

full three-year clearance from them. The Commission has revised FCC Form 603 to include Gross Revenue/Total Assets; add a question if application being filed is the lead application of a series of applications; remove data element for the option of a previous census population on Schedule B; and clarify existing questions/instructions of the general public as noted in the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

The FCC uses the information on the FCC Form 603 to determine whether the applicant is legally, technically and financially qualified to obtain licenses. Without such information, the Commission cannot determine whether to issue the licenses to the applicants that provide telecommunications services to the public; and therefore, to fulfill its statutory responsibilities in accordance with the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. Information provided on the form will also be used to update the database and provide for proper use of the frequency spectrum.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E6-9740 Filed 6-20-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[ET Docket No. 06-89; FCC 06-77]

### Creation of a Spectrum Sharing Innovation Test-Bed

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA") seek to evaluate innovative methods for spectrum sharing among disparate users to enable more intensive use of the finite radio spectrum. One way of accomplishing this task is to set up a test-bed where both federal and non-federal users could undertake one or more studies and experiments to test these ideas. This document seeks comment on a wide range of issues that are integral to the creation of such a test-bed, which will be called the Spectrum Sharing Innovation Test-Bed ("Test Bed").

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before July 10, 2006, and reply comments must be filed on or before July 24, 2006.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Saurbh Chhabra, (202) 418-2266, e-mail: [Saurbh.Chhabra@fcc.gov](mailto:Saurbh.Chhabra@fcc.gov), or Ira Keltz, (202) 418-0616, e-mail: [Ira.Keltz@fcc.gov](mailto:Ira.Keltz@fcc.gov), Office of Engineering and Technology, TTY (202) 418-2989.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by ET Docket No. 06-89, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Federal Communications Commission's Web Site:* <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *E-mail:* [Optional: Include the e-mail address only if you plan to accept comments from the general public]. Include the docket number(s) in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* [Optional: Include the mailing address for paper, disk or CD-ROM submissions needed/requested by your Bureau or Office. Do not include the Office of the Secretary's mailing address here.]

- *People with Disabilities:* Contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.) by e-mail: [FCC504@fcc.gov](mailto:FCC504@fcc.gov) or phone: 202-418-0530 or TTY: 202-418-0432.

For detailed instructions for submitting comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Commission's Public Notice, ET Docket No. 06-89, FCC 06-77, adopted May 25, 2006, and released June 8, 2006. The full text of this document is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room CY-A257), 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554. The complete text of this document also may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, SW., Room, CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554. The full text may also be downloaded at: <http://www.fcc.gov>.

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using: (1) The Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), (2) the Federal Government's eRulemaking Portal, or (3) by filing paper copies. See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- *Electronic Filers:* Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/> or the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the website for submitting comments.

- For ECFS filers, if multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to [ecfs@fcc.gov](mailto:ecfs@fcc.gov), and include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.

- *Paper Filers:* Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- The Commission's contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building.

- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

- U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call

the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

### Summary of Public Notice

1. Demand for spectrum by Federal and non-Federal users has been increasing and this trend is expected to continue as new and enhanced services and applications and new requirements are identified and developed.

Recognizing this trend, the Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA") seek to evaluate innovative methods for spectrum sharing among disparate users to enable more intensive use of the finite radio spectrum. One way of accomplishing this task is to set up a test-bed where both Federal and non-Federal users could undertake one or more studies and experiments to test these ideas. This Public Notice seeks comment on a wide range of issues that are integral to the creation of such a test-bed, which will be called the Spectrum Sharing Innovation Test-Bed ("Test Bed"). NTIA is also soliciting comment on many of these same issues through a recently released Notice of Inquiry.

2. By way of background, on May 29, 2003, the President established the "Spectrum Policy Initiative" by issuing an Executive Memorandum to initiate an examination of the existing legal and policy framework for spectrum management in order to better optimize the use of U.S. spectrum assets for Federal and non-Federal users. The Commission was encouraged to participate in this review and to provide input to the NTIA on these issues.

3. In June 2004, the U.S. Department of Commerce issued two reports with policy recommendations for improving spectrum management. One report addressed federal spectrum use and the other addressed commercial and state and local public safety spectrum use. Both reports included a recommendation that the Commission and the NTIA develop a Spectrum Sharing Innovation Test-Bed for use in planning how spectrum can best be shared between Federal and non-Federal users. Specifically, the test-bed recommendation states:

Within two years of this report's publication, NTIA and the FCC should establish a pilot program to allow for increased sharing between Federal and non-Federal users. NTIA and the FCC should each identify a segment of spectrum of equal bandwidth within their respective jurisdiction for this program. Each segment should be approximately 10 MHz for assignment on a shared basis for Federal and non-Federal use. The spectrum to be identified for this pilot program could come from bands currently allocated on either an

exclusive or shared basis. Two years after the inception of the pilot program, NTIA and the FCC should provide reports outlining the results and suggesting appropriate procedures for expanding the program as appropriate.

