



February 29, 2016

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington DC 20554

Re: Written Ex Parte Communication, MB Docket No. 13-249; GN Docket No. 12-268

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On February 25, 2016, the local radio broadcasters listed below and the undersigned of the National Association of Broadcasters, met with Peter Doyle, James Bradshaw, Rudy Bonacci, Tom Nessinger, Tom Hutton and Lisa Scanlan of the Media Bureau's Audio Division, to discuss various policy issues concerning free, over-the-air AM and FM radio, and the unique local public service that broadcasters provide to communities across the country.

The broadcasters expressed appreciation for the staff's diligent efforts to efficiently process hundreds of recent applications to acquire and relocate an FM translator station up to 250 miles, pursuant to the Commission's Report and Order on AM Revitalization, adopted on October 21, 2015. Multiple broadcasters noted that their applications were approved in a matter of only two to three weeks, and some have already started using their new translator to provide listeners with improved, expanded radio service.

The broadcasters and staff also discussed the limitations of providing AM radio service under the Commission's rules for pre- and post-sunset operations. The staff discussed the impact of relaxing these limits on other radio services, and raised potential alternatives for alleviating these challenges, such as participation in the new FM translator application auctions windows to be opened in 2017.

In addition, several broadcasters expressed consternation at the worsening noise floor that continues to degrade both AM and FM radio service, including interference caused by fluorescent and LED lightbulbs, traffic lights, computer monitors and other devices. The broadcasters sought guidance on the status of Commission enforcement of its rules that are intended to protect incumbent primary radio services from unintentional interference.

Finally, the broadcasters noted the difficulty of finding an available, qualified tower crew to assist with tower maintenance and modifications. The group expressed concern that these

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problems will increase exponentially in the coming years if the Commission maintains its current plan for repacking television station following the spectrum incentive auction.

The broadcasters sincerely appreciate the opportunity to meet with Mr. Doyle and his staff to discuss these important issues.

Respectfully Submitted,



Larry Walke  
Associate General Counsel  
Legal and Regulatory Affairs  
National Association of Broadcasters

On behalf of:

Joseph Brannan	PMB Broadcasting
Justin Sasso	Colorado Broadcasters Assoc.
Tom McAuliffe II	WMRC-AM
Craig Eckert	Platte River Radio, Inc.
Kelly Radandt	Woodward Radio Group
Mary Ann Armijo	iHeart
Larry Newton	Boise State University Public Radio
Dave Crooks	DCL Media
Bob Call	Bonneville
Dick Harlow	Dick Broadcasting Co.
Leonard Wheeler	Mel Wheeler Broadcasting

cc: Peter Doyle, James Bradshaw, Rudy Bonacci, Tom Nessinger, Tom Hutton, Lisa Scanlan