

syndicated exclusivity surcharge, where applicable," after the phrase "the current base rate".

3. Section 201.17(h)(2)(iv) is amended by adding three sentences to the end of the paragraph to read as follows:

§ 201.17 Statements of Account covering compulsory licenses for secondary transmissions by cable systems.

* * * * *

(h) * * *

(2) * * *

(iv) * * * The calculations shall be based upon the gross receipts from subscribers within the relevant communities. No cable system shall make its calculations based solely on the number of subscribers receiving a particular signal. For partially-distant stations, gross receipts shall be the total gross receipts from subscribers outside the local service area."

* * * * *

PART 256—ADJUSTMENT OF ROYALTY FEE FOR CABLE COMPULSORY LICENSE

4. The authority citation for part 256 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 17 U.S.C. 801–803.

5. Section 256.2(a)(1) is amended by removing the word "fee" and adding the word "fees" before the phrase ", if any,".

6. Section 256.2(a)(1) is amended by adding the phrase "and (c)" after "(4)".

7. Section 256.2(c) is amended by adding the phrase "(2) through (4)" after the "(a)" in the phrase which reads "the royalty rate shall be in lieu of the royalty rates specified in paragraphs (a) and (d) of this section,".

Dated: May 7, 1998.

Marybeth Peters,

Register of Copyrights.

[FR Doc. 98–12652 Filed 5–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1410–31–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Parts 0, 1, 13, 22, 24, 26, 27, 80, 87, 90, 97, and 101

[WT Docket No. 98–20; DA 98–827]

Facilitate the Development and Use of the Universal Licensing System

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Commission has released an order which extends the filing

deadlines for comments on its *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (FCC 98–25) regarding the Universal Licensing System. We also waive the rules that require the paper filing of comments and replies. Consequently, the electric filing of comments and replies will be permitted. These steps have been taken to permit more thorough, detailed comments and replies on the proposed rulemaking to be filed with the Commission. The effect will be to improve the quality of the Commission's final determinations in this rulemaking.

DATES: Comments are due on or before May 22, 1998; reply comments are due on or before June 8, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Room 222, 1919 M Street, NW., Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wilbert Nixon or Chris Gacek of the Policy & Rules Branch, Commercial Wireless Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, (202) 418–7240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following documents relate to the aforementioned rulemaking *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, WT Docket No. 98–20, FCC 98–25, 63 FR 16938, April 7, 1998, (*ULS NPRM*); Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, *Report and Order*, GC Docket No. 97–113, FCC 98–56, 63 FR 24121, May 1, 1998; Implementation of Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, WT Docket No. 96–198, FCC 98–55 (adopted April 2, 1998; released April 20, 1998), paragraph 185.

The order may be found on the internet at: <<http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Wireless/Orders/1998/da980827.txt>>.

Federal Communications Commission.

Ramona E. Melson,

Chief, Policy & Rules Branch, Commercial Wireless Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

[FR Doc. 98–12835 Filed 5–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–M

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Chapter 1

[MM Docket No. 98–35; DA: 98–854]

Broadcast Services; Radio Stations, Television Stations

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the request of the National Association of Broadcasters, the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, acting under delegated authority, extends the comment and reply comment deadlines, on whether any or all of its broadcast ownership rules are no longer in the public interest as a result of competition, for sixty days. The new deadlines will be July 21, 1998, for comments and August 21, 1998, for reply comments.

DATES: Comments are now due by July 21, 1998, and reply comments are due by August 21, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roger Holberg, Mass Media Bureau, Policy and Rules Division, (202) 418–2134, or Dan Bring, Mass Media Bureau, Policy and Rules Division, (202) 418–2170.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's *Order* in MM Docket No. 98–35, DA–854, adopted and released May 7, 1998. The complete text of this *Order* is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, (202) 857–3800, 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. The *Order* is also available on the Internet at the Commission's web site: <http://www.fcc.gov>.

1. On March 12, 1998, the Commission, pursuant to Section 202(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("Telecom Act"),¹ adopted a Notice of Inquiry ("Notice"), 63 FR 15353, March 31, 1998, in this proceeding soliciting comment on all of the Commission's broadcast ownership rules except for those already being examined in pending proceedings. The deadline for filing comments was set at May 22, 1998, and for reply comments June 22, 1998.

