenses related to such relocation.

Sections 2.016 and 27.1603 require a 3.45 GHz Service licensee whose license area overlaps with a Cooperative Planning Area or Periodic Use Area, as defined in those sections, to coordinate deployments pursuant to those licenses in those areas with relevant Federal agencies. This coordination may take the form of a mutually acceptable operator-to-operator coordination agreement between the licensee and the relevant Federal agency. In the absence of such an agreement, this coordination will include a formal request for access through a Department of Defense online portal, which will include the submission of information related to the technical characteristics of the base stations and associated mobile units to be used in the covered area. It does not require a revision to the FCC Form 601.

Section 27.1605 provides for the selection of a reimbursement clearinghouse and requires non-Federal,

secondary radiolocation operations which are relocating from the 3.45 GHz band to alternate spectrum to clear the band for new flexible-use wireless operations to submit certain information to the clearinghouse in order to ensure their relocation costs are fairly reimbursed. It does not require a revision to the FCC Form 601.

Section 27.1607 requires 3.45 GHz Service licensees to share certain information about their network operations in that band with operators in the adjacent Citizens Broadband Radio Service in order to enable the latter to synchronize their operations to reduce the risk of harmful interference. In response to a request by a Citizens Broadband Radio Service operator, a 3.45 GHz Service licensee must provide information to enable Time Division Duplex synchronization. The exact nature of the information to be provided will be determined by a negotiation between the two entities, conducted on a good faith basis. The 3.45 GHz Service licensee must keep the information current as its network operations change. This does not require a revision to the FCC Form 601.

Section 27.14(w) requires 3.45 GHz Service licensees to provide information on the extent to which they provide service in their license areas. Licensees are required to file two such reports: The first four (4) years after its initial license grant and the second eight (8) years after such grant, unless they failed to meet the first set of performance requirements, in which case the second report is due seven (7) years after the initial grant. These reports are filed alongside the Form 601 and require no revisions to it.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Katura Jackson,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 20

[WT Docket No. 20–3; FCC 21–28; FR ID–55565]

### Standards for Hearing Aid-Compatible Handsets

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Final rule; announcement of effective date.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Communications Commission (Commission) announces that the Office of Management and

Budget (OMB) has approved, for a period of three years, the information collection requirements associated with the amendment of the Commission's rules governing standards for hearing aid-compatible handsets. This document is consistent with the Report and Order, which stated that the Commission would publish a document in the **Federal Register** announcing OMB approval and the effective date of the information collection requirements.

**DATES:** The rule amendments contained in 47 CFR 20.19(f), (h)(1), and (i), published at 86 FR 23614, May 4, 2021, are effective on November 4, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information contact Cathy Williams, at (202) 418–2918 or via email: [Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov](mailto:Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This document announces that, on October 19, 2021, OMB approved the information collection requirements contained in the Commission's Report and Order, FCC 21–28, published at 86 FR 23614, May 4, 2021. The OMB Control Number is 3060–0999. The Commission publishes this document as an announcement of the effective date of the information collection requirements.

## Synopsis

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), the Commission is notifying the public that it received OMB approval on October 19, 2021, for the information collection requirements contained in the revisions to § 20.19(f), (h)(1), and (i).

No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a current, valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number is 3060–0999.

The foregoing is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13, October 1, 1995, and 44 U.S.C. 3507.

The total annual reporting burdens and costs for the respondents are as follows:

*OMB Control No.:* 3060–0999.

*OMB Approval Date:* October 19, 2021.

*OMB Expiration Date:* October 31, 2024.

*Title:* Hearing Aid Compatibility Status Report and Section 20.19, Hearing Aid-Compatible Mobile Handsets (Hearing Aid Compatibility Act).

*Form Numbers:* FCC Form 655 and FCC Form 855.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit entities.

*Number of Respondents and Responses:* 934 respondents; 934 responses.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 13.9710921 hours per response (average).

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion and annual reporting requirements, recordkeeping requirements, and third-party disclosure requirements.

*Obligation to Respond:* Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i), 157, 160, 201, 202, 214, 301, 303, 308, 309(j), 310, and 610 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

*Total Annual Burden:* 13,049 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* No cost.

*Needs and Uses:* The changes to the information collection concern the Commission's wireless hearing aid compatibility rules as they relate to the obligations of wireless handset manufacturers and wireless service providers to: (1) Label and disclose certain information related to handset packaging; (2) post certain information on their publicly accessible websites; and (3) file annual status reports and certification. No changes were made to the information collection as related to standards development and the approved number of estimated respondents and responses.

The revisions to the information collection were necessitated by a Report and Order in WT Docket No. 20–3, FCC 21–28, adopted on February 16, 2021, published at 86 FR 23614, May 4, 2021. In the Report and Order, the Commission adopted a new technical standard for determining hearing aid compatibility between hearing aids and wireless handsets and made other corresponding and implementation changes. In addition, the Commission revised the information that handset manufacturers and service providers must include on hearing aid-compatible wireless handset package labels and in the related package inserts or user manuals. The Commission revised the labeling rule to streamline the rule and remove outdated requirements. The new rule requires that the package label provide the volume control capabilities of a hearing aid-compatible handset that meets volume control requirements, and it maintains the requirement that a hearing aid-compatible handset's package label state that the handset is hearing aid-compatible. The new rule still requires hearing aid-compatible handsets to list the handset's hearing aid-compatible rating but moves the location in which it is required to be listed from the package label to the

package insert or user manual. The other requirements for package inserts and user manuals have not changed, but the requirements have been reorganized to make them easier to follow. The Commission's labeling revisions continue to allow consumers to access the information that they need to understand the hearing aid compatibility of handsets they are considering for purchase. At the same time, the labeling revisions give handset manufacturers and service providers flexibility in designing package labels and conveying supplemental information.

The Report and Order also revised website posting requirements for handset manufacturers and service providers. The revised rule requires handset manufacturers and service providers to post to their publicly accessible websites the technical standard used to determine hearing aid compatibility in addition to the information that handset manufacturers and service providers are presently required to post. Further, the website posting requirement has been revised to eliminate the requirement that service providers post to their publicly accessible websites the different levels of functionality of the hearing aid-compatible handsets that they offer to the public. This change offsets any burden added by the requirement that service providers post the technical standard used to determine hearing aid compatibility.

Finally, the Report and Order addressed the status reporting and certification requirements for handset manufacturers and service providers. The Report and Order revised the dates that service providers must file their FCC Form 855 certifications and handset manufacturers must file their FCC Form 655 status reports. The forms were due January 15 and July 15 each year, respectfully, and now are due by January 31 and July 31. These changes were made to accommodate Federal holidays at the start of January and July and to make sure the forms contain information for the full preceding 12-month periods. The Commission uses these forms as the principal way to ensure compliance with its wireless hearing aid compatibility requirements. The Commission also revised the forms to reflect the Commission's current hearing aid compatibility *de minimis* provisions and to reflect the Commission's new mailing address.

The changes that the Commission made to the wireless hearing aid compatibility information collection benefit handset manufacturers and service providers by reducing regulatory

burden while continuing to ensure that the Commission can fulfill its statutory obligation to monitor compliance with

its hearing aid compatibility rules and make more complete and accessible information available to consumers.

Federal Communications Commission.  
**Katura Jackson,**  
*Federal Register Liaison Officer.*  
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