

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D. C. 20554  
FEB 23 2000

CREDIT & DEBIT MANAGEMENT  
CENTER, OMD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

OFFICE OF  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

86-285

Peter D. Shields, Esq.  
Counsel for Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.  
Wiley, Rein & Fielding  
1776 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

RE: Request for Waiver and Refund of  
Filing Fees  
Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.  
Fee Control Nos. 9812158205251001;  
9812158205250005; 9812158130476006;  
9812158130476007; & 9901048155065001

Dear Mr. Shields:

This is in response to the requests for waiver and refund of application fees that you filed on behalf of Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc ("Heartland").

By supplements to five letters, all dated December 14, 1998, you requested waiver and refund of the application fees due and paid for Heartland's Applications for Consent to Transfer of Control (which consents were granted in 1999). You represent that the applications were filed in connection with Heartland's reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. You argue that the applications fees should be waived on the grounds of financial hardship, based on the fact that Heartland was in a Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceeding. You also argue that waiving the fees would further Heartland's ability to emerge from bankruptcy, preserve its assets, satisfy its creditors, and continue to serve its subscribers. In support of your argument, you note that the Commission has determined that it will waive regulatory fees for licensees that are undergoing Chapter 11 reorganizations.

We find that the Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings substantiate Heartland's claim of financial hardship and demonstrate good cause for waiver of the application fees. *Accord Implementation of Section 9 of the Communications Act*, 10 FCC Rcd 12759, 12762 (1995). Moreover, we find that waiver of the application fees will serve the public interest by protecting the interests of Heartland's subscribers, as well as Heartland's creditors and investors. Therefore, your request for waiver and refund of application fees is granted.

Peter D. Shields, Esq.

2.

A check, made payable to the maker of the original checks in the amount of \$20,415.00 will be sent to Heartland at the earliest practical time. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please call the Credit & Debt Management Center at (202) 418-1995.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Reger", with a large, stylized initial "M" and "R".

Mark Reger  
Chief Financial Officer

9812158205251001

WILEY, REIN & FIELDING

1776 K STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006  
(202) 429-7000

DUPLICATE  
# 8 Cruz

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER  
(202) 429-7368

FACSIMILE  
(202) 429-7049

December 14, 1998 ~~1998~~ MELLON

**VIA BERRY BEST**

Federal Communications Commission  
Cable Services Bureau  
P.O. Box 358205  
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5205

Re: Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.  
FCC Form 327 -- Application for Consent to Transfer of Control of CARS  
Licenses

Dear Sir or Madam:

Transmitted herewith for filing on behalf of Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc. ("Heartland") are the original and one copy of its Application for Consent to Transfer of Control on FCC Form 327.

Heartland is a wireless cable company that owns or leases MDS/MMDS/ITFS spectrum in connection with its wireless cable operations. The CARS stations specified in the instant application are also used in connection with Heartland's wireless cable operations. On December 4, 1998, Heartland filed a "pre-negotiated" Plan of Reorganization (the "Plan") under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. Prior to filing, the Plan was approved by over 70% in principal amount of the holders of Heartland's \$115 million 13% senior notes due 2003 and \$125 million 14% senior notes due 2004 (collectively, the "Senior Notes"). Under the Plan, the holders of the Senior Notes will receive 97 percent of the equity in the reorganized entity, and Heartland will emerge with no long-term debt, except for certain capital lease obligations and the approximately \$15 million of installment notes it owes the Federal Communications Commission for the BTA authorizations it obtained by auction in 1996. Because the Plan was pre-negotiated, Heartland anticipates court approval of the Plan in the first quarter of 1999.

Heartland respectfully requests that this application be processed on an expedited basis so that FCC consent may be obtained prior to or contemporaneous with the bankruptcy court's approval of the Plan.

There are five CARS stations listed in Exhibit A-1 of the application. Accordingly, included herewith is a check made payable to the FCC in the amount of \$1,200.00 (Twelve hundred dollars) to cover the requisite filing fee. However, please note that, as set forth in Exhibit B-6 (supp.) of the instant application, Heartland is, pursuant to FCC Rule § 1.1117, requesting waiver and reimbursement of the filing fee.

If any additional information is desired in connection with this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter D. Shields", written over a horizontal line.

