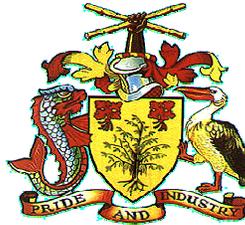


Appendix 3



Government of Barbados

**This Policy is in accordance with Sections 4(b)
and
4(f) of the Telecommunications Act 2001-36**

**Transmitting Antenna RF Emission Safety:
Rules, Procedures and Practical Guidance**

23 June 2003

GUIDE TO TRANSMITTING ANTENNA RF EMISSION SAFETY: RULES, PROCEDURES, AND PRACTICAL GUIDANCE

The original document “A Local Government Official’s Guide to Transmitting Antenna RF Emission Safety: Rules, Procedures, and Practical Guidance” was prepared by the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) and adopted by the Telecommunications Unit of the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, by the kind permission of the Federal Communication Commission.

The guidelines set out the precautions that should be taken to protect members of the public and others against the possible harmful effects of intense radio-frequency radiation.

The guidelines comprise a set of recommendations designed to prevent possible harmful effects, thermal or otherwise, on the human body due to intense radiation from radio transmitting stations and other radio-frequency equipment operating between 30 and 30,000 MHz (wavelengths between 1,000 and 1cm respectively), this being the frequency range in which, with current practice, harmful effects can most likely occur.

The guidelines are intended to safeguard:

- (a) members of the general public; and
- (b) operating and maintenance personnel working in radio-frequency environments.

They are also intended to apply to all classes of fixed and mobile radio transmitting stations (including those for communications, broadcasting, and to radio-frequency equipment used for scientific and industrial purposes.

In general, only a few special types of radio stations such as cellular and PCS transmitting stations might give rise to radiation intensities such as to call for the precautions referred to in the guidelines.

Appendix A to the guidelines contains a checklist that identifies “categorically excluded” facilities that are unlikely to cause RF exposures in excess of the FCC’s guidelines.

Appendix B contains tables and figures that set forth, for some of the most common types of facilities, “worst case” distances beyond which there is no realistic possibility that exposure could exceed the FCC’s guidelines.

It is recognized that any instance of noncompliance with the guidelines is potentially very serious, and the Telecommunication Unit has therefore implemented procedures to enforce compliance with these rules.

This document addresses only the issue of compliance with RF exposure limits established by these guidelines. It does not address other issues such as construction, siting, permits, inspection, zoning, environmental review, and placement of antenna facilities within communities. Such issues fall generally under the jurisdiction of the Town Planning Act.

This document starts with a summary of the FCC's RF exposure guidelines and some background information. Next, is a review the procedures for verifying compliance with the guidelines and enforcing its rules. Finally, some practical guidance to help determine if personal wireless service facilities may raise compliance concerns. Detailed technical information necessary to determine compliance for individual sites is contained in the FCC's OET Bulletin 65 (see footnote 1, above).

The limits for maximum permissible exposure (MPE) to RF emissions depend on the frequency or frequencies that a person is exposed to. Different frequencies may have different MPE levels.

I. The FCC's RF Exposure Guidelines and Rules.

The FCC guidelines are based on exposure criteria recommended in 1986 by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) and on the 1991 standard developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and later adopted as a standard by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI/IEEE C95.1-1992).

The FCC's guidelines establish separate MPE limits for "general population/uncontrolled exposure" and for "occupational/controlled exposure." The general population/uncontrolled limits set the maximum exposure to which most people may be subjected. People in this group include the general public not associated with the installation and maintenance of the transmitting equipment. Higher exposure limits are permitted under the "occupational/controlled exposure" category, but only for persons who are exposed as a consequence of their employment (*e.g.*, wireless radio engineers, technicians). To qualify for the occupational/controlled exposure category, exposed persons must be made fully aware of the potential for exposure (*e.g.*, through training), and they must be able to exercise control over their exposure. In addition, people passing through a location, who are made aware of the potential for exposure, may be exposed under the occupational/controlled criteria. The MPE limits adopted by the FCC for occupational/controlled and general population/uncontrolled exposure incorporate a substantial margin of safety and have been established to be well below levels generally accepted as having the potential to cause adverse health effects.

Determining whether a potential health hazard could exist with respect to a given transmitting antenna is not always a simple matter. Several important factors must be considered in making that determination. They include the following:

- (1) What is the frequency of the RF signal being transmitted?
- (2) What is the operating power of the transmitting station and what is the actual power radiated from the antenna?
- (3) How long will someone be exposed to the RF signal at a given distance from the antenna?
- (4) What other antennas are located in the area, and what is the exposure from those antennas? We'll explore each of these issues in greater detail below.

For all frequency ranges at which FCC licensees operate, Section 1.1310 of the FCC's rules establishes maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits to which people may be exposed. The MPE limits vary by frequency because of the different absorptive properties of the human body at different frequencies when exposed to whole-body RF fields. Section 1.1310 establishes MPE limits in terms of "electric field strength," "magnetic field strength," and "far-field equivalent power density" (power density). For most frequencies used by the wireless services, the most relevant measurement is power density. The MPE limits for power density are given in terms of "milliwatts per square centimeter" or mW/cm^2 . In terms of power density, for a given frequency the FCC MPE limits can be interpreted as specifying the maximum rate that energy can be transferred (*i.e.*, the power) to a square centimeter of a person's body over a period of time (either 6 or 30 minutes, as explained below). In practice, however, since it is unrealistic to measure separately the exposure of each square centimeter of the body, actual compliance with the FCC limits on RF emissions should be determined by "spatially averaging" a person's exposure over the projected area of an adult human body (this concept is discussed in the FCC's OET Bulletin 65).

