United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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OCIO BULLETIN 2002-008

To: Solicitor
Inspector General
Heads of Bureaus and Offices
Bureau/Office Chief Information Officers
Bureau/Office Deputy Chief Information Officers

From: W. Hord Tipton
Chief Information Officer, Acting

Subject: Technical Approval of Radio Equipment Acquisitions

Purpose:

This bulletin reiterates policy disseminated by Information Resource Management memorandum dated December 20, 1996, Subject: Technical Approval of Radio Equipment Acquisitions.

Background:

The purchase of radio equipment without frequency authorization is a violation of Federal Regulation 47 CFR 300. Examples of devices requiring this oversight are radios and systems in the HF, VHF, UHF, and microwave frequency bands whether voice, data, or telemetry; Differential Global Positioning Systems; and audio and video wireless surveillance.

Scope:

This bulletin applies to all Departmental offices and bureaus.

Policy:

All bureaus within the Department procuring any equipment, regardless of cost, that uses radio frequencies to accomplish its task, i.e., wireless equipment, must have prior technical approval from their bureau radio liaison. This assures all DOI wireless devices have required radio frequency authorizations and are compatible with existing radio systems. The equipment must also meet the requirements set forth in Department Manual 377DM 1, Telecommunications Management, the Radio Communications Handbook 377DM, and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Manual of Regulations and Procedures for Federal Radio Frequency Management (NTIA Manual). Low power devices

commonly classified by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as FCC Type Accepted Part 15 or 90 must also be approved by your bureau radio liaison to prevent the expenditure of funds for equipment that is not protected from interference. Low power Part 15 or 90 devices not requiring prior approval are: cordless telephones, garage door openers, microwave ovens, and commercially provided transmission services such as cellular telephone or commercial radio paging. The use of Family Radio Service and Multi-Use Radio Service equipment is expressly prohibited.

Time Frame:

This bulletin is effective immediately.

Contact:

When in doubt, you should contact your respective bureau radio liaison for specific guidance. The following are Interior Bureau Radio Liaisons.

• Glenn Cascino	BOR	303-445-3336
• Robert Dutrow	USGS	703-648-7017
• Noel Newberg	FWS	303-275-2401
• Ron Strong	BLM	303-236-6635
• Frank P Weed	NPS	303-969-2084
• John King	BIA	505-346-6511

For bureaus/offices not having a radio liaison, contact Chris Lewis in the Office of the Chief Information Officer at 202-208-6758.

For additional information or clarification, please contact Jim Dolezal, Telecommunications Systems Division Chief, at 202-208-5002 or Art Nelson at 202-208-3939.

cc:
Bureau Procurement Chiefs
Telecommunications Managers
Bureau Radio Liaisons