

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Amendment of Parts 0, 1, 2, 15 and 18 of the)	ET Docket No. 15-170
Commission’s Rules regarding Authorization of)	
Radiofrequency Equipment)	
)	
Request for the Allowance of Optional Electronic)	RM-11673
Labeling for Wireless Devices)	
)	

ORDER

Adopted: August 25, 2015

Released: August 25, 2015

Comment Date: October 9, 2015

Reply Comment Date: November 9, 2015

By the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology:

1. On July 17, 2015, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“*NPRM*”) in the above captioned proceedings to update the rules that govern the evaluation and approval of RF devices.¹ Comments in this proceeding are due on September 9, 2015 and reply comments are due on September 22, 2015.²

2. Recently, the Telecommunications Industry Association (“*TIA*”) and the Information Technology Industry Council (“*ITI*”) jointly requested a 30-day extension of time for filing initial comments and a 15-day extension of time for filing reply comments.³ Subsequently, the Consumer Electronics Association (“*CEA*”) requested a two-week extension of the time for filing comments and a three-week extension for filing reply comments.⁴ More recently, the American National Standards Institute Accredited Standards Committee C63 (“*ANSI ASC63*”) requested a 30-day extension of both the comment and reply comment deadlines.⁵ *TIA* and *ITI* state that the *NPRM* addressed a “wide range of equipment approval issues of a technical, legal, and practical nature, impacting a diverse set of

¹ Amendment of Parts 0, 1, 2, 15 and 18 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Authorization of Radiofrequency Equipment, ET Docket No. 15-170, *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, 30 FCC Rcd 7725 (2015).

² The original comment and reply dates were established as September 8 and 21. 80 Fed. Reg. 46900 (Aug. 6, 2015). These dates have been automatically revised as a result of a temporary shut-down of the Commission’s computers on several days. *Public Notice*, Certain FCC Databases Will Be Unavailable And Filing Deadlines Will Be Extended In Early September to Accommodate A Significant FCC IT Upgrade, DA 15-940 (rel. August 20, 2015).

³ *Joint Request for Extension of Comment Deadline*, Telecommunications Industry Association and Information Technology Industry Council, ET Docket No. 15-170, filed August 12, 2015.

⁴ *Motion for Extension of Time*, Consumer Electronics Association, ET Docket No. 15-170, filed August 11, 2015.

⁵ *Motion for Extension of Time*, American National Standards Institute Accredited Standards Committee C63, ET Docket No. 15-170, filed August 17, 2015.

stakeholders, each of whom will need to closely analyze and consider the potential effect of the rule changes being considered” and that the extension will allow the parties to submit more comprehensive responses. TIA and ITI also contend that the rule changes are closely related to the recent changes updating the Commission’s Equipment Authorization program and the extension will ensure that they can consider issues they consider to be related.⁶ CEA states that this rulemaking concerns a complex and technical area and claims that the comment periods are insufficient for it to consult with its member companies within the timeframe provided. In addition to similar comments related to the complexity of the proposals under consideration, ANSI ASC63 also expressed concerns related to late summer scheduling conflicts among its members, including a conference that many of its members will attend in Germany that is coincident with the comment period.

3. The Commission does not routinely grant extensions of time in rulemaking proceedings. However, we believe that extensions of the comment and reply comment deadlines will provide parties with an opportunity to more fully analyze and respond to the complex technical issues raised in this *NPRM*, thus allowing development of a more complete record in these proceedings. We believe that a 30-day extension of the comment filing period followed by a 15-day extension to the reply comment filing period should provide sufficient time to address the complex technical issues.

4. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to the delegated authority contained in 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.31 and 0.241(a), that the deadlines for filing comments and reply comments in the above captioned proceedings ARE EXTENDED to October 9, 2015 and November 9, 2015.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Julius P. Knapp
Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology

⁶ TIA has filed a petition for reconsideration and/or clarification of the Equipment Authorization program rules as modified in Amendment of Parts 0, 1, 2, 15 and 18 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Authorization of Radiofrequency Equipment, ET Docket No. 13-44, *Report and Order*, 29 FCC Rcd 16335 (2014). *Petition for Clarification and/or Reconsideration*, Telecommunications Industry Association, ET Docket No. 13-44, RM-11652 (filed July 13, 2015).