

**IMES COMMUNICATIONS**

MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

J. A. PACIORKOWSKI  
VICE PRESIDENT  
ENGINEERING

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May 5, 1997

F.C.C. Secretary  
1919 M St. N.W.  
Room 222  
Washington D.C. 20554  
Re: Docket 87-268

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This report is to update the Commission on the progress of WMUR-TV regarding the transition to Digital Television transmission since the last report presented in November 1997.

**Transmitter site- Mt. Uncanoonic, Goffstown NH**

- The site is zoned "conservancy" as was mentioned in the prior report. New towers cannot be constructed in this area unless all zoning requirements as well as all of the conditions in the newly adopted Article VII- Telecommunications Facilities ordinance – Goffstown NH- have been met. The tower site required a variance for lot Area, Lot Frontage, Lot Width, & Building Setback. On March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1998 the Zoning Board of Adjustment granted a variance conditional to Article VII compliance. A application for review along with the appropriate fees was then submitted to the Goffstown Planning Board for review and a Public hearing was scheduled for April 23, 1998. The decision at this meeting was to allow WMUR to construct the new facility conditional to 14 exceptions. (See attached Notice of decision 5/4/1998). We do not feel that any of these conditions will slow down the construction of WMUR's digital facility.

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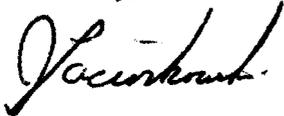
- Bids for tower construction have been received. Tower construction will commence following FAA approval, which is expected in this month.
- Studies have been completed regarding WMUR-DT Signal maximization & Bids have been returned on Antenna systems and Transmitters. Bids to be awarded in May / June.
- Building construction drawings partially complete, Building construction to begin in June completed in July.
- Transmitter installation is scheduled for August.
- Power service upgrades bids are in will be awarded in May. Work will be completed in July

**Studio site- Manchester NH**

- Video / Audio Digital conversion 80 percent complete. Not a factor in meeting the November deadline.
- Compression Engines / multiplexors are out for bid.
- Various Software packages are being evaluated to comply with ATSC A-65
- Additional routing capability has been implemented.
- License for new STL / TSL will be applied for this week.

To summarize, WMUR-TV now has achieved numerous milestones on the digital path; we now have the permission of the Town of Goffstown to build our new tower, which is presently on site. The building will accommodate the new transmitter when it arrives, and the studio infrastructure changes are on schedule. Low power testing will begin in August / September. WMUR will file for a construction permit as soon as the consulting engineers complete their findings, which I anticipate, will be this week.

Sincerely,



J.A. Paciorkowski  
Vice President/Engineering  
Imes Communications

cc: Mr. Frank Imes, President/CEO - Imes Communications



# Town of Goffstown

TOWN OFFICES

## GOFFSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

### NOTICE OF DECISION

Name of Applicant: Imes Communications (WMUR) Date: 5/4/98

Address: 100 South Commercial Street

Town: Manchester State: N.H. Zip: 03101

Project Name: Final Site Plan Review Hearing for proposed Temporary 184.4 ft. Digital Television Transmission Tower - WMUR-TV (Owner: Imes Communication)

Address: Grandview Road Map: 40 Lot(s): 33, 36, 37, 38 & 39

Planning Board vote: Approved: xx Denied:        Tabled:       

Continued:       

#### Comment:

Approved with conditions. See attachment.

Sincerely,

André L. Garron  
Planning & Economic Development Coordinator

Cc: Planning Board  
Copy to File

**Time Limitation:** A subdivision plan or site plan approved or conditionally approved by the Planning Board is valid for a period of one year, unless, active and substantial development, as determined by the Planning Board or its designee, has occurred within the approved site within the first year of approval. An applicant may submit a written request to the Planning Board for an additional year prior to the expiration of the original approval. See section 18.00 of the Subdivision Regulations or section 9.00 of the Non-residential Regulations for the full text of the respective time limitations.

Effective date: March 27, 1997

16 MAIN STREET • GOFFSTOWN, NH 03045

ASSESSING: (603) 497-3611 • BUILDING: (603) 497-3612 • FINANCE: (603) 497-3615

PLANNING: (603) 497-8991 • TAX: (603) 497-3614 • TOWN CLERK: (603) 497-3613

FAX: (603) 497-8993

**Conditions for site plan approval of map 40 lots 33, 36, 37, 38 & 39 (Imes Communications):**

- 1) The project will not substantially disturb foliage or tree coverage.
- 2) Correct the location map to state Hillsborough County and not Merrimack County.
- 3) Must receive a waiver from the Board of Selectmen for construction on a Class VI Road. The Planning Board recommends to the Board of Selectmen to grant a waiver for construction on a Class VI Road.
- 4) The lots must be consolidated.
- 5) The applicant must correct the corporate certification.
- 6) The applicant is required to provide evidence of insurance (Liability Insurance) on the tower and show that the town is additionally insured.
- 7) Annual building code compliance reports must be submitted to the building inspector in compliance with Article V, Section F3
- 8) Yearly reports be given to the Planning Board indicating what percentage of the 6<sup>th</sup> market has switched over from analog to digital transmission.
- 9) Add note to the plan in accordance with Attorney Drescher's opinion that the Board's approval of the plan is not a certification or finding of ownership of the rights of way, etc.
- 10) A performance bond be submitted in accordance with Article V, Section I. The amount of the bond will be determined by the Planning Department and in it's determination, consider the cost of removal and a rate of inflation for an 8 year time frame.
- 11) Add note for total acreage.
- 12) add a note to the plan that the lots are consolidated.
- 13) The applicant provide the Board with a written colocation agreement to allow colocation to take place on their tower to the extent possible as required by the ordinance.
- 14) That if they want to continue the tower beyond December 31, 2006 or a conversion of 85% of the market to digital transmission has not taken place, they have to come back before the Board.