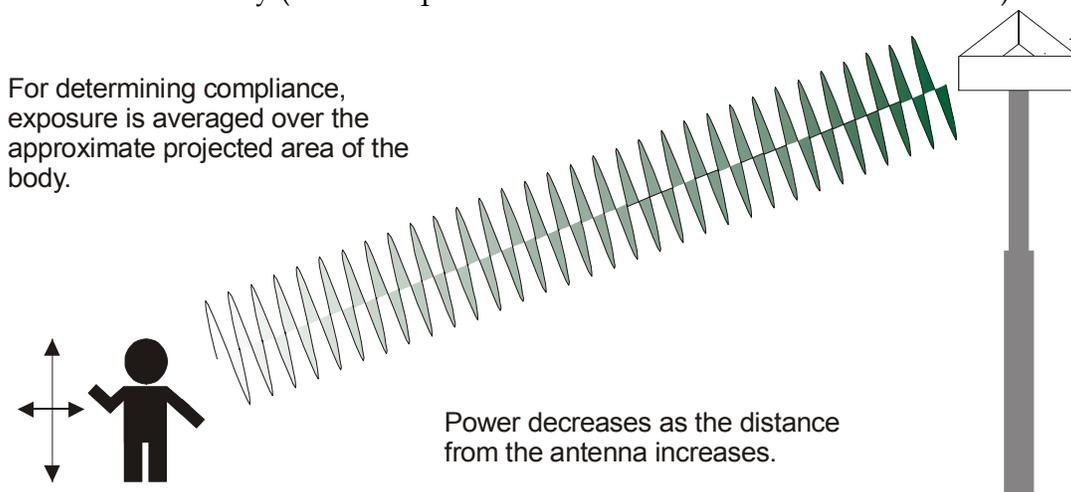


Illustration 2

Electric field strength and magnetic field strength are used to measure "near field" exposure. At frequencies below 300 MHz, these are typically the more relevant measures of exposure, and power density values are given primarily for reference

purposes. However, evaluation of far-field equivalent power density exposure may still be appropriate for evaluating exposure in some such cases. For frequencies above 300 MHz, only one field component need be evaluated, and exposure is usually more easily characterized in terms of power density. Transmitters and antennas that operate at 300 MHz or lower include radio broadcast stations, some television broadcast stations, and certain personal wireless service facilities (*e.g.*, some paging stations). Most personal wireless services, including all cellular and PCS, as well as some television broadcast stations, operate at frequencies above 300 MHz. (See Illustration 1.)

As noted above, the MPE limits are specified as time-averaged exposure limits. This means that exposure can be averaged over the identified time interval (30 minutes for general population/uncontrolled exposure or 6 minutes for occupational/controlled exposure). However, for the case of exposure of the general public, time averaging is usually not applied because of uncertainties over exact exposure conditions and difficulty in controlling time of exposure. Therefore, the typical conservative approach is to assume that any RF exposure to the general public will be continuous. The limits for exposure at different frequencies are shown in Illustration 3, below:

Illustration 3. Limits for Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE)

(A) Limits for Occupational/Controlled Exposure

Frequency Range (MHz)	Electric Field Strength (E) (V/m)	Magnetic Field Strength (H) (A/m)	Power Density (S) (mW/cm ²)	Averaging Time E ² , H ² or S (minutes)
0.3-3.0	614	1.63	(100)*	6
3.0-30	1842/f	4.89/f	(900/f ²)*	6
30-300	61.4	0.163	1.0	6
300-1500	--	--	f/300	6
1500-100,000	--	--	5	6

(B) Limits for General Population/Uncontrolled Exposure

Frequency Range (MHz)	Electric Field Strength (E) (V/m)	Magnetic Field Strength (H) (A/m)	Power Density (S) (mW/cm ²)	Averaging Time E ² , H ² or S (minutes)
0.3-1.34	614	1.63	(100)*	30
1.34-30	824/f	2.19/f	(180/f ²)*	30
30-300	27.5	0.073	0.2	30
300-1500	--	--	f/1500	30
1500-100,000	--	--	1.0	30

f = frequency in MHz

*Plane-wave equivalent power density

NOTE 1: Occupational/controlled limits apply in situations in which persons are exposed as a consequence of their employment provided those persons are fully aware of the potential for exposure and can exercise control over their exposure. Limits for occupational/controlled exposure also apply in situations when an individual is transient through a location where occupational/controlled limits apply provided he or she is made aware of the potential for exposure.

NOTE 2: General population/uncontrolled exposures apply in situations in which the general public may be exposed, or in which persons that are exposed as a consequence of their employment may not be fully aware of the potential for exposure or cannot exercise control over their exposure.

Finally, it is important to understand that the limits apply cumulatively to all sources of RF emissions affecting a given area. A common example is where two or more wireless operators have agreed to share the cost of building and maintaining a tower, and to place their antennas on that joint structure. In such a case, the total exposure from the two facilities taken together must be within the guidelines, or else an EA will be required.

A. Categorically Excluded Facilities

The Commission has determined through calculations and technical analysis that due to their low power or height above ground level, many facilities by their very nature are highly unlikely to cause human exposures in excess of the guideline limits, and operators of those facilities are exempt from routinely having to

determine compliance. Facilities with these characteristics are considered "categorically excluded" from the requirement for routine environmental processing for RF exposure.

Section 1.1307(b)(1) of the Commission's rules sets forth which facilities are categorically excluded.¹ If a facility is categorically excluded, an applicant or licensee may ordinarily assume compliance with the guideline limits for exposure. However, an applicant or licensee must evaluate and determine compliance for a facility that is otherwise categorically excluded if specifically requested to do so by the TU.

No radio or television broadcast facilities are categorically excluded. Thus, broadcast applicants and licensees must affirmatively determine their facility's compliance with the guidelines before construction, and upon every facility modification or license renewal application. With respect to personal wireless services, a cellular facility is categorically excluded if the total effective radiated power (ERP) of all channels operated by the licensee at a site is 1000 watts or less. If the facility uses sectorized antennas, only the total effective radiated power in each direction is considered. Examples of a 3 sector and a single sector antenna array are shown below:

