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FCC CLARIFIES TRANSMITTER SITE MAP REQUIREMENTS

This notice is part of the Commission's continuing effort to expedite the processing of FM applications in order to bring new broadcast service to the public as rapidly as possible.

When applying for an FM station construction permit, one of the submissions required by FCC forms 301 and 340 is a 7.5 minute series U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle map upon which is marked the transmitter site.

In order to allow the Commission's processing staff to verify the correctness of the geographic coordinates provided in an application, it is necessary for this site map to show along the printed margin of both axes at least two coordinate markings, specifically lableled by the USGS, one on either side of the marked site. Additionally, a scale of kilometers or miles (kilometers, if available) and all of the identifying map information must be included. The site should be plotted on a full scale map, and all of the contour lines must be clearly visible. Faded, smudged or otherwise illegible maps are unacceptable. Photocopies are acceptable in lieu of actual USGS Maps, provided they are clear, dark and legible. It is not necessary to submit an entire map. (although this is perfectly acceptable) but only as much as is necessary to fully comply with the requirements described above.

In certain cases it may be inconvienient to provide a full scale photocopy which includes both the site and the margins. This can occur when the site lies towards the center of the map. In this case the following alternative is acceptable. Provide a full scale copy of the section of the map containing the site. This copy must include either four of the standard printed cross-marks or one margin and two cross-marks. Fine lines should be drawn between the marks in such a fashion as to enclose the site. Each of these lines should be labeled with the appropriate latitude or longitude. This full scale map section must include all the information specified in the previous paragraph. In addition, a reduced copy of the entire map must be included to allow the Commission's staff to verify that the lines have been correctly labeled.

If the above requirements are not met, the application will be returned without further review. Prospective applicants should understand that the Commission cannot process an application to grant without being able to verify the correctness of the site elevation and site coordinates. These coordinates serve as the reference point for all calculations of spacing, coverage and interference.

For further information, contact Robert Greenberg at (202)632-6908