4. To assist the Commission in developing its recommendations on this issue, we are requesting that interested parties submit comments and information on a Test-Bed program to study the feasibility of increasing the efficient use of spectrum that is shared between Federal and non-Federal users. To provide guidance to the public, we are including, as part of this public notice, specific questions/issues relating to the Test-Bed pilot program. These questions/issues are intended to promote discussion and comment across a range of issues and are not intended, in any way, to limit the scope of the comments filed in response to the Public Notice. In this regard, parties are encouraged to file comments on related issues even if they do not respond directly to any particular question posed.

5. To ensure that the results of experiments using the Test-Bed are informative for evaluating possible Federal and non-Federal sharing opportunities, we believe that the goal(s) of the Test-Bed must first be defined (*i.e.*, description of the issues to be studied) and then appropriate spectrum can be identified. For convenience, we have divided the questions/issues into three categories: (A) Goal and Scope of the Test-Bed program; (B) Logistics to create and implement the Test-Bed program; and (C) Conclusion and evaluation of the Test-Bed program. In providing answers to the questions below, we ask that commenters provide details regarding specific experiments for the Test-Bed.

#### A. Goal and Scope of the Test-Bed Program

To define the Test-Bed program more precisely so that it can provide the greatest benefit for all spectrum users (Federal and non-Federal), we seek comment on the following questions:

1. The Test-Bed could be used to effectuate many goals, including testing dynamic spectrum access techniques, developing new technologies for public safety, and streamlining spectrum coordination processes between Federal and non-Federal users. We seek comment on these goals, as well as other goals that commenters believe will satisfy the purpose of the spectrum sharing innovation Test-Bed.

a. In satisfying the identified goals, are there particular technologies or areas of interest about which the Test-Bed

should focus (*e.g.*, cognitive radios, smart antennas, determining different ways to measure spectrum efficiency, determining ways of increasing spectrum efficiency, determining how technology could be used more efficiently)?

b. What challenges are spectrum users facing that the Test-Bed can be used to resolve? What type of information should we expect the Test-Bed to produce? What type of issues should we expect the Test-Bed to resolve?

2. Should the Test-Bed encompass a single experiment or should multiple experiments be undertaken at any given time? If the latter, should there be different requirements (whether technical or legal) applied to the various experiments? If so, what should the requirements be and what are the justifications for the differing requirements?

#### B. Logistics To Create and Implement the Test-Bed Program

3. What criteria should be used in identifying candidate frequency band(s) for the Test-Bed program? What relationship should the frequency bands have to the goal(s) identified for the Test-Bed?

4. As stated in the recommendation, a minimum of 20 MHz (10 MHz identified by NTIA and 10 MHz identified by the Commission) is suggested for the Test-Bed program. How much spectrum should the Commission consider identifying for the Test-Bed program?

a. What particular portion(s) of spectrum should be identified for this purpose? Commenters should explain how the identified spectrum will facilitate satisfying the identified goals.

b. Based on the goal(s) identified and/or the specific experiments proposed, commenters should specify whether the Test-Bed requires contiguous or non-contiguous spectrum. For experiments requiring non-contiguous spectrum, commenters should specify the required spectrum block size and frequency separation needed (*i.e.*, tradeoffs between frequency-division multiplexing needs v. time-division multiplexing needs).

c. Should the Commission focus on identifying non-Federal exclusive or Federal/non-Federal shared spectrum?

d. How should the particular spectrum bands identified for Test-Bed use be determined? Should the bands be selected by the Commission or are there marketplace mechanisms that can be used?

