

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Office of the Secretary****45 CFR Parts 170 and 171**

RIN 0955-AA01

21st Century Cures Act: Interoperability, Information Blocking, and the ONC Health IT Certification Program*Correction*

In rule document 2020-07419, beginning on page 25642 in the issue of Friday, May 1, 2020, make the following corrections:

§ 170.403 [Corrected]

■ 1. On page 25947, in § 170.403, in the first column, in the fourteenth line, “November 2, 2020” should read “June 30, 2020”.

§ 170.405 [Corrected]

■ 2. On page 25949, in § 170.405, in the second column, in the eleventh and twelfth lines from the bottom, “November 2, 2020” should read “June 30, 2020”.

[FR Doc. C1-2020-07419 Filed 7-17-20; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**47 CFR Parts 1 and 25**

[IB Docket No. 18-86; FCC 19-81, FCC 20-60; FRS 16772]

Streamlining Licensing Procedures for Small Satellites

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule; announcement of effective date.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission is streamlining its rules to facilitate the deployment of a class of satellites known as small satellites, which have relatively short duration missions. The Commission also announces that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved, for a period of three years, the information collection associated with the revisions to the Commission’s rules.

DATES: Effective August 19, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Merissa Velez, International Bureau, Satellite Division, at 202-418-0751. For additional information concerning the Paperwork Reduction Act information collection requirements contained in

this document, contact Cathy Williams, 202-418-2918, or send an email to PRA@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission’s *Report and Order*, IB Docket No. 18-86; FCC 19-81, adopted on August 1, 2019, and released on August 2, 2019. The full text of this document is available on the Commission’s website at <https://www.fcc.gov/document/streamlining-licensing-procedures-small-satellites-1>. This document also includes a summary of the Commission’s subsequent *Order*, IB Docket No. 18-86, FCC 20-60, adopted on May 8, 2020, and released on May 11, 2020. The full text of this document is available on the Commission’s website at <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-small-satellite-rules-effective-date-clarification-order>.

This document additionally announces that, on February 27, 2020, OMB approved, for a period of three years, the information collection requirements relating to the part 25 rules contained in the Commission’s Report and Order, FCC 19-81, also published in this document. The OMB Control Number is 3060-0678. The Commission publishes this document as an announcement of the effective date of the rules. If you have any comment on the burden estimates listed below, or how the Commission can improve the collections and reduce any burdens caused thereby, please contact Cathy Williams, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C823, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. Please include OMB Control Number 3060-0678 in your correspondence. The Commission will also accept your comments via email at PRA@fcc.gov.

Alternative formats are available for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) by sending an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or calling the Commission’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (TTY).

Synopsis**I. Introduction**

Recent technological innovation has spurred an increasing use of what have been colloquially termed “small satellites” or “small sats” for a wide variety of missions, ranging from short-term experimental missions conducting scientific experiments to longer term commercial communications and remote sensing missions. There are a number of ways of defining small satellites, but they are most often associated with small size (some based

on the “CubeSat” standard¹), short duration missions, and relatively low cost. Many small satellites have been part of government missions, but an ever-increasing number of non-governmental missions by companies, academic institutions, and others have used small satellites. The Communications Act of 1934, as amended, requires the issuance of a license for communications to and from the United States or from any U.S. satellite, and applications requesting a license or authorization to operate with small satellites represent a growing percentage of the number of satellite applications received by the Commission.

We take action to make available a new, optional licensing process for these small satellites. This will enable small satellite applicants to choose a streamlined licensing procedure and thereby take advantage of an easier application process, a lower application fee, and a shorter timeline for review than currently exists for applicants. We will refer to this alternative as the “part 25 streamlined small satellite process.” In so doing, we limit the regulatory burdens borne by applicants and offer potential radiofrequency interference protection for critical communication links, while promoting orbital debris mitigation and efficient use of spectrum. This action will support and encourage the increasing innovation in the small satellite sector and will help preserve U.S. leadership in space-based services and operations.

II. Background

The Commission’s part 25 satellite licensing rules, primarily used by commercial systems, group satellites into two general categories—geostationary-satellite orbit (GSO) systems and non-geostationary-satellite orbit (NGSO) systems—for purposes of application processing.² This categorization is similarly reflected in the Commission’s fee structure. As a result, an application for a single commercial NGSO small satellite with a planned two-year mission would be subject to the same application process and fee as an application for an NGSO communications system consisting of

¹ The “CubeSat” design is a standardized interface consisting of approximately 10 cm x 10 cm x 10 cm units. The scalable standard unit specification enables CubeSats to be fully enclosed in specifically developed deployment mechanisms and helps to provide greater access to launch services.

² Under part 25 of the Commission’s rules, applications for satellites and satellite systems are filed either as GSO space station applications or NGSO space station or constellation applications. See, e.g., 47 CFR 25.114(a).