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MIKE BOST

12TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

TRANSPORTATION &  
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

January 24, 2018

Mr. Ajit Pai

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission

445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Southwest

Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

I am writing to you today regarding a radio station located in my district, WDQN-AM, in DuQuoin, Illinois. It is a small radio station in a rural area of Southern Illinois that would like to obtain a FM translator during the upcoming filing window. This is a small business which looks to grow their listener base which at the same time would offer their listeners timely public emergency notices should severe weather or any other hazardous situation develop. I ask that you please give their request all due consideration.

WDQN has informed me that they have previously filed paperwork for a FM translator; however, due to new ownership of the radio station, the FCC regulatory fees had not been paid by the previous owners resulting in a "red light status." The regulatory fees have been paid in full to the Internal Revenue Service by the new owner of the radio station which should result in a FCC "green light status," that would allow WDQN to apply for the FM translator.

I am requesting that WDQN be given all due consideration to for a "green light status" in order for the station to continue with the application for the FM translator during the short filing window which ends at the end of January. Thank you for your assistance with this matter and please feel free to contact me or R.J. Layher on my staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mike Bost

Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 6, 2018

The Honorable Mike Bost  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1440 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bost:

Thank you for your letter regarding WDQN-AM. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Revitalization of the AM band has been a priority for me since coming to the Commission, and I am pleased that we have taken concrete steps to help struggling AM stations. One of the most significant opportunities for AM stations was the opening of special filing windows for AM stations to apply for new construction permits for FM translator stations. The FM translator stations will help to provide fill in service for AM stations, particularly for nighttime transmission.

I understand from Bureau staff that WDQN-AM filed its application in the last filing window that ended on January 31, along with the appropriate waiver requests required due to their prior participation in a filing window. Applications that contain waiver requests will be reviewed by staff in the next few months.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Your views are very important and will be entered into the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Ajit V. Pai

P.S. Congressman, thanks again for your letter! I'd love to catch up sometime. I actually drove through your district last year between visits to Harrisburg (with Cong. Shimkus) and West Plains, MO (with Cong. Jason Smith).