Peter D. Shields  
A. B. Cruz III

Counsel for Heartland Wireless  
Communications, Inc.

cc: Mr. Andrew S. Fishel (by hand delivery)  
Mr. John Wong (by hand delivery)

**Licenses Being Transferred**

[See Attached Chart]

CARS LICENSES HELD BY HEARTLAND WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Market	APPLICANT	Call Sign
Austin, TX	Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.	WLY-539
Paris/Bonham, TX	Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.	WLY-602
Paris/Honey Grove, TX	Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.	WLY-601
Stillwater, OK	Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.	WLY-516
Texarkana, TX	Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.	WLY-552

### **Applicant's Eligibility**

Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc. ("Heartland") owns and operates MDS/MMDS systems in the markets identified in Exhibit A-1 hereto. Heartland is also the holder of executed lease agreements with various licensees of ITFS and MMDS stations in these markets. Accordingly, pursuant to FCC Rule § 78.13(d), Heartland is eligible to hold the CARS licenses that are the subject of this application.

### **Description of Proposed Transfer of Control**

By this application, Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc. ("Heartland" or the "Company") seeks the Commission's consent to the transfer of control of the CARS licenses specified herein, as such transfer of control is contemplated under a plan of reorganization recently filed by Heartland. As discussed below, Heartland has filed a pre-negotiated plan of reorganization pursuant to which its financial obligations will be restructured, allowing the Company and its subsidiaries to continue their wireless cable and related operations.

On December 4, 1998, Heartland filed a plan of reorganization (the "Plan") with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. The holders of over 70% in principal amount of Heartland's \$115 million 13% senior notes due 2003 and \$125 million 14% senior notes due 2004 (together the "Senior Notes") have agreed to support the Plan. These holders are members of an unofficial committee of holders of Senior Notes formed before the filing of the Plan (the "Ad Hoc Committee").

Under the Plan, Heartland will convert the Senior Notes and Heartland's 40.2 million 9% convertible subordinated discount notes due 2004 (the "Subordinated Notes") into new shares of Heartland common stock ("New Common Stock"). The aggregate amount of debt and accrued interest to be converted into common stock under the Plan is expected to total approximately \$325 million.

Under the plan, the reorganized Heartland expects to emerge with no long-term debt except for approximately \$15 million of installment notes payable to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") for the Company's basic trading areas and certain capital lease obligations.

A change in control of the Company and its subsidiaries will be effected in connection with the confirmation by the bankruptcy court of the Plan. In exchange for cancellation of the Senior Notes, holders of the Senior Notes will receive 97% of the New Common Stock of the reorganized Heartland. Holders of the Subordinated Notes, existing common stock and certain litigation claims will receive the remaining 3% of the New Common Stock, as well as warrants ("Warrants") to purchase 10% of the common stock of the reorganized Heartland on a diluted basis.

Under the Plan, the initial Board of Directors of the reorganized Heartland will be comprised of seven members, appointed by the Ad Hoc Committee, at least one of whom will be a member of management of the reorganized Heartland. These board

members will serve until the first annual meeting of stockholders of the reorganized Heartland or until their earlier resignation or removal in accordance with the certificate or bylaws of the reorganized Company.

Except for certain real estate leases, the Company's Plan provides for continued payment of trade creditors in the ordinary course of business, including all vendors, programmers, the FCC, and all ITFS and MMDS channel license holders that lease excess spectrum capacity to Heartland.

As of the date of filing the Plan, the projected majority equity ownership of the reorganized Heartland was as follows:

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Approximate % Ownership</u>
Quad-C, Inc. <sup>1</sup> 230 East High Street Charlottesville, VA 22902	19.28%
Quaker Capital Management Corp. The Arrott Building, Suite 1300 401 Wood Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222-0323	16.04%
The MainStay Funds, on behalf of its High Yield Corporate Bond Fund Series c/o MacKay-Shields Financial Corp. 9 West 57 <sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10019	10.42%
Northstar High Total Return c/o Northstar Investment Management Corp. 300 First Stamford Place Stamford, CT 06902	8.00%
Aspen Partners, LP 1114 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036	6.27%

<sup>1</sup> On behalf of certain affiliated or related persons and entities. Quad-C Inc. and such persons and entities expressly reserve the right to disclaim beneficial ownership of the equity securities of the applicant under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

Grant of this application and the transfer of control proposed hereunder is clearly in the public interest. As noted above, consummation of Heartland's reorganization plan will allow the Company and its subsidiaries to continue its wireless cable and broadband operations with no interruption of video programming or Internet service to customers. In addition, the Plan will provide the Company with the best opportunity to strengthen its balance sheet, execute its long-range business plan and maximize the value of its assets, each of which is essential to the Company's continued growth and success as a viable competitor in the multi-channel video programming and broadband service marketplace.