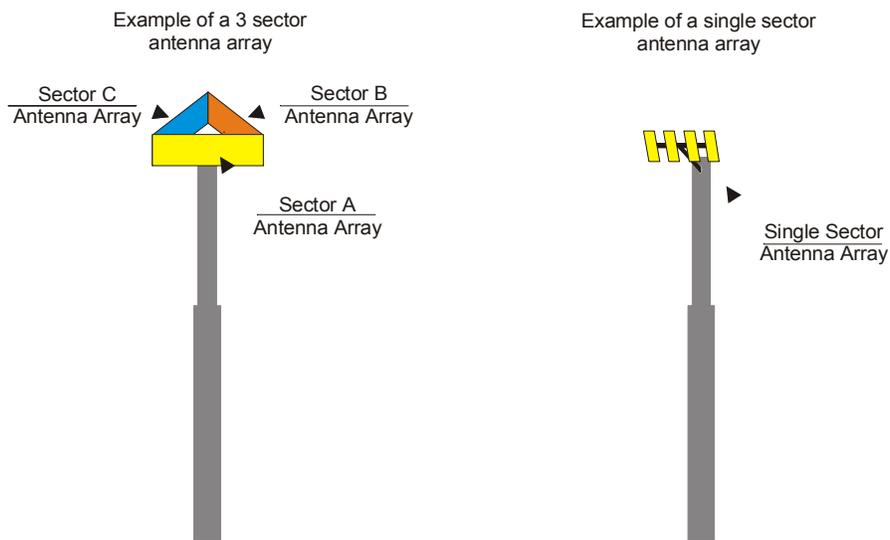


Illustration 4

In addition, a cellular facility is categorically excluded, regardless of its power, if it is not mounted on a building and the lowest point of the antenna is at least 10 meters (about 33 feet) above ground level. A broadband PCS antenna array is categorically excluded if the total effective radiated power of all channels operated by the licensee at a site (or all channels in any one direction, in the case of sectorized antennas) is 2000 watts or less. Like cellular, another way for a broadband PCS facility to be categorically excluded is if it is not mounted on a building and the lowest point of

the antenna is at least 10 meters (about 33 feet) above ground level. The power threshold for categorical exclusion is higher for broadband PCS than for cellular because broadband PCS operates at a higher frequency where exposure limits are less restrictive. For categorical exclusion thresholds for other personal wireless services, consult Table 1 of Section 1.1307(b)(1).²

The checklist in Appendix A may be used to streamline the process of determining whether a proposed facility is categorically excluded.

B. What If An Applicant Or Licensee Wants To Exceed The Limits Shown In Illustration 3?

Any applicant or licensee who wishes to construct or operate a facility that, by itself or in combination with other sources of emissions (*i.e.*, other transmitting antennas), may cause human exposures in excess of the **guideline limits must file an Environmental Assessment (EA)**. **Where more than one antenna is collocated (for example, on a single tower or rooftop or at a hilltop site), the applicant must take into consideration all of the RF power transmitted by all of the antennas when determining maximum exposure levels.** Compliance at an existing site is the shared responsibility of all licensees whose transmitters produce exposure levels in excess of 5% of the applicable exposure limit. A new applicant is responsible for compliance (or submitting an EA) at a multiple-use site if the proposed transmitter would cause non-compliance and if it would produce exposure levels in excess of 5% of the applicable limit.

An applicant or licensee is not permitted to construct or operate a facility that would result in exposure in excess of the guideline limits until the TU has reviewed the EA and either found no significant environmental impact, or pursued further environmental processing including the preparation of a formal Environmental Impact Statement. As a practical matter, however, this process is almost never invoked for RF exposure issues because applicants and licensees normally undertake corrective actions to ensure compliance with the guidelines before submitting an application.

Unless a facility is categorically excluded (explained above), the rules require a licensee to evaluate a proposed or existing facility's compliance with the RF exposure guidelines and to determine whether an EA is required. In the case of broadcast licensees, who are required to obtain a construction permit from the FCC, this evaluation is required before the application for a construction permit is filed, or the facility is constructed. In addition, if a facility requires the filing of an EA for any reason other than RF emissions, the RF evaluation must be performed before the EA is filed. Factors other than RF emissions that may require the filing of an EA are set out in 47 C.F.R. § 1.1307(a). Otherwise, new facilities should be evaluated before they are placed in operation. The TU also requires its licensees to evaluate existing facilities and operations that are not categorically excluded if the licensee seeks to

modify its facilities or renew its license. These requirements are intended to enhance public safety by requiring periodic site compliance reviews.

All facilities that were placed in service before March 2003 (when the current RF exposure guidelines become effective) are expected to comply with the current guidelines no later than September 30, 2003, date, the licensee of that facility must file an EA by that date. Under these guideline, licensees are required to provide the Telecommunications Unit (TU) with technical information showing the basis for its determination of compliance upon request.

II. How the TU Verifies Compliance with and Enforces Its Rules.

A. Procedures Upon Initial Construction, Modification, and Renewal.

Procedures for verifying that a new facility, or a facility that is the subject of a facility modification or license renewal application, will comply with the RF exposure rules vary depending upon the service involved. Applications for broadcast services (for example, AM and FM stations, and television stations) are reviewed annually. As part of every relevant application, the TU requires an applicant to submit an explanation of what steps will be taken to limit RF exposure and comply the guidelines. The applicant must certify that RF exposure procedures will be coordinated with all collocated entities (usually other stations at a common transmitter site or hill). If the submitted explanation does not adequately demonstrate a facility's compliance with the guidelines, the TU will require additional supporting data before granting the application.

For those services that continue to be licensed by site (*e.g.*, certain paging renewals), the TU requires a similar certification on the application form for each site. To comply with these rules, an applicant must determine its own compliance before completing this certification for every site that is not categorically excluded.

B. Procedures For Responding To Complaints About Existing Facilities.

The TU receives inquiries from members of the public as to whether a particular site complies with the RF exposure guidelines. Upon receiving these inquiries, TU staff may ask the inquiring party to describe the site at issue. In instances where the information provided by the inquiring party does not raise any concern that the site could exceed the limits in the guidelines. The TU staff will then inform the inquiring party of this determination.

In some cases, the information provided by the inquiring party does not preclude the possibility that the limits could be exceeded. Under these circumstances, TU staff may ask the licensee who operates the facility to supply information demonstrating its compliance. TU staff may also inspect the site to determine whether it is accessible to the public, and examine other relevant physical attributes. Usually, the information obtained in this manner is sufficient to establish compliance. If

compliance is established in this way, TU staff will inform the inquiring party of this determination.

In some instances, a licensee may be unable to provide information sufficient to establish compliance with the guideline limits. In these cases, TU staff may test the output levels of individual facilities and evaluate the physical installation. Keep in mind, however, that instances in which physical testing is necessary to verify compliance are relatively rare.

