

system of records. Individuals who are provided information under these routine use conditions are subject to Privacy Act requirements and disclosure limitations imposed on the Commission.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

The information pertaining to the Lifeline Program includes electronic records, files, data, paper documents, records, and may include audio recordings of calls. Records are maintained in secure, limited access areas. Physical entry by unauthorized persons is restricted through use of locks, passwords, and other security measures. Both USAC and its contractors will jointly manage the electronic data housed at USAC and at the contractors' locations. Paper documents and other physical records (*i.e.*, tapes, compact discs, etc.) will be kept in locked, controlled access areas. Paper documents submitted by applicants to the Lifeline Program will be digitized, and paper copies will be immediately destroyed.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

Information in the Lifeline Program system of records may be retrieved by various identifiers, including, but not limited to the individual's name, last four digits of the Social Security Number (SSN), Tribal identification number, date of birth, phone number, residential address, and Lifeline subscriber identification number.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

The information in this system is maintained and disposed of in accordance with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Records Schedule DAA-0173-2017-0001-0002 (Universal Service).

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

The electronic records, data, and files are maintained in the FCC and the USAC computer network databases, which are protected by the FCC's and USAC's privacy safeguards, a comprehensive and dynamic set of safety and security protocols and features that are designed to meet all Federal IT privacy standards, including those required by OMB, the National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST) and the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA). In addition, access to the electronic files is restricted to authorized USAC and contractors' supervisors and staff and to the FCC's IT supervisors and staff and to the IT

contractors who maintain these computer databases. Other FCC employees and contractors may be granted access only on a "need-to-know" basis. In addition, data in the network servers for both USAC and its contractors will be routinely backed-up. The servers will be stored in secured environments to protect the data.

The paper documents and files are maintained in file cabinets in USAC and the contractors' office suites. The file cabinets are locked when not in use and at the end of the business day. Access to these files is restricted to authorized USAC and its contractors' staffs.

RECORDS ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Individuals wishing to request access to and/or amendment of records about themselves should follow the Notification Procedures below.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

Individuals wishing to request an amendment of records about themselves should follow the Notification Procedures below.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

Individuals wishing to determine whether this system of records contains information about themselves may do so by writing to privacy@fcc.gov. Individuals requesting access must also comply with the FCC's Privacy Act regulations regarding verification of identity to gain access to the records (47 CFR part 0, subpart E).

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

HISTORY:

91 FR 9251 (Feb. 25, 2026).

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,

Secretary, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-21381 Filed 10-16-26; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-1272; FR ID 372596]

Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Communications Commission

(Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Comments are requested concerning: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

DATES: Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before December 18, 2026. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Cathy Williams, FCC, via email to PRA@fcc.gov and to Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collection, contact Cathy Williams at (202) 418-2918.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

OMB Control Number: 3060-1272.
Title: 3.7 GHz Band Space Station Operator Transition Plans; 3.7 GHz Band Incumbent Earth Station Lump Sum Payment Elections.

Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities.

Estimated Number of Respondents and Responses: 3,003 respondents and 3,003 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 2,720 hours per eligible space station transition plan; 32 hours per incumbent earth station lump sum payment election.

Frequency of Response: One-time reporting requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in sections 1, 2, 4(i), 4(j), 5(c), 201, 302, 303, 304, 307(e), and 309 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151, 152, 154(i), 154(j), 155(c), 201, 302, 303, 304, 307(e), and 309.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 104,160 hours.

Total Annual Costs: \$540,000.

Needs and Uses: On July 22, 2026, in furtherance of the goal of releasing more mid-band spectrum into the market to support and enable next-generation wireless networks, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) adopted a Report and Order, FCC 26–46 (*Upper C-band R&O*) in which it reformed the use of the 4.0–4.2 GHz portion of the C-Band. The 4.0–4.2 GHz band currently is allocated in the United States exclusively for non-Federal use on a primary basis for Fixed Satellite Service (FSS) and Fixed Service.

Domestically, space station operators use the 4.0–4.2 GHz band to provide downlink signals of various bandwidths to licensed transmit-receive, registered receive-only, and unregistered receive-only earth stations throughout the United States. The *Upper C-band R&O* calls for the relocation of existing FSS operations in the C-band, making 160 megahertz (3.98–4.14 GHz) available for flexible-use terrestrial wireless service throughout the contiguous United States through a Commission-administered public auction of licenses that must be completed by July 4, 2027, pursuant to a statutory mandate in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, Public Law 119–21, section 40002(b)(2).

