

The Experimental Radio Service provides licenses for basic research in radio and electronics as well as the development of improved radio transmitters and new radiocommunication systems not provided for on a regular basis in other parts of the Commission's rules.

The Commission's type approval program, determining that equipment operates within prescribed limits, is handled by the FCC Laboratory. Our type acceptance program, based on evaluation of manufacturers' test data, determines whether other types of equipment meet FCC standards. Our rules further provide that certain nonlicensed equipment must operate without generating harmful interference. This requires that the manufacturer file a certificate with the Commission stating that the equipment he makes operates within prescribed limits. Some of the benefits of these procedures are: reduction in application processing time, minimization of complaints of interference, and eliminating the necessity of licensing industrial, scientific, medical equipment and certain other equipment like very low power walkie-talkies and radio toys.

Name of the official having direct operational responsibility over the program is William H. Watkins, Chief Engineer.

Mr. HYDE. I have some suggestions for amendments to section 315. They have not done too well with them, but broadcasting is a major interest with us. It includes all regulatory activities related to regulating the broadcasting programs intended primarily for reception by the general public. This includes AM, FM, TV, educational broadcasts and so forth.

In the past we have had tremendous issues to resolve, such as the matter of color standards, fairness doctrine, multiple ownership. There is no end of issues in the broadcast field.

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Chairman, much has been said in recent years about TV content, program content, the extent of FCC powers and the responsibilities in this area. Would you comment briefly on this and perhaps furnish a more detailed statement for the record?

Mr. HYDE. Yes. Our main regulatory effort is expressed in such policy statements as the fairness doctrine and the statement on programming which was issued in 1960. These will be of interest to you.

During this past year we have gone over the application forms, the forms submitted by an applicant who wishes to build a station or to acquire one.

Mr. BROOKS. I have a limited interest in what they say before they get it. It is what they do after they get it that really has bearing on the public interest in my judgment.

Mr. HYDE. The Commission requires of an applicant that they make a study of their community and make a presentation of what they propose to do to satisfy the interests that they have discovered as a result of their survey and then at the time of renewal their performance is checked in general against the presentations they made to the Commission when they applied.

Mr. BROOKS. Have you ever failed to renew one of those licenses because they just ran a sorry station and didn't render any public service?

Mr. HYDE. No. There have been many instances where licenses have been refused or where there have been revocations. Usually these revocations are not based upon a finding that goes to cultural quality of the program. They usually result from violation of rules or misrepresentations to the Commission. This is an area where the Commission must direct attention, to the overall public interest. It must see that stations are operated in the public interest but still must not offend section 326, which prohibits the Commission from censoring programs.