A copy of the Company's Plan and Disclosure Statement dated December 4, 1998 is attached hereto.

676806/B-6

**Request for Waiver of FCC Application Fees**

Pursuant to Section 1.1117 of the Commission's Rules,<sup>1</sup> Heartland hereby requests waiver and refund of the filing fees due in connection with the instant transfer of control application. As detailed herein, Heartland has filed a petition under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code in order to restructure approximately \$325 million in debt. The requisite filing fees for the instant and related applications represent a substantial expenditure, particularly given the Company's current need to harbor its working capital.

Section 1.1117 of the Commission's rules authorizes the Commission to waive fees "where good cause is shown and where waiver or deferral of the fee would promote the public interest."<sup>2</sup> The Commission has acknowledged that its procedural rules may conflict with the bankruptcy laws.<sup>3</sup> Indeed, in the context of regulatory fees, the Commission has recognized that "where a bankruptcy trustee, receiver, or debtor in possession is negotiating a possible transfer of a license, the regulatory fee could act as an impediment to the negotiations and the transfer of the station to a new licensee."<sup>4</sup> Following this reasoning, the Commission has previously waived the regulatory fees for numerous companies facing similar circumstances.<sup>5</sup> Moreover, the Commission has

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.1117 (1997).

<sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.1117(a) (1997).

<sup>3</sup> *Application of Martin W. Hoffman, Trustee*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 11722, 11723 (1997).

<sup>4</sup> *Implementation of Section 9 of the Communications Act*, 10 FCC Rcd 12759, 12762 (1995).

<sup>5</sup> See Letter to John S. Neeley, Esq., from Marilyn J. McDermott, Associate Managing Director for Operations, FCC (April 18, 1997) (which granted the request of American Broadcasting Systems, Inc. ("ABS") for a waiver and refund of the FY 1996 Regulatory Fees based on the fact that ABS was undergoing a Chapter 11 reorganization and was named a debtor-in-possession by the United States Bankruptcy Court); Letters to Brian M. Madden, Esq., from Marilyn J. McDermott, Associate Managing Director for Operations, FCC (April 17, 1996 and Oct. 25, 1996) (which granted the requests of Allan B. Mendelsohn, appointed trustee of the estate of the licensee of Radio Station WUSS by the United States Bankruptcy Court for waivers of

(Continued...)

previously and repeatedly recognized that a waiver of its processing fees for an entity in bankruptcy serves the public interest. The same conclusion is warranted here. By waiving or substantially reducing the filing fees in this case, the Commission can help Heartland emerge from bankruptcy, preserve its assets, more fully satisfy its obligations to its creditors, and continue to serve its subscribers.

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(...Continued)

the FY 1995 and FY 1996 Regulatory Fees for Radio Station WUSS); Letters to Jack Lotsof, President of Stereo 97, Inc., from Marilyn J. McDermott, Associate Managing Director for Operations, FCC (Feb. 23, 1996 and March 27, 1997) (which granted requests for waivers of the FY 1994, FY 1995 and FY 1996 Regulatory Fees for FM Station KAVV-FM based on the licensee's existing state of undue financial hardship); Letter to R. Edward Price, Esq., from Marilyn J. McDermott, Associate Managing Director for Operations, FCC (Nov. 14, 1996) (which granted request to defer payment and waive the FY 1996 Regulatory Fees for Stations KVVQ (AM) and KVVQ-FM based on the fact that the stations were currently in receivership).

# Payment Transactions Detail Report

Date: 3/24/99

BY: FEE CONTROL NUMBER

Fee Control Number	Payor Name			Fcc Account Number	Payer TIN	Received Date					
9812158205251001	HEARTLAND WIRELESS COMMUNICATI 200 CHISHOLM PLACE SUITE 200			FCC2025181		12/14/98					
	PLANO		TX	75075							
Payment Amount	Current Balance	Seq Num	Payment Type Code	Quantity	Callsign Other Id	Applicant Name	Applicant Zip	Bad Check	Detail Amount	Trans Code	Payment Type
\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	2	SUSP	1		HEARTLAND WIRELESS COMMUNICATI	75075		\$200.00	1	PMT
\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	1	TIC	5	WLY539ETAL	HEARTLAND WIRELESS COMMUNICATI	75075		\$1,000.00	1	PMT
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>							<b>\$1,200.00</b>		



