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Tom Taggart
Attorney at Law
8 Ransom Road
Athens, Ohio 45701

Tel. (614) 797-2177

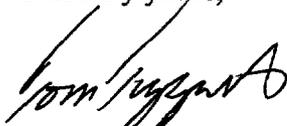
October 27, 1997

Secretary
Federal Communications
Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed an original and three copies of a PETITION FOR RULEMAKING
to assign Channel 287 at Saint Marys, W.V.

Sincerely yours,



Tom Taggart
Attorney at law
for Seven Ranges Radio Co. Inc.

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Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

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In the Matter Of:	:	
Amendment of Sec. 73.202 (b)	:	RM-
FM Table of Allotments	:	Docket No.
	:	
Saint Marys, W. V.	:	PETITION FOR RULEMAKING
(230 B-1, Add: 287A)	:	

Seven Ranges Radio Company Inc., a West Virginia corporation, requests the Commission to assign Channel 287A (105.3 MHZ) to Saint Marys, W. V. as its second FM assignment.

Saint Marys, (pop. 2,400) is the county seat of Pleasants County (pop.8,400), and is located in north central West Virginia on the Ohio River 33 km. northeast of Parkersburg. Economically and culturally it is part of the Parkersburg, W. V. and Marietta, Ohio metropolitan area. However, the village also serves as a governmental center for this portion of the state. The district court serves both Pleasants and Ritchie Counties, while these two counties and Tyler County, to the northeast, jointly operate the PRT vocational-technical school at Saint Marys. Seven Ranges has operated stations WRRR-FM and WVWV (AM) at St. Marys for the last 14 years.

This region of West Virginia is rural and sparsely populated. although it receives some coverage from several stations licensed to Marietta, and Parkersburg. WVWV programs traditional gospel music, and religious programing for this rural audience. On paper, the .5 mv/m coverage area on 630 KHZ. appears impressive. In recent years the increase of electrical noise

from such sources as business computers and microprocessors used in many home devices (such as microwave ovens, even washers) caused the real service area of WVWV station to shrink to the 5 mv/m city contour.

A frequency search has determined that Channel 287A can be assigned to Saint Marys, if the transmitter site is located 15 Km. south-south-west of the city. The area available for allotment of this channel lies in north central West Virginia in Pleasants and Ritchie counties. The only significant cities in the city-grade service area are Saint Marys and Harrisville (pop. 1,500) the county seat of Ritchie County.

Under present rules, Seven Ranges can own three stations in a market of less than 15 stations, two of them FM stations. A full service Class A station from this site will be in a market area with 11 other AM and FM stations: the two stations owned by Seven Ranges at Saint Marys, and 4 AM and 5 FM stations in the Parkersburg-Marietta market.

Prior to 1988, WRRR-FM was a Class A station, hence we know from experience that this new allotment will not have the signal to compete with the established stations in Parkersburg. We propose to program the new FM channel part of the time with programming from WVWV, with the eventual goal of replacing the AM station with the FM coverage.

ALLOCATION MATTERS

For the purposes of an allocation study, the coordinates of 39 degrees 14' 42" North, 81 degrees, 09' 45" West were used. This site meets the minimum distance standards of Sec. 73.207. This site is a hilltop 380 meters AMSL adjacent to U.S. Highway 50. Assuming an antenna mounted at 45 meter AG, a 6 kw. station will provide satisfactory city grade coverage to the village of Saint Marys. Other sites are available. Table 1 lists the actual and required distances between this point and co- and adjacent channel stations. The intermediate frequency beat falls on

94.5 through 94.7 MHZ. Neither channel is occupied in this area because of the proximity of Class B station WXIL, Parkersburg on 95.1 MHZ.

TABLE I

		Actual	Required
104.7 MHZ.	WVRC, Spencer, WV, Class A	53.3 Km	31 Km.
104.9 MHZ.	WPDX-FM, Clarksburg, WV, (A)	67.1	31
	WWKC, Caldwell, Ohio (A)	72.5	31
105.1 MHZ	WKLC-FM, St. Albans, WV, (B)	114.6	113
	WQXK-FM, Salem, Ohio, (B)	146.4	113
105.3 MHZ	WFRB-FM, Frostburg, MD, (B)	194.5	178
	WYHT, Mansfield, Ohio, (B)	204.9	178
105.5 MHZ	WXTQ, Athens, Ohio (A)	80.8	72
	WRIR, Bethlehem, WV, (B-1)	96.5	96
105.7 MHZ	WOBG-FM, Salem, WV, (A)	62.7	31
105.9 MHZ	WTNJ, Mt. Hope, WV, (B)	153.1	69

CONCLUSION

If Channel 287A is assigned to Saint Mary as that city's second channel, Seven Ranges

Radio will promptly apply for a permit to build and operate a station on this channel.



Thomas P. Taggart,
Attorney and Secretary for
Seven Ranges Radio Co. Inc.
P.O. Box 374, St. Marys, W.V. 26170
Tel. (304) 684-3400