

From: Broadcasters' Desktop Resource

by Barry Mishkind (www.thebdr.net)



[A great article by Larry Wilkins - Creating A Redundant EAS System.](#)

Lotsa other info and articles as well !

1/6/23 - Once again the FCC servers have failed to handle the load when multiple users need to file multiple filings. Many have reported problems this week with the OPIF, for example.

The Commission announced Jan 6th. that [the deadline for the Issues and Programs will be January 30th.](#)

Other filings, like Form One for EAS have also been difficult to file, but the deadline is Feb 28th for those.

12/23/22 - The FCC announced the initiation of the 2022 Quadrennial Review of Ownership Rules. With the 2018 Review still pending, due to the 2 to 2 balance of Commissioners, it might just get folded into the new review.

In other words, do not hold your breath on this one.

12/16/22 - Inflation has hit Application Fees at the FCC. [The Commission has increased these fees](#) by about 11.5%, effective with publication in the Federal Register. With the earlier raise of 7-8%, the total increase may be about 20% This means Construction Permits, License Renewals, Change Applications, etc.

FCC Enforcement

12/22/22 - We have mentioned this before: if you have a CP, build it exactly where it says. The FCC [pulled the authorization for Powell Meredith Communications, the permittee of W270CS, Gulfport, MS](#), due to construction at a different location than specified and a long period of non-operation immediately following the original license grant.

The FCC reasoned the installation was improper for being 30 yards from its permitted site, and "temporary" because it did not operate continuously for 12 months. Despite an appeal, the license was recinded.

12/16/22 - It looks like the long KSCO Santa Cruz, CA saga (see 10/19/22, below) is about to end. This long-running issue, since the STA ran out in the 1990s, recently got renewed attention at the FCC, which had issued an NALF for \$20k to the Zwerling Broadcasting System.

Now, it is a [Forfeiture Order](#), and the threat is that the station may lose its license if they do not correct matters. The station is now reputed to be for sale - but a new owner would have to contend with all the hassles of fixing the RF plant, plus deal with California's environmental rules and the activists. This station may have a difficult time surviving.

The station is being offered for \$1.5 million. If there are no takers, Zwerling says he will go from all-local to all-syndicated programming on January 1st.

12/7/22 - A [Citation and Order](#) from the FCC has notified B&H Foto that they are liable for \$22,000 a day for selling any of seven illegal FM transmitting devices. The Commission has given B&H a month to stop the sales and report to the Commission their ongoing policies.

The Virtual Lunch Gathering!

Each Thursday at 2 PM Eastern, 11 AM Pacific, we get together to discuss topics of interest to broadcasters and learn things.

The meeting is held using Zoom to prevent Zoombombing the URL is not published on the web.

Broadcasters Are Invited, [\(Go to Barry's site\) To Get An Invite.](#)

Recordings of the meetings are usually posted a day or so afterward.

At this time, they are being posted at Youtube on [theBDRnet channel](#).

(So you can leave the local SBE 122 meeting, and then check into Barry's meeting for the latest info.)

Thanks to Barry and the BDR, a great source for the latest news of the industry. [A weekly e-mail report, and FREE !](#)

As most engineers are aware, the FCC has begun reviewing the required updated EAS State Plans from each state. These plans were required to be uploaded to a special EAS template on the Commission website. Engineers need to stay in close touch with the State Emergency Communication Committee (SECC) in your state about any changes in the required EAS monitoring assignments.

The Commission is requiring SECC's to develop redundant sources for the reception and relay of National level alerts (EAN). These redundant sources will act as a backup to the Primary Entry Point (PEP) source in your state. The recommended sources are the National Public Radio squawk channel NPR-1 and the barker channel 1 on Sirius XM.

Several SECC's are adding these two sources to any state relay networks used and other key local primaries around their states. Stations affiliated with National Public Radio are encouraged to add (if possible) NPR-1 as a source to their EAS decoders.

For added redundancy, stations can also add a SiriusXM radio monitoring the free barker channel to the EAS decoder. If you add either of these sources at your stations, make should to send information the SECC.

Another requirement is for stations to ensure the security of the EAS device. This includes installing the most recent software updates, password management, and maintaining the EAS devices behind a secure firewall.

Contact your State Emergency Communications Committee or State Broadcasters Association for additional information.

SBE Certification:

Local Chapters January 6, 2023

Local Chapters April 21, 2023

Local Chapters June 16, 2023

Local Chapters September 8, 2023

When you are ready to take an SBE exam, please fill out the appropriate [application](#) and send it into the SBE National office (see address below). You will be notified once your application has been approved. Approximately 3 weeks before the exam time, your local certification chairman will receive a list of applicants in his/her area. He/she will then contact those applicants to schedule a date, time and place for the exams. The exams will be mailed back to the National office for grading.

The pass/fail grades will then be mailed directly to the applicants.

You may mail, email or fax your applications to:

Megan E. Clappe
Certification Director
9102 N. Meridian St. Suite 150
Indianapolis, IN 46260
317-846-9120 Fax
mclappe@sbe.org

Don't forget to check out the SBE website. WWW.SBE.ORG