If a site is found to be out of compliance with the RF guidelines, the FCC will require the licensees at the site to remedy the situation. Depending on the service and the nature and extent of the violation, these remedies can include, for example, an immediate reduction in power, a modification of safety barriers, or a modification of the equipment or its installation. Actions necessary to bring a site into compliance are the shared responsibility of all licensees whose facilities cause exposures in that area that exceed 5% of the applicable MPE limit. In addition, licensees may be subject to sanctions for violating the rules and/or for misrepresentation.

The TU is committed to responding fully, promptly, and accurately to all inquiries regarding compliance with the RF exposure guidelines, and to taking swift and appropriate action whenever the evidence suggests potential noncompliance. To perform this function effectively, however, the TU needs accurate information about potentially problematic situations. The TU will apply the principles discussed in this guide about RF emissions, exposure and the guidelines, to fulfill a vital role in identifying and winnowing out situations that merit further attention.

III. Practical Guidance Regarding Compliance.

This section is intended to provide some general guidelines that can be used to identify sites that should not raise serious questions about compliance with the RF exposure guidelines. Sites that don't fall into the categories described here may still meet the guidelines, but the determination of compliance will not be as straightforward. In such cases, a detailed review may be required. The tables and graphs shown in Appendix B are intended only to assist in distinguishing sites that should not raise serious issues from sites that may require further inquiry. They are not intended for use in identifying sites that are out of compliance. As noted above, the factors that can affect exposure at any individual site, particularly a site containing multiple facilities, are too numerous and subtle to be practically encompassed within this framework.

Applying the basic principles discussed in this guide should allow you to eliminate a large number of sites from further consideration with respect to health concerns. The focus in this section is on personal wireless services, particularly cellular and broadband PCS, the services that currently require the largest numbers of new and modified facilities. Many other personal wireless services, however, such as paging services, operate in approximately the same frequency ranges as cellular and broadband PCS. Much of the information here is broadly applicable to those services

as well, and specific information is provided in Appendix B for paging and narrowband PCS operations over frequency bands between 901 and 940 MHz.

Finally, this section only addresses the general population/uncontrolled exposure guidelines, since compliance with these guidelines generally causes the most concern to state and local governments. Compliance with occupational/controlled exposure limits should be examined independently.

A. Categorically Excluded Facilities.

As a first step in evaluating a siting application for compliance with the FCC's guidelines, you will probably want to consider whether the facility is categorically excluded under the FCC's rules from routine evaluation for compliance. The checklist in Appendix A will guide you in making this determination. Because categorically excluded facilities are unlikely to cause any exposure in excess of the FCC's guidelines, determination that a facility is categorically excluded should generally suffice to end the inquiry.

B. Single Facility Sites.

If a wireless telecommunications facility is not categorically excluded, you may want to evaluate potential exposure using the methods discussed below and the tables and figures in Appendix B. If you "run the numbers" using the conservative approaches promoted in this paper and the site in question does not exceed these values, then you generally need look no further. Alternately, if the "numbers" don't pass muster, you may have a genuine concern. But remember, there may be other factors (*i.e.*, power level, height, blockages, etc.) that contribute to whether the site complies with the guidelines.

Where a site contains only one antenna array, the maximum exposure at any point in the horizontal plane can be predicted by calculations. The tables and graphs in Appendix B show the maximum distances in the horizontal plane from an antenna at which a person could possibly be exposed in excess of the guidelines at various levels of effective radiated power (ERP). **Thus, if people are not able to come closer to an antenna than the applicable distance shown in Appendix B, there should be no cause for concern about exposure exceeding the FCC guidelines.** The tables and graphs apply to the following wireless antennas: (1) cellular omni-directional antennas (Table B1-1 and Figure B1-1); (2) cellular sectorized antennas (Table B1-2 and Figure B1-2); (3) broadband PCS sectorized antennas (Table B1-3 and Figure B1-3);³ and (4) high-power (900 MHz-band) paging antennas (Table B1-4 and Figure B1-4). Table B1-4 and Figure B1-4 can also be used for omni-directional, narrowband (900 MHz) PCS antennas. Note that both tables and figures in Appendix B have been provided. In some cases it may be easier to use a table to estimate exposure distances, but figures may also be used when a more precise value is needed that may not be listed in a table.

It is important to note that the predicted distances set forth in Appendix B are based on a very conservative, “worst case” scenario. In other words, Appendix B identifies the furthest distance from the antenna that presents even a remote realistic possibility of RF exposure that could exceed the FCC guidelines. The power levels are based on the approximate maximum number of channels that an operator is likely to operate at one site. It is further assumed that each channel operates with the maximum power permitted under the FCC’s rules and that all of these channels are “on” simultaneously, an unlikely scenario. This is a very conservative assumption. In reality, most sites operate at a fraction of the maximum permissible power and many sites use fewer than the maximum number of channels. Therefore, actual exposure levels would be expected to be well below the predicted values. Another mitigating factor could be the presence of intervening structures, such as walls, that will reduce RF exposure by variable amounts. For all these reasons, the values given in these tables and graphs are considered to be quite conservative and should over-predict actual exposure levels.

