



JAN 2011

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NEWS

BAS POLICY CHANGE

Frequency coordination is required for most microwave broadcast auxiliary changes.

Dec 1, 2010 12:00 PM, By Harry C. Martin

The FCC's Wireless Bureau has issued a declaratory ruling clarifying that a frequency coordination is required for Broadcast Auxiliary Service (BAS) microwave applications above 2110MHz whenever a change could affect other licensees. This requirement applies regardless of whether the change is "major" or "minor." New BAS fixed microwave links and major changes in existing links must go through a formal frequency coordination process. This procedure allows existing licensees and applicants who may be affected to protest, before a license application is filed with the FCC.

What constitutes a major change

Major changes requiring prior coordination include changes in:

- location of more than five seconds of latitude or longitude;
- area of operation;
- frequency tolerance and transmission bandwidth;
- emission type (including conversion from analog to digital);
- EIRP (power), if increased by more than 3dB;
- antenna beam width or polarization; and
- antenna height, if increased by more than 3m.

Thus, if a change affects the extent to which a signal can cause interference to others, the change generally is major, and the applicant must always coordinate before filing for a license. Several engineering firms offer coordination services. The coordination process takes 30 days or more.

Policy for minor changes

Until the FCC's recent ruling, minor changes — which have less impact than the major change categories noted above — could be implemented as a matter of right. However, under the prior policy, if a minor change involved any change in operating parameters, the FCC had to be notified through the filing of a license application within 30 days after the change was made.

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To head off interference, the engineering community asked the FCC to require coordination prior to implementation of even minor changes. The FCC agreed, but ruled that coordination of minor changes would be required only if the proposed change "could affect or be affected by" anyone else's facilities, in which case an applicant must coordinate before implementing a minor change and filing its license application.

In spite of this change in policy, the FCC is not requiring applicants for minor changes to include evidence of coordination as part of their Form 601 applications. But minor change applicants nevertheless have to complete such studies before filing if another station might be affected. In those cases where a minor change by one facility will *lessen* interference to another, the applicant must, as in the past, file a license application within 30 days after the change is made, so that the FCC can update the database used by coordinators

Who is not affected

The formal coordination process, described in Section 101.103(d) of the FCC's rules, is not required for fixed or mobile stations below 2110MHz (including 2GHz ENG systems), mobile stations in higher bands, or short-term operation of 30 days or less under Section 74.24. In those situations, informal coordination is required with all licensees in the area. Informal coordination entails contacting a local frequency coordinating committee if one exists, or otherwise contacting anyone you can find who might be affected by the proposed operation.

Harry C. Martin is a member of Fletcher, Heald and Hildreth, PLC

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EL PASO, TX CHAPTER 38 MEETING MINUTE
DATE **12/14/2010** LOCATION: **GRAND CHINA BUF.**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 12:05 PM, BY ANTONIO CASTRO, THERE WERE 27 MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY: MINUTES ACCEPTED AS POSTED IN THE NEWSLETTER BY NORBERT MILES

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: CURRENT BALANCE OF \$ 6,133.82, PAID SBE END OF THE YEAR PARTY. ACCEPTED BY BRUNO CRUZ

REPORT OF THE CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE: DON BOHRER STILL APPLING FOR CNBE CERTIFICATION

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: INVOICES FOR MEMBERS AND SUSTAINING MEMBERS TO BE SENT THIS MONTH.

REPORT OF THE FREQUENCY COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: NO REPORT

REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: RICHARD VILLARDEL ASKED IF IN SPRING OR FALL 2011 WILL GRANT SCHOOLARSHIPS. TO BE DISCUSSED FOR NEXT MONTH.

REPORT OF THE WEB SITE COMMITTEE : ADDED PICTURES OF SBE END OF YEAR PARTY. REMAINDED THE GROUP HOW TO ACCESS OUR SITE

REPORT OF THE EAS CHAIRMAN : RON HANEY WAS BUSSY, BUT HE REPORTED ABOUT CIVIL EMERGENCIES NOT TO BE TRANSMITTED .

REPORT OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE: HARRIS PRESENTATION WAS GRAT. FOR NEXT MONTH, MAYAH COMMS. IS INVITED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DINNER AT “MI GENERAL” WAS DELICIOUS WITH THE ATTENDANCE OF 13 TOTAL.

NEW BUSINESS OR ANY ITEMS FOR THE CHAPTER INTEREST: WILL SEND BALLOTS FOR OFICIAL ELECTIONS AND COLLECT THEM BY E-MAIL.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION: JANUARY 13, 2011, LOCATION : GRAND CHINA BUFFET SUNLAND PARK. 11:45 AM

MEEETING ADJOURNED: 12:30 PM .ACCEPTED BY BRUNO CRUZ AND TURNED TO THE PRESENTATION OF HARRIS.

A REMAINDER TO VISIT THE “ONLINE ENGINEER” SITE (A LINK IS PROVIDED IN OUR SITE WWW.KINT98.COM).

WE JUST SENT A “DONATION” FOR HELPING ON THE COST OF PUBLISHING.

THE TUTORIALS ARE EXCELLENT FOR ANY LEVEL OF OUR TECHNICAL MEMBERS. DO NOT MISS THE OPORTUNITY TO SHOW TO YOUR YOUNG CREW (AND OLD TOO). ALSO IS RECOMMENDED FOR STUDENTS.....AND IT IS FREE !!

JANUARY PROGRAM

DECEMBER PRESENTATION WAS A SUCCESS THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS FROM HARRIS FOR HOSTING THE LUNCH. THE ATTENDANCE WAS A RECORD.

FOR OUR JANUARY MEETING, WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY PRESENTATION, BUT AT THE VERY LAST MINUTE, WE HAD THE OFFER FROM KEVIN DENNIS, REGIONAL SALES MANAGER FOR **VISLINK**, NAME THAT COVERS "ADVENT", "LINK" AND "MRC".

WE SAID YES, AND IT WAS A VERY INFORMATIVE ONE ALONG WITH OUR MONTHLY MEETING. IT WAS HELD AT THE INSTALLATIONS OF "CLEARCHANNEL COMMUNICATIONS".

THE INVITATION WAS SEND TO OUR CHAPTER MEMBERS THE DAY BEFORE VIA E-MAIL. COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS WERE OFFERED.



IN OUR WEBSITE ...
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YOU CAN FIND A LINK FOR
THE "OnLineEngineer" (OLE)