5. One of the tools the Commission has at its disposal is the experimental licensing program which allows

licensees to use spectrum on a non-interference basis to experiment with new technologies and innovations. Under the experimental licensing program, users may identify any spectrum of interest for experimentation and are generally authorized for up to two years with the possibility of renewal. Should users be authorized for use of the Test-Bed through use of the experimental licensing program? Alternatively, the Commission could conduct a rulemaking proceeding to specifically authorize various uses and frequency bands. We request that commenters provide details regarding which method is most advantageous for meeting the goal(s) of the program. In providing information regarding this question, commenters should keep in mind the following:

a. Experimental licensing rules and procedures are already contained in part 5 of the Commission's rules. Thus, these procedures could be used without further action by the Commission.

b. Experimental licensing is flexible (*i.e.*, under experimental licenses, licensees have no rights to use the spectrum exclusively, may not cause harmful interference to any user and are not protected from harmful interference caused by other spectrum users).

c. A rulemaking proceeding may need to specifically identify potential modifications to the table of spectrum allocations, usage restrictions, and licensee rights for both the Test-Bed user and any incumbent licensees. Commenters who advocate such an approach should provide details regarding spectrum bands, proposed usage, how users should be authorized for use of the Test-Bed (*e.g.*, obtain a license through one of the Commission's licensing systems), and user status (*i.e.*, primary, secondary, non-interference basis) and the relationship of the Test-Bed user to incumbents.

6. Options exist for implementation of the Test-Bed with respect to a specific geographic area. Commenters should provide details regarding the necessity for experimentation to occur over large or small areas. Similarly, commenters should provide details regarding whether experiments can be limited to rural areas or areas where there are relatively few incumbent users. One advantage to such an approach is that the risk of causing harmful interference to an incumbent user is reduced. We seek comment on whether such a restriction should exist and on other methods of ensuring that incumbent users are protected from interference.

7. What information should be provided to the Commission prior to initiating use of the Test-Bed? For

example, should the Commission require submission of pre-experiment assumptions, analysis (modeling and simulation), and pre-experiment predictions?

8. If there are competing proposals for use of the Test-Bed, what criteria should be used to select candidates? Should multiple candidates be selected? If so, what procedures are needed for these candidates to coordinate with each other?

9. Are special procedures necessary for non-federal users of the Test-Bed to coordinate usage with Federal users of the Test-Bed?

10. What other issues or factors should be considered with respect to creation of a Test-Bed?

11. Should Commission personnel (along with personnel whom NTIA may assign) be appointed as overseers to gauge the progress of the program? Is a more or less active role by the FCC desired?

12. What resources, if any, including equipment to be evaluated in the Test-Bed, funding, personnel, or facilities could parties provide for the Test-Bed program? Would use of private resources potentially create conflicts of interest among Test-Bed users?

13. To promote participation by interested parties, should the creation and use of any incentives be considered? What incentives, if any, could be considered and by whom should they be created and offered?

14. Should use of proprietary technologies or information be permitted in the Test-Bed? If so, how should release of data based on their use be handled?

#### *C. Conclusion and Evaluation of the Test-Bed Program*

15. What metrics should be used in evaluating the results/accomplishments of the Test-Bed program?

16. If the program meets the performance metrics, should it be expanded to other frequency bands, and/or other locations? Why or why not?

17. What expectations should be placed on equipment and techniques developed during the experiment(s)? For example, should there be an expectation that a successful experiment would translate into permanent usage or at the minimum a rulemaking proceeding by the Commission to explore rule changes consistent with the experiment results?

18. At the conclusion of any experiment, should users be required to submit a report detailing the experiment—goal, assumptions, methodology, and results?

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E6-9497 Filed 6-20-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

---

## FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

[No. 2006-N-03]

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Housing Finance Board.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Housing Finance Board (Finance Board) has submitted the information collection entitled "Federal Home Loan Bank Acquired Member Assets, Core Mission Activities, Investments and Advances" to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval of a 3 year extension of the OMB control number, which is due to expire on March 31, 2007.

Elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**, the Finance Board is publishing a final rule that reorganizes the way it imposes certain reporting requirements on the Federal Home Loan Banks (Banks), including the reporting requirements in this information collection. The information collection has been moved from Finance Board regulations and into the Data Reporting Manual, which is an enforceable order issued pursuant to the Finance Board's investigatory powers.

**DATES:** Interested persons may submit comments on or before July 21, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Federal Housing Finance Board, Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR COPIES OF THE INFORMATION COLLECTION CONTACT:** David Roderer, Office of Supervision, by e-mail at [rodererd@fhfb.gov](mailto:rodererd@fhfb.gov), by telephone at 202-408-2540, or by regular mail at the Federal Housing Finance Board, 1625 Eye Street, NW., Washington DC 20006.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **A. Need For and Use of the Information Collection**

The Finance Board has authorized the Banks to acquire mortgage loans and other assets from their members or housing associates under certain