2. On April 20, 1998, the National Association of Broadcasters ("NAB") filed a "Motion for Extension of Time of Comment and Reply Comment Deadlines" seeking a sixty-day extension of the comment and reply comment deadlines. NAB states that it has identified several areas pertinent to the biennial review in which it plans to complete research and analysis. It believes that the results of these studies, and additional studies currently being

¹ Pub. L. No. 104–104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996).

discussed among NAB's staff and other parties, will be helpful to the Commission's inquiry. Furthermore, NAB asserts, the issues raised by the Notice, and the NAB's position on them, will be major subjects of its Joint Board of Directors meeting scheduled June 27–30, 1998.

3. We will grant the requested extension. Although the Commission has a policy of not routinely granting extensions of time for filing comments in rulemaking proceedings² this proceeding raises a number of complex issues concerning the nature, dimension, and competitiveness of the several markets in which the subject rules operate. A well-documented record will best conduce to an informed decision as to which of the Commission's broadcast ownership rules are no longer necessary in the public interest as a result of competition. Additionally: (1) The National Association of Broadcasters represents many of the parties that will most directly be affected by any actions we take in this proceeding; (2) it has shown good cause why a sixty-day extension will enable it to provide more well-informed comments; and (3) no party will be prejudiced by this extension. Rather, all may make good use of this added time to prepare and present well-supported comments on these important issues.

4. This action is taken pursuant to the authority found in Sections 4(i) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154(i) and 303(r), and sections 204(b), 0.283, and 1.45 of the Commission's Rules.

Federal Communications Commission.

Roy J. Stewart,

Chief, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 98–12668 Filed 5–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

49 CFR Part 393

[FHWA Docket No. FHWA–97–3201]

RIN 2125–AE15

Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation; Rear Impact Guards and Rear Impact Protection

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM); request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is proposing to amend the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) to require that certain trailers and semitrailers with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 4,536 kilograms (kg) (10,000 pounds) or more, and manufactured on or after January 26, 1998, be equipped with rear impact guards that meet the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 223. The rear impact guards would be installed to ensure that the trailer or semitrailer meets the rear impact protection requirements of FMVSS No. 224. This rulemaking is intended to ensure that the rear impact protection requirements of the FMCSRs are consistent with the FMVSSs and to improve the safety of operation of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) by reducing the incidence of passenger compartment intrusion during underride accidents in which the passenger vehicle strikes the rear of the trailer. With regard to trailers manufactured before January 26, 1998, the FHWA is not proposing that motor carriers be required to retrofit a rear impact guard that conforms to FMVSS No. 223. However, motor carriers operating these trailers would be required to continue complying with the FHWA's current requirements for rear impact guards and rear impact protection.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit written, signed comments to the docket number that appears in the heading of this document to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL–401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590–0001. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., et., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Larry W. Minor, Office of Motor Carrier Research and Standards, (202) 366–4009, or Mr. Charles Medalen, Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366–1354, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., et., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

Internet users can access all comments received by the U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL–401, by using the

universal resource locator (URL): <http://dms.dot.gov>. It is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. Please follow the instructions online for more information and help.

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded using a modem and suitable communications software from the **Federal Register** Electronic Bulletin Board Service at (202) 512–1661. Internet users may reach the **Federal Register's** home page at: <http://www.nara.gov/nara/fedreg> and the Government Printing Office's database at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs.

Background

On January 24, 1996 (61 FR 2003), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) published a final rule creating Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSSs) Nos. 223, Rear Impact Guards, and 224, Rear Impact Protection. The requirements apply to trailers manufactured on or after January 26, 1997.

The first standard, FMVSS No. 223 (49 CFR 571.223), specifies performance requirements that rear impact guards must meet before they can be installed on new trailers and semitrailers. It specifies strength requirements for the impact guards as well as test procedures that manufacturers and the NHTSA will use to determine compliance with the standard. The standard also requires the guard manufacturer to permanently label the impact guard to certify that the device meets the requirements and to provide instructions on the proper installation of the guard.

The second standard, FMVSS No. 224 (49 CFR 571.224), requires that most new trailers and semitrailers with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 4,536 kg (10,000 pounds) or more be equipped with a rear impact guard meeting FMVSS No. 223. Requirements for the location of the guard relative to the rear end and sides of the trailer are also specified in the vehicle standard. In addition, the vehicle standard requires that the guard be mounted on the trailer or semitrailer in accordance with the instructions of the guard manufacturer.

History of Current FHWA Requirements

The first Federal requirements concerning heavy vehicle rear underride protection were issued in 1952 by the Bureau of Motor Carriers of the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) (presently the Office of Motor Carriers of the Federal Highway Administration). The regulation, which is still in effect (49 CFR 393.86), requires heavy trucks, trailers, and semitrailers to be equipped with a rear-end protection device

² 47 CFR 1.46.