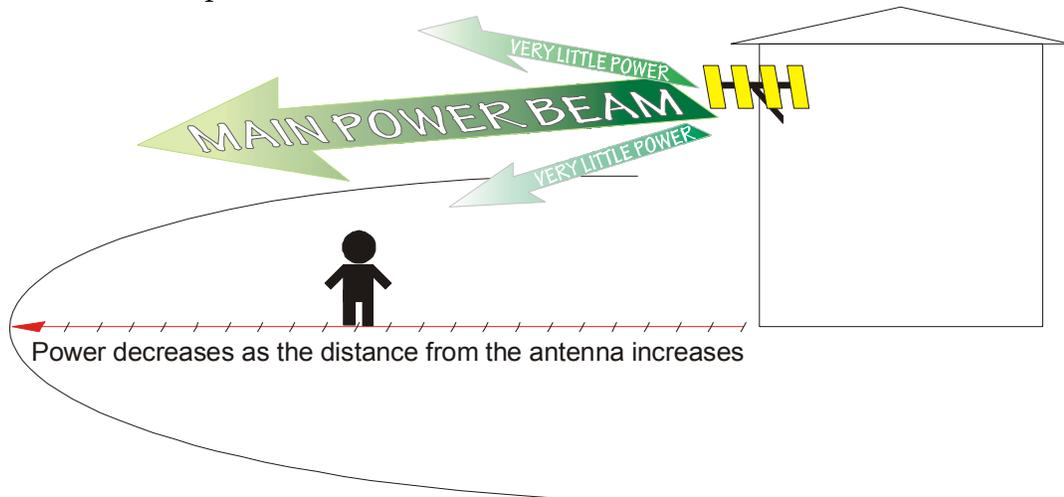


Illustration 5

Personal wireless service antennas typically do not emit high levels of RF energy directed above or below the horizontal plane of the antenna. Although the precise amount of energy transmitted outside the horizontal plane will depend upon the type of antenna used, we are aware of no wireless antennas that produce significant non-horizontal transmissions. Thus, exposures even a small distance below the horizontal plane of these antennas would be significantly less than in the horizontal plane. As discussed above, the tables and figures in Appendix B show distances in the horizontal plane from typical antennas at which exposures could potentially exceed the guidelines, assuming “worst case” operating conditions at maximum possible power levels. In any direction other than horizontal, including diagonal or straight down, these “worst case” distances would be significantly less.

Where unidirectional antennas are used, exposure levels within or outside the horizontal plane in directions other than those where the antennas are aimed will typically be insignificant. In addition, many new antennas are being designed with shielding capabilities to minimize emissions in undesired directions.

C. Multiple Facility Sites.

Where multiple facilities are located at a single site, the guidelines require the total exposure from all facilities to fall within the guideline limits, **unless an EA is filed and approved**. In such cases, however, calculations of predicted exposure levels and overall evaluation of the site may become much more complicated. For example, different transmitters at a site may operate different numbers of channels, or the operating power per channel may vary from transmitter to transmitter. Transmitters may also operate on different frequencies (for example, one antenna array may belong to a PCS operator, while the other belongs to a cellular operator). A large number of variables such as these make the calculations more time consuming, and make it difficult to apply a simple rule-of-thumb test. See the following illustration.

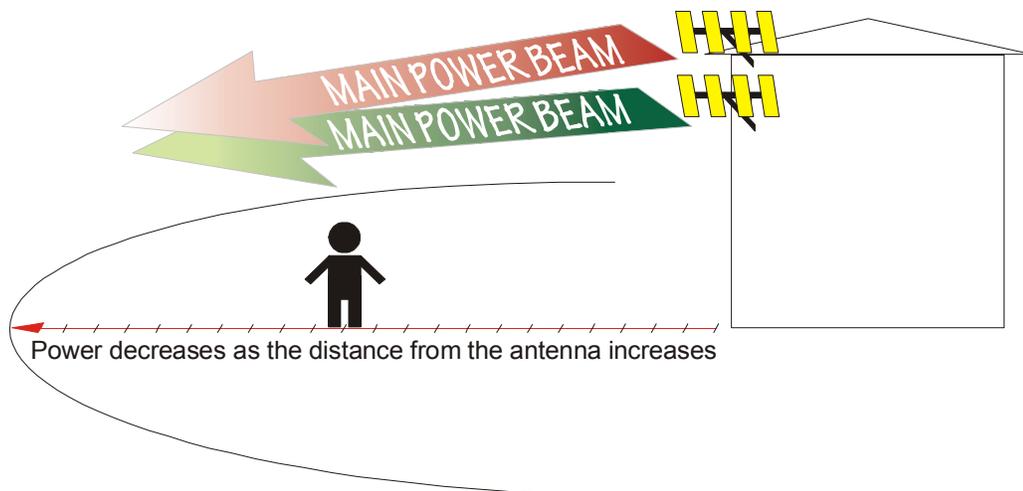


Illustration 6

However, we can be overly conservative and estimate a "worst case" exposure distance for compliance by assuming that the total power (e.g., ERP) of all transmitting antennas at the site is concentrated in the antenna that is closest to the area in question. (In the illustration above, this would be the antenna that is mounted lower on the building.) Then the values in the tables and graphs in Appendix B may be used as if this were the only antenna at the site, with radiated power equal to the sum of the actual radiated power of all antennas at the site. Actual RF exposure at any point will always be less than the exposure calculated using these assumptions. **Thus, if people are not able to come closer to a group of antennas than the applicable distance shown in Appendix B using these assumptions, there should be no cause for concern about exposure exceeding the**

guidelines. This is admittedly an extremely conservative procedure, but it may be of assistance in making a "first cut" at eliminating sites from further consideration.

IV. Conclusion.

Many of the most common concerns and questions raised by the siting of wireless telecommunications and broadcast antennas have been highlighted. The principles outlined in this guide will allow for an initial conservative judgments about whether RF emissions are or should be of concern, consistent with the FCC's rules.

When an application for a site is to be evaluated, the first consideration should be to determine whether the facility is categorically excluded under the FCC's rules from routine evaluation for compliance with the FCC's guidelines. The checklist in Appendix A should be used in making this determination. Because categorically excluded facilities are unlikely to cause any exposure in excess of the FCC's guidelines, determination that a facility is categorically excluded should generally suffice to end the inquiry.

If a wireless telecommunications facility is not categorically excluded, potential exposure may be evaluated using the methods discussed in Part III of this paper, tables and figures in Appendix. If the site in question does not exceed the values, then you generally need look no further. Alternately, if the values don't pass muster, you may have a genuine concern. But remember, there may be other factors (*i.e.*, power level, height, blockages, etc.) that contribute to whether the site complies with FCC guidelines.

If you have questions about compliance, your initial point of exploration should be with the facilities operator in question. That operator is required to understand the FCC's rules and to know how to apply them in specific cases at specific sites. If, after diligently pursuing answers from the operator, you still have genuine questions regarding compliance, you should contact the FCC at one of the numbers listed below. Provision of the information identified in the checklist in Appendix A may assist the FCC in evaluating your inquiry.