The Commission adopted a robust transition schedule to achieve an expeditious clearing and relocation of FSS operations and ensure that a significant amount of spectrum is made available quickly for next-generation wireless deployments, while also ensuring effective accommodation of relocated incumbent users. Pursuant to the *Upper C-band R&O*, all incumbent FSS operations in the contiguous United States must clear the 4.0–4.16 GHz portion of the C-band by December 30, 2030, or June 30, 2031, to ensure a timely transition process. The December 30 deadline applies to the top 75 Partial Economic Areas (PEAs) and aligns with the Federal Aviation Administration's first deadline to retrofit aircraft radio altimeters. The June 30 deadline applies to all other areas.

The Commission concluded in the *Upper C-band R&O* that, before the public auction of new licenses

commences, it is appropriate for potential bidders to: (1) know when they will get access to the spectrum in the 3.98–4.14 GHz portion of the C-band that is currently occupied by incumbent FSS space station operators and earth stations; and (2) have an estimate of how much they may be required to pay for incumbent relocation costs and incentive payments should they become Upper C-band wireless licensees. New Upper C-band wireless licensees are required to pay for the reasonable and necessary relocation costs of incumbent space station and incumbent earth station operators that are required to clear the 4.0–4.16 GHz portion of the C-band.

To facilitate the provision of this information to potential auction bidders, the Commission is seeking approval for a modified information collection to permit it to collect the following information from incumbents as adopted in the *Upper C-band R&O*:

Transition Plans

The *Upper C-band R&O* requires each eligible space station operator to submit to the Commission by November 5, 2026, and make available for public review, a detailed transition plan describing the necessary steps and estimated costs for the eligible space station operator to clear its existing operations in the 4.0–4.16 GHz portion of the C-band in the contiguous United States and its individual timeline for doing so. An eligible space station operator may make changes to its transition plan to update certain information or cure any defects that may be identified by the Commission or by relevant stakeholders during a public comment window.

Incumbent Earth Station Lump Sum Payment Elections

The *Upper C-band R&O* provides an incumbent earth station operator with the option of: (1) accepting reimbursement payments for its reasonable and necessary relocation costs for the transition; or (2) in lieu of actual relocation costs, opting out of the formal relocation process and accepting a lump sum reimbursement payment for its incumbent earth stations on a per-site basis based on the average, estimated cost of relocating such incumbent earth stations. The *Upper C-band R&O* directs the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau to announce the lump sum that will be available per incumbent earth station as well as the process for electing lump sum payments and requires that, no later than 60 days after the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau announces

the lump sum payment amounts, an incumbent earth station operator that wishes to receive a lump sum payment make an irrevocable lump sum payment election that will apply to such earth stations in the contiguous United States.

This information collection will serve as the starting point for planning and managing the process of efficiently and expeditiously clearing the 4.0–4.16 GHz portion of the C-band, so that this spectrum can be auctioned for flexible-use service licenses.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,

Secretary, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–21328 Filed 10–16–26; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: October 27, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. EST.

PLACE: This meeting will be held at the Federal Maritime Commission (Commission), 800 North Capitol St. NW, 1st Floor Hearing Room, Washington, DC 20573. The meeting will also be streamed live through a link that will be published on the Commission's website, www.fmc.gov.

STATUS: Parts of this meeting will be open to the public. The rest of the meeting will be closed to the public. Visitors will be subject to security checks. If technical issues prevent the Commission from streaming live, the Commission will post a recording of the public portion of the meeting on the Commission's YouTube channel following the meeting.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Portions Open to the Public

1. Staff Briefing from the Bureau of Enforcement, Investigations, and Compliance
2. Staff Briefing from the Office of Consumer Affairs and Dispute Resolution Services
3. Staff briefing from the Office of the General Counsel

Portions Closed to the Public

1. Staff Briefing from the Office of Information Technology
2. Staff Briefing from the Office of Consumer Affairs and Dispute Resolution Services
3. Staff briefing from the Office of the General Counsel