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PERFORM: Query Next Previous Update Remove Table Screen ...
Adds a row to the active database table. ** 1: tracking table**
          FCC FEE COLLECTION SYSTEM          11/12/91
          WAIVER REQUEST ENTRY

FEE CONTROL NUMBER: [9810158205251001]
APPLICANT NAME: [HEARTLAND WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. ]
CALL SIGN: [WLYG51ETAL] CITY: [PLANO ] STATE: [TX ]
DATE OF REQUEST (MM/DD/YYYY): [12/14/1998] TYPE OF REQUEST: [FF ]
LEGAL REP: [PETER D. SHIELDS ] PHONE: [302-429-7000 ]

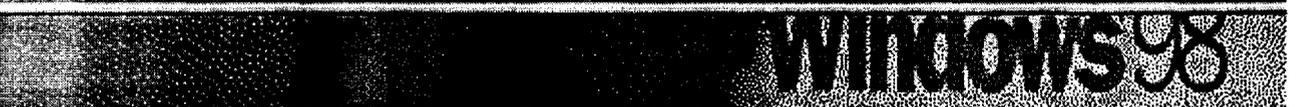
ATTORNEY ASSIGNED: [ ]
RULE PART AFFECTED: [ ]

DECISION: [ ] DECISION DATE (MM/DD/YYYY): [ ]
LETTER SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY): [ ] PUBLISHED (MM/DD/YYYY): [ ]
STATUS 1: [FMD ] DATE: [12/14/1998] STATUS 2: [OGC ] DATE: [03/25/1999]
STATUS 3: [ ] DATE: [ ] STATUS 4: [ ] DATE: [ ]
STATUS 5: [ ] DATE: [ ] STATUS 6: [ ] DATE: [ ]
STATUS 7: [ ] DATE: [ ] STATUS 8: [ ] DATE: [ ]

NAME ON APPLICANT TABLE:

Row added

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981215#205250005

WILEY, REIN & FIELDING

1776 K STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

(202) 429-7000

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER  
(202) 429-7368

FACSIMILE  
(202) 429-7049

December 14, 1998

**VIA BERRY BEST**

Federal Communications Commission  
Cable Services Bureau  
P.O. Box 358205  
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5205

Re: Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc.  
FCC Form 327 -- Application for Consent to Transfer of Control of CARS  
Licenses

Dear Sir or Madam:

Transmitted herewith for filing on behalf of Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc. ("Heartland") are the original and one copy of its Application for Consent to Transfer of Control on FCC Form 327.

Heartland is a wireless cable company that owns or leases MDS/MMDS/ITFS spectrum in connection with its wireless cable operations. The CARS stations specified in the instant application, which are licensed to Heartland's wholly-owned subsidiary, Heartland Wireless Commercial Channels, Inc., are also used in connection with the companies' wireless cable operations. On December 4, 1998, Heartland filed a "pre-negotiated" Plan of reorganization (the "Plan") under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. Prior to filing, the Plan was approved by over 70% in principal amount of the holders of Heartland's \$115 million 13% senior notes due 2003 and \$125 million 14% senior notes due 2004 (collectively, the "Senior Notes"). Under the Plan, the holders of the Senior Notes will receive 97 percent of the equity in the reorganized entity, and Heartland will emerge with no long-term debt, except for certain capital lease obligations and the approximately \$15 million of installment notes it owes the Federal Communications Commission for the BTA authorizations it obtained by auction in 1996. Because the Plan was pre-negotiated, Heartland anticipates court approval of the Plan in the first quarter of 1999.

Heartland respectfully requests that this application be processed on an expedited basis so that FCC consent may be obtained prior to or contemporaneous with the bankruptcy court's approval of the Plan.

There are three CARS stations listed in Exhibit A-1 of the application. Accordingly, included herewith is a check made payable to the FCC in the amount of \$600.00 (Six hundred dollars) to cover the requisite filing fee. However, please note that as set forth in Exhibit B-6 (supp.) of this instant application, Heartland Wireless Commercial Channels, Inc. is, pursuant to FCC Rule § 1.1117, requesting waiver and reimbursement of the filing fee.

If any additional information is desired in connection with this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter D. Shields", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Peter D. Shields  
A. B. Cruz III

Counsel for Heartland Wireless  
Communications, Inc.

cc: Mr. Andrew S. Fishel (by hand delivery)  
Mr. John Wong (by hand delivery)

**Licenses Being Transferred**

[See Attached Chart]

CARS LICENSES HELD BY HEARTLAND WIRELESS COMMERCIAL CHANNELS, INC.