General Information: Compliance and Information Bureau, (888) CALL-FCC

Concerns About RF Emissions Exposure at a Particular Site: Office of Engineering and Technology, RF Safety Program, phone (202) 418-2464, FAX (202) 418-1918, e-mail rfsafety@fcc.gov

Licensing and Site Information Regarding Wireless Telecommunications Services: Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Commercial Wireless Division, (202) 418-0620

Licensing and Site Information Regarding Broadcast Radio Services: Mass Media Bureau, Audio Services Division, (202) 418-2700

Licensing and Site Information Regarding Television Service (Including DTV):
Mass Media Bureau, Video Services Division, (202) 418-1600

Also, note that the RF Safety Program Web site is a valuable source of general information on the topic of potential biological effects and hazards of RF energy. For example, OET recently updated its OET Bulletin 56 ("Questions and Answers about Biological Effects and Potential Hazards of Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields"). This latest version is available from the program and can be accessed and downloaded from the FCC's web site at:

<http://www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety/>

APPENDIX A

Optional Checklist for Determination Of Whether a Facility is Categorically Excluded

**Optional Checklist for Local Government
To Determine Whether a Facility is Categorically Excluded**

Purpose: The FCC has determined that many wireless facilities are unlikely to cause human exposures in excess of RF exposure guidelines. Operators of those facilities are exempt from routinely having to determine their compliance. These facilities are termed "categorically excluded." Section 1.1307(b)(1) of the Commission's rules defines those categorically excluded facilities. This checklist will assist state and local government agencies in identifying those wireless facilities that are categorically excluded, and thus are highly unlikely to cause exposure in excess of the FCC's guidelines. Provision of the information identified on this checklist may also assist FCC staff in evaluating any inquiry regarding a facility's compliance with the RF exposure guidelines.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Facility Operator's Legal Name: _____
2. Facility Operator's Mailing Address: _____
3. Facility Operator's Contact Name/Title: _____
4. Facility Operator's Office Telephone: _____
5. Facility Operator's Fax: _____
6. Facility Name: _____
7. Facility Address: _____
8. Facility City/Community: _____
9. Facility State and Zip Code: _____
10. Latitude: _____
11. Longitude: _____

continue
→

Optional Local Government Checklist (page 2)

EVALUATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

12. Licensed Radio Service (see attached Table 1): _____
13. Structure Type (free-standing or building/roof-mounted): _____
14. Antenna Type [omnidirectional or directional (includes sectored)]: _____
15. Height above ground of the lowest point of the antenna (in meters): _____
16. Check if all of the following are true:
- (a) This facility will be operated in the Multipoint Distribution Service, Paging and Radiotelephone Service, Cellular Radiotelephone Service, Narrowband or Broadband Personal Communications Service, Private Land Mobile Radio Services Paging Operations, Private Land Mobile Radio Service Specialized Mobile Radio, Local Multipoint Distribution Service, or service regulated under Part 74, Subpart I (see question 12).
 - (b) This facility will not be mounted on a building (see question 13).
 - (c) The lowest point of the antenna will be at least 10 meters above the ground (see question 15).

If box 16 is checked, this facility is categorically excluded and is unlikely to cause exposure in excess of the FCC's guidelines. The remainder of the checklist need not be completed. If box 16 is not checked, continue to question 17.

17. Enter the power threshold for categorical exclusion for this service from the attached Table 1 in watts ERP or EIRP* (note: $EIRP = (1.64) \times ERP$): _____
18. Enter the total number of channels if this will be an omnidirectional antenna, or the maximum number of channels in any sector if this will be a sectored antenna: _____
19. Enter the ERP or EIRP per channel (using the same units as in question 17): _____
20. Multiply answer 18 by answer 19: _____
21. Is the answer to question 20 less than or equal to the value from question 17 (yes or no)? _____

If the answer to question 21 is YES, this facility is categorically excluded. It is unlikely to cause exposure in excess of the FCC's guidelines.

If the answer to question 21 is NO, this facility is not categorically excluded. Further investigation may be appropriate to verify whether the facility may cause exposure in excess of the FCC's guidelines.

*"ERP" means "effective radiated power" and "EIRP" means "effective isotropic radiated power"

TABLE 1: TRANSMITTERS, FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS SUBJECT TO ROUTINE ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

SERVICE (TITLE 47 CFR RULE PART)	EVALUATION REQUIRED IF:
Experimental Radio Services (part 5)	power > 100 W ERP (164 W EIRP)
Multipoint Distribution Service (subpart K of part 21)	<u>non-building-mounted antennas</u> : height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> power > 1640 W EIRP <u>building-mounted antennas</u> : power > 1640 W EIRP
Paging and Radiotelephone Service (subpart E of part 22)	<u>non-building-mounted antennas</u> : height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> power > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP) <u>building-mounted antennas</u> : power > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP)
Cellular Radiotelephone Service (subpart H of part 22)	<u>non-building-mounted antennas</u> : height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> total power of all channels > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP) <u>building-mounted antennas</u> : total power of all channels > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP)

TABLE 1 (cont.)

SERVICE (TITLE 47 CFR RULE PART)	EVALUATION REQUIRED IF:
<p>Personal Communications Services (part 24)</p>	<p>(1) Narrowband PCS (subpart D): <u>non-building-mounted antennas</u>: height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> total power of all channels > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP) <u>building-mounted antennas</u>: total power of all channels > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP)</p> <p>(2) Broadband PCS (subpart E): <u>non-building-mounted antennas</u>: height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> total power of all channels > 2000 W ERP (3280 W EIRP) <u>building-mounted antennas</u>: total power of all channels > 2000 W ERP (3280 W EIRP)</p>
<p>Satellite Communications (part 25)</p>	<p>all included</p>
<p>General Wireless Communications Service (part 26)</p>	<p>total power of all channels > 1640 W EIRP</p>
<p>Wireless Communications Service (part 27)</p>	<p>total power of all channels > 1640 W EIRP</p>
<p>Radio Broadcast Services (part 73)</p>	<p>all included</p>

TABLE 1 (cont.)

