Programmatic Environmental Assessment for the Antenna Structure Registration Program

Scoping Meeting

December 6, 2010

Washington, DC

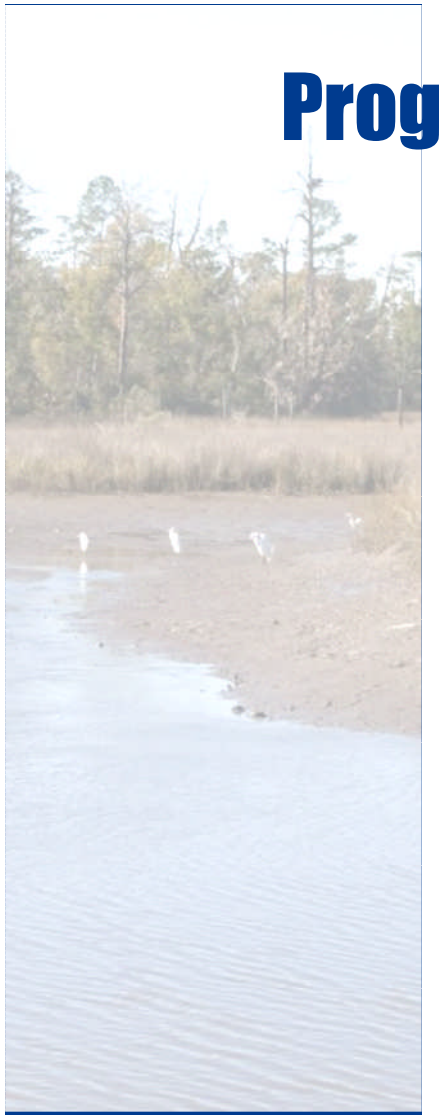
Background

- FCC was established by the Communications Act of 1934
- FCC regulates interstate and international communications
- FCC maintains a database of communications structures that may affect aviation safety
- Antenna Structure Registration (ASR) program requires registration of antenna structures taller than 200 feet or those that may interfere with the flight path of a nearby airport

NEPA Process

- FCC complies with NEPA by requiring applicants to review their proposed actions for environmental consequences
- FCC's rules regarding the implementation of NEPA are found at Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1, Subpart I, §§1.1301 to 1.1319
- For certain categories of actions, the applicant must consider the potential environmental effects in an Environmental Assessment (EA), which is filed with the FCC for review

Programmatic Environmental Assessment



- FCC is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) of its ASR program
- Court of Appeals in *American Bird Conservancy v. FCC* held that registered towers may have a significant environmental effect on migratory birds
- PEA will determine if the ASR program has a significant environmental impact, with focus on
  - migratory birds
  - Threatened and endangered species

Programmatic Environmental Assessment

- Purpose and need, alternatives, affected environment
- Direct, indirect and cumulative impacts
- Tower characteristics to be examined:
  - Location
  - Height
  - Support structures or guy wires
  - Lighting
- Stakeholders
  - Federal and state resource agencies
  - Tribal governments
  - Local governments
  - Environmental organizations
  - General public

Projected Milestones

- Public Notice of Scoping Meetings – Nov. 12, 2010
- Public Scoping Meetings – Dec. 2010
- Scoping Comments Due – Jan. 14, 2011
- Draft PEA Published – Spring 2011
- Public Meetings – Spring/Summer 2011
- Final PEA – Summer 2011

Additional Information

For additional information on the ASR PEA, visit the website at

http://www.fcc.gov/pea

Submit a Filing - Windows Internet Explorer

http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/upload/display?z=8ncte

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Online Help

- ECFS User Manual
- Contact ECFS

Related Info

- Office of the Secretary Paper Filing Guidelines
- Best Copy and Printing, Inc. FCC's Copy Contractor

For Information on Filing a Consumer Informal Complaint | ECFS Express

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08-61
03-187

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