Market	APPLICANT	Call Sign
Corpus Christi, TX	Heartland Wireless Commercial Channels, Inc.	WLY-651
Lawton, OK	Heartland Wireless Commercial Channels, Inc.	WLY-638
Temple-Killeen, TX	Heartland Wireless Commercial Channels, Inc.	WLY-650

**Applicant's Eligibility**

Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc. ("Heartland") owns and operates MDS/MMDS systems in the markets identified in Exhibit A-1 hereto. Heartland is also the holder of executed lease agreements with various licensees of ITFS and MMDS stations in these markets. Accordingly, pursuant to FCC Rule § 78.13(d), Heartland is eligible to hold the CARS licenses that are the subject of this application.

### **Description of Proposed Transfer of Control**

By this application, Heartland Wireless Communications, Inc. ("Heartland" or the "Company") seeks the Commission's consent to the transfer of control of the CARS licenses specified herein, as such transfer of control is contemplated under a plan of reorganization recently filed by Heartland. As discussed below, Heartland has filed a pre-negotiated plan of reorganization pursuant to which its financial obligations will be restructured, allowing the Company and its subsidiaries to continue their wireless cable and related operations.

On December 4, 1998, Heartland filed a plan of reorganization (the "Plan") with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. The holders of over 70% in principal amount of Heartland's \$115 million 13% senior notes due 2003 and \$125 million 14% senior notes due 2004 (together the "Senior Notes") have agreed to support the Plan. These holders are members of an unofficial committee of holders of Senior Notes formed before the filing of the Plan (the "Ad Hoc Committee").

Under the Plan, Heartland will convert the Senior Notes and Heartland's 40.2 million 9% convertible subordinated discount notes due 2004 (the "Subordinated Notes") into new shares of Heartland common stock ("New Common Stock"). The aggregate amount of debt and accrued interest to be converted into common stock under the Plan is expected to total approximately \$325 million.

Under the plan, the reorganized Heartland expects to emerge with no long-term debt except for approximately \$15 million of installment notes payable to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") for the Company's basic trading areas and certain capital lease obligations.

A change in control of the Company and its subsidiaries will be effected in connection with the confirmation by the bankruptcy court of the Plan. In exchange for cancellation of the Senior Notes, holders of the Senior Notes will receive 97% of the New Common Stock of the reorganized Heartland. Holders of the Subordinated Notes, existing common stock and certain litigation claims will receive the remaining 3% of the New Common Stock, as well as warrants ("Warrants") to purchase 10% of the common stock of the reorganized Heartland on a diluted basis.

Under the Plan, the initial Board of Directors of the reorganized Heartland will be comprised of seven members, appointed by the Ad Hoc Committee, at least one of whom will be a member of management of the reorganized Heartland. These board

members will serve until the first annual meeting of stockholders of the reorganized Heartland or until their earlier resignation or removal in accordance with the certificate or bylaws of the reorganized Company.

Except for certain real estate leases, the Company's Plan provides for continued payment of trade creditors in the ordinary course of business, including all vendors, programmers, the FCC, and all ITFS and MMDS channel license holders that lease excess spectrum capacity to Heartland.

As of the date of filing the Plan, the projected majority equity ownership of the reorganized Heartland was as follows:

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Approximate % Ownership</u>
Quad-C, Inc. <sup>1</sup> 230 East High Street Charlottesville, VA 22902	19.28%
Quaker Capital Management Corp. The Arrott Building, Suite 1300 401 Wood Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222-0323	16.04%
The MainStay Funds, on behalf of its High Yield Corporate Bond Fund Series c/o MacKay-Shields Financial Corp. 9 West 57 <sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10019	10.42%
Northstar High Total Return c/o Northstar Investment Management Corp. 300 First Stamford Place Stamford, CT 06902	8.00%
Aspen Partners, LP 1114 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036	6.27%

<sup>1</sup> On behalf of certain affiliated or related persons and entities. Quad-C Inc. and such persons and entities expressly reserve the right to disclaim beneficial ownership of the equity securities of the applicant under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

Grant of this application and the transfer of control proposed hereunder is clearly in the public interest. As noted above, consummation of Heartland's reorganization plan will allow the Company and its subsidiaries to continue its wireless cable and broadband operations with no interruption of video programming or Internet service to customers. In addition, the Plan will provide the Company with the best opportunity to strengthen its balance sheet, execute its long-range business plan and maximize the value of its assets, each of which is essential to the Company's continued growth and success as a viable competitor in the multi-channel video programming and broadband service marketplace.