SERVICE (TITLE 47 CFR RULE PART)	EVALUATION REQUIRED IF:
<p>Experimental, auxiliary, and special broadcast and other program distributional services (part 74)</p>	<p>subparts A, G, L: power > 100 W ERP</p> <p>subpart I: <u>non-building-mounted antennas</u>: height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> power > 1640 W EIRP <u>building-mounted antennas</u>: power > 1640 W EIRP</p>
<p>Stations in the Maritime Services (part 80)</p>	<p>ship earth stations only</p>
<p>Private Land Mobile Radio Services Paging Operations (part 90)</p>	<p><u>non-building-mounted antennas</u>: height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> power > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP) <u>building-mounted antennas</u>: power > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP)</p>
<p>Private Land Mobile Radio Services Specialized Mobile Radio (part 90)</p>	<p><u>non-building-mounted antennas</u>: height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> total power of all channels > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP) <u>building-mounted antennas</u>: total power of all channels > 1000 W ERP (1640 W EIRP)</p>

TABLE 1 (cont.)

SERVICE (TITLE 47 CFR RULE PART)	EVALUATION REQUIRED IF:
Amateur Radio Service (part 97)	transmitter output power > levels specified in § 97.13(c)(1) of this chapter
Local Multipoint Distribution Service (subpart L of part 101)	<p><u>non-building-mounted antennas</u>: height above ground level to lowest point of antenna < 10 m <u>and</u> power > 1640 W EIRP</p> <p><u>building-mounted antennas</u>: power > 1640 W EIRP</p> <p>LMDS licensees are required to attach a label to subscriber transceiver antennas that: (1) provides adequate notice regarding potential radiofrequency safety hazards, <i>e.g.</i>, information regarding the safe minimum separation distance required between users and transceiver antennas; and (2) references the applicable FCC-adopted limits for radiofrequency exposure specified in § 1.1310 of this chapter.</p>

APPENDIX B

*Estimated "Worst Case" Distances that Should be Maintained from
Single Cellular, PCS, and Paging Base Station Antennas*

Table B1-1. Estimated "worst case" horizontal* distances that should be maintained from a single, omni-directional, **cellular base-station** antenna to meet FCC RF exposure guidelines

Effective Radiated Power (watts) per channel based on maximum total of 96 channels per antenna	Effective Isotropic Radiated Power (watts) per channel based on a maximum total of 96 channels per antenna	Horizontal* distance (feet) that should be maintained from a single omni-directional cellular antenna
0.5	0.82	3.4
1	1.6	4.8
5	8.2	10.8
10	16.4	15.2
25	41	24.1
50	82	34.1
100	164	48.2

For intermediate values not shown on this table, please refer to the Figure B1-1

*These distances are based on exposure at same level as the antenna, for example, on a rooftop or in a building directly across from and at the same height as the antenna.

Note: These estimates are worst case, assuming an omnidirectional antenna using 96 channels. If the systems are using fewer channels, the actual horizontal distances that must be maintained will be less. Cellular omnidirectional antennas transmit more or less equally from the antenna in all horizontal directions and transmit relatively little energy directly toward the ground. Therefore, these distances are even more conservative for "non-horizontal" distances, for example, distances directly below an antenna.

Table B1-2. Estimated "worst case" horizontal* distances that should be maintained from a single, sectorized, **cellular base-station** antenna to meet FCC RF exposure guidelines

Effective Radiated Power (watts) per channel based on maximum total of 21 channels per sector	Effective Isotropic Radiated Power (watts) per channel based on maximum total of 21 channels per sector	Horizontal* distance (feet) that should be maintained from a single sectorized cellular antenna
0.5	0.82	1.6
1	1.6	2.3
5	8.2	5
10	16.4	7.1
25	41	11.3
50	82	16
100	164	22.6

For intermediate values not shown on this table, please refer to the Figure B1-2

*These distances are based on exposure at same level as the antenna, for example, on a rooftop or in a building directly across from and at the same height as the antenna.

Note: These estimates are "worst case," assuming a sectorized antenna using 21 channels. If the systems are using fewer channels, the actual horizontal distances that must be maintained will be less. Cellular sectorized antennas transmit more or less in one direction from the antenna in a horizontal direction and transmit relatively little energy directly toward the ground. Therefore, these distances are even more conservative for "non-horizontal" distances, for example, distances directly below an antenna.

Table B1-3. Estimated "worst case" horizontal* distances that should be maintained from a single sectorized **Broadband PCS base station** antenna to meet FCC RF exposure guidelines

Effective Radiated Power (watts) per channel based on maximum total of 21 channels per sector	Effective Isotropic Radiated Power (watts) per channel based on maximum total of 21 channels per sector	Horizontal* distance (feet) that should be maintained from a single sectorized Broadband PCS antenna
0.5	0.82	1.2
1	1.6	1.7
5	8.2	3.8
10	16.4	5.4
25	41	8.6
50	82	12.1
100	164	17.2

For intermediate values not shown on this table, please refer to the Figure B1-3

*These distances are based on exposure at same level as the antenna, for example, on a rooftop or in a building directly across from and at the same height as the antenna.

Note: These estimates are "worst case," assuming a sectorized antenna using 21 channels. If the system is using fewer than 21 channels, the actual horizontal distances that must be maintained will be less. PCS sectorized antennas transmit more or less in one direction from the antenna in a horizontal direction and transmit relatively little energy directly toward the ground. Therefore, these distances are even more conservative for "non-horizontal" distances, for example, distances directly below an antenna.

Table B1-4. Estimated "worst case" horizontal* distances that should be maintained from a single omnidirectional **paging** or **narrowband PCS** antenna to meet FCC RF exposure guidelines. Note: this table and the associated figure only apply to the 900-940 MHz band; paging antennas at other frequencies are subject to different values.