A copy of the Company's Plan and Disclosure Statement dated December 4, 1998 is attached hereto.

676806/B-6

### **Request for Waiver of FCC Application Fees**

Pursuant to Section 1.1117 of the Commission's Rules,<sup>1</sup> Heartland hereby requests waiver and refund of the filing fees due in connection with the instant transfer of control application. As detailed herein, Heartland has filed a petition under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code in order to restructure approximately \$325 million in debt. The requisite filing fees for the instant and related applications represent a substantial expenditure, particularly given the Company's current need to harbor its working capital.

Section 1.1117 of the Commission's rules authorizes the Commission to waive fees "where good cause is shown and where waiver or deferral of the fee would promote the public interest."<sup>2</sup> The Commission has acknowledged that its procedural rules may conflict with the bankruptcy laws.<sup>3</sup> Indeed, in the context of regulatory fees, the Commission has recognized that "where a bankruptcy trustee, receiver, or debtor in possession is negotiating a possible transfer of a license, the regulatory fee could act as an impediment to the negotiations and the transfer of the station to a new licensee."<sup>4</sup> Following this reasoning, the Commission has previously waived the regulatory fees for numerous companies facing similar circumstances.<sup>5</sup> Moreover, the Commission has

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.1117 (1997).

<sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.1117(a) (1997).

<sup>3</sup> *Application of Martin W. Hoffman, Trustee*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 11722, 11723 (1997).

<sup>4</sup> *Implementation of Section 9 of the Communications Act*, 10 FCC Rcd 12759, 12762 (1995).

<sup>5</sup> See Letter to John S. Neeley, Esq., from Marilyn J. McDermott, Associate Managing Director for Operations, FCC (April 18, 1997) (which granted the request of American Broadcasting Systems, Inc. ("ABS") for a waiver and refund of the FY 1996 Regulatory Fees based on the fact that ABS was undergoing a Chapter 11 reorganization and was named a debtor-in-possession by the United States Bankruptcy Court); Letters to Brian M. Madden, Esq., from Marilyn J. McDermott, Associate Managing Director for Operations, FCC (April 17, 1996 and Oct. 25, 1996) (which granted the requests of Allan B. Mendelsohn, appointed trustee of the estate of the licensee of Radio Station WUSS by the United States Bankruptcy Court for waivers of

(Continued...)

previously and repeatedly recognized that a waiver of its processing fees for an entity in bankruptcy serves the public interest. The same conclusion is warranted here. By waiving or substantially reducing the filing fees in this case, the Commission can help Heartland emerge from bankruptcy, preserve its assets, more fully satisfy its obligations to its creditors, and continue to serve its subscribers.

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(...Continued)

the FY 1995 and FY 1996 Regulatory Fees for Radio Station WUSS); Letters to Jack Lotsof, President of Stereo 97, Inc., from Marilyn J. McDermott, Associate Managing Director for Operations, FCC (Feb. 23, 1996 and March 27, 1997) (which granted requests for waivers of the FY 1994, FY 1995 and FY 1996 Regulatory Fees for FM Station KAVV-FM based on the licensee's existing state of undue financial hardship); Letter to R. Edward Price, Esq., from Marilyn J. McDermott, Associate Managing Director for Operations, FCC (Nov. 14, 1996) (which granted request to defer payment and waive the FY 1996 Regulatory Fees for Stations KVVQ (AM) and KVVQ-FM based on the fact that the stations were currently in receivership).

# Payment Transactions Detail Report

Date: 3/24/99

BY: FEE CONTROL NUMBER

Fee Control Number	Payor Name	Fcc Account Number	Payer TIN	Received Date							
9812158205250005	HEARTLAND WIRELESS COMMUNICATI 200 CHISHOLM PLACE SUITE 200	FCC2025181		12/14/98							
	PLANO TX 75075										
Payment Amount	Current Balance	Seq Num	Payment Type Code	Quantity	Callsign Other Id	Applicant Name	Applicant Zip	Bad Check	Detail Amount	Trans Code	Payment Type
\$600.00	\$600.00	1	TIC	3	WLY651ETAL	HEARTLAND WIRELESS COMMUNICATI	75075		\$600.00	1	PMT
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>							<b>\$600.00</b>		