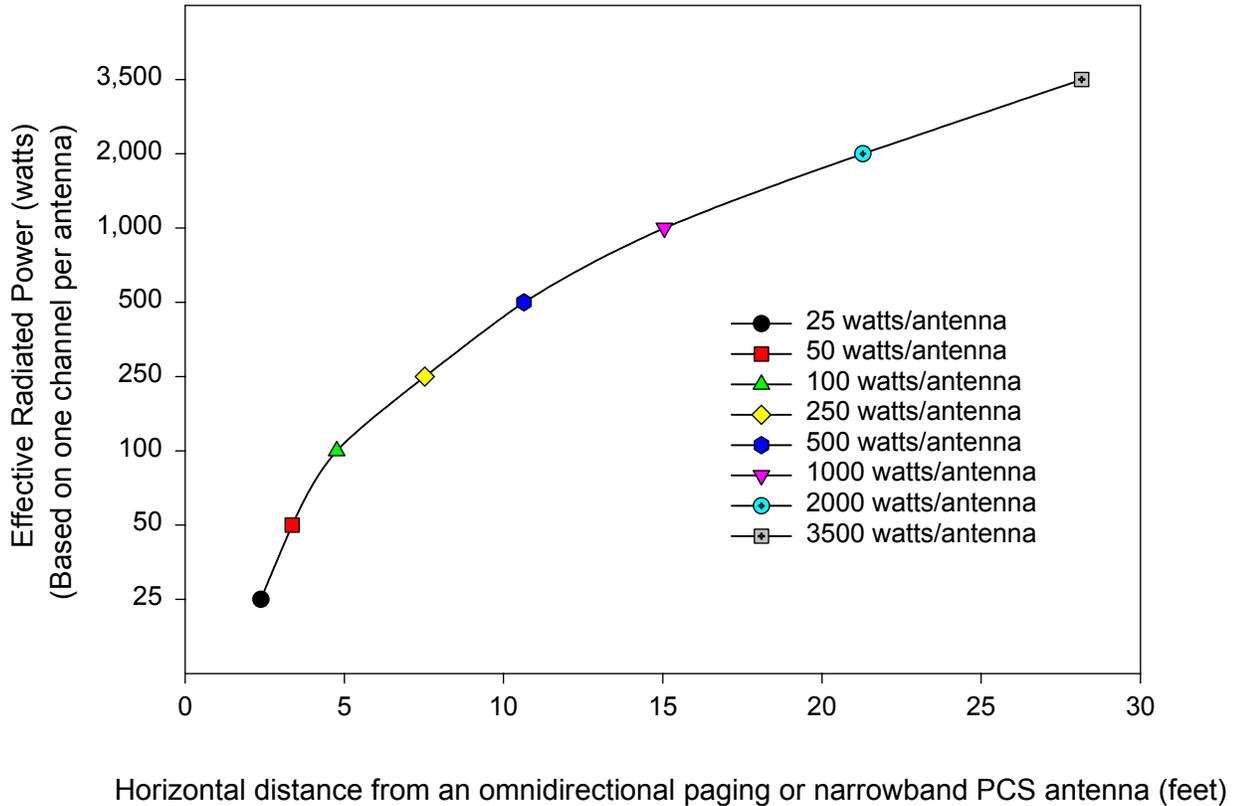
Effective Radiated Power (watts) based on one channel per antenna	Effective Isotropic Radiated Power (watts)	Horizontal* distance (feet) that should be maintained from a single omnidirectional paging or narrowband PCS antenna
50	82	3.4
100	164	4.8
250	410	7.5
500	820	10.6
1,000	1,640	15.1
2,000	3,280	21.3
3,500	5,740	28.2

For intermediate values not shown on this table, please refer to the Figure B1-4

*These distances are based on exposure at same level as the antenna, for example, on a rooftop or in a building directly across from and at the same height as the antenna.

Note: These distances assume only one frequency (channel) per antenna. Distances would be greater if more than one channel is used per antenna. Omnidirectional paging and narrowband PCS antennas transmit more or less equally from the antenna in all horizontal directions and transmit relatively little energy toward the ground. Therefore, these distances are even more conservative for "non-horizontal" distances, for example, distances directly below an antenna.

Figure B1-4. Estimated "worst case" horizontal* distances that should be maintained from a single omnidirectional **paging** or **narrowband PCS** antenna to meet FCC RF exposure guidelines. Note: this figure and the associated table only apply to the 900-940 MHz band; paging antennas at other frequencies are subject to different values



* These distances are based on exposure at the same level as the antenna, for example, on a rooftop or building directly across from and at the same height as the antenna.

Note: These distances assume only one frequency (channel) per antenna. Distances would be greater if more than one channel is used per antenna. Omnidirectional paging and narrowband PCS antennas transmit more or less equally from the antenna in all horizontal directions and transmit relatively little energy towards the ground.

APPENDIX C

Text of 47 U.S.C. § 332(c)(7)

(7) PRESERVATION OF LOCAL ZONING AUTHORITY.

(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY. Except as provided in this paragraph, nothing in this Act shall limit or affect the authority of a State or local government or instrumentality thereof over decisions regarding the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities.

(B) LIMITATIONS.

- (i) The regulation of the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities by and State or local government or instrumentality thereof (I) shall not unreasonably discriminate among providers of functionally equivalent services; and (II) shall not prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the provision of personal wireless services.
- (ii) A State or local government or instrumentality thereof shall act on any request for authorization to place, construct, or modify personal wireless service facilities within a reasonable period of time after the request is duly filed with such government or instrumentality, taking into account the nature and scope of such request.
- (iii) Any decision by a State or local government or instrumentality thereof to deny a request to place, construct, or modify personal wireless service facilities shall be in writing and supported by substantial evidence contained in a written record.
- (iv) No State or local government or instrumentality thereof may regulate the placement, construction, or modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the Commission's regulations concerning such emissions.
- (v) Any person adversely affected by any final action or failure to act by a State or local government or any instrumentality thereof that is inconsistent with this subparagraph may, within 30 days after such action or failure to act, commence an action in any court of competent jurisdiction. The court shall hear and decide such action on an expedited basis. Any person adversely affected by an act or failure to act by a State or local government or any instrumentality thereof that is inconsistent with clause (iv) may petition the Commission for relief.

(C) DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this paragraph

- (i) the term "personal wireless services" means commercial mobile services, unlicensed wireless services, and common carrier wireless exchange access services;
- (ii) the term "personal wireless service facilities" means facilities for the provision of personal wireless services; and
- (iii) the term "unlicensed wireless service" means the offering of telecommunications service using duly authorized devices which do not require individual licenses, but does not mean the provision of direct-to-home satellite services (as defined in section 303(v)).