

Federal Communications Commission DA 00-1518

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

FOR MAIL SECTION
JUL 7 11 47 AM '00

In the Matter of )
)
Amendment of Section 73.202(b), ) MM Docket No. 00-123
Table of Allotments, ) RM-9903
FM Broadcast Stations. )
(Rincon, Puerto Rico) )

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

Adopted: June 28, 2000

Released: July 7, 2000

Comment Date: August 28, 2000
Reply Comment Date: September 12, 2000

By the Chief, Allocations Branch:

1. The Commission has before it the petition for rule making filed by Ocean Communications ("petitioner") requesting the allotment of Channel 300B to Rincon, Puerto Rico, as its first local aural service. Petitioner states that it will apply for the channel, if allotted.

2. We believe petitioner's proposal warrants consideration since the allotment of Channel 300B to Rincon could provide the community with its first local aural service. Channel 300B can be allotted to Rincon in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements with a site restriction of 26.6 kilometers (16.5 miles) west to avoid a short-spacing to Station WCMN-FM, Channel 297B, Arecibo, Puerto Rico, and Station WVOZ-FM, Channel 299B, Carolina, Puerto Rico. Because Rincon is located near the British Virgin Islands, the allotment will be conditioned as follows, if the allotment is ultimately adopted.

"Operation with the facilities specified herein is subject to modification, suspension, or termination without right to hearing, if found by the Commission or the International Telecommunication Union to be necessary in order to conform to the ITU technical criteria for VHF Sound Broadcasting."

1 Section 1.52 of the Commission's Rules requires that all pleadings filed by parties not represented by legal counsel must be signed and verified by the petitioner and provide the petitioner's mailing address. In this case, the petition was signed by Jose J. Arzuaga, Jr. ("Arzuaga"), stating that he is a consulting radio and TV engineer and verifying that the calculations and exhibits contained in the petition are true to the best of his knowledge. However, it is unclear whether Arzuaga is the petitioner or only its technical consultant. Therefore, petitioner is requested to clarify this matter in its comments and submit a subscription and verification statement signed by the petitioner, with its address given, if Arzuaga is not the petitioner. See, Amendment of Sections 1.420 and 73.3584 of the Commission's Rules Concerning Abuses of the Commission's Processes, 5 FCC Rcd 3911 (1990)

2 The coordinates for Channel 300B at Rincon are 18-23-06 North Latitude and 67-29-51 West Longitude.

This condition will be removed once formal approval from the ITU is obtained. In addition, the proposed allotment at Rincon is within the Radio Astronomy Coordination Zone in Puerto Rico. Therefore, should the allotment be adopted, applicant's must coordinate their applications with the Interference Office at Arecibo Observatory.

3. Accordingly, we seek comments on the proposed amendment of the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules, for the community listed below, to read as follows:

<u>City</u>	<u>Channel No.</u>	
	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Rincon, Puerto Rico	--	300B

4. The Commission's authority to institute rule making proceedings, showings required, cut-off procedures, and filing requirements are contained in the attached Appendix and are incorporated by reference herein. In particular, we note that a showing of continuing interest is required by paragraph 2 of the Appendix before a channel will be allotted.

5. Interested parties may file comments on or before August 28, 2000, and reply comments on or before September 12, 2000, and are advised to read the Appendix for the proper procedures. Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554. Additionally, a copy of such comments should be served on the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows:

Jose J. Arzuaga, Jr.  
P.O. Box 980  
Quebradillas, PR 00678  
(Technical consultant to petitioner)

6. The Commission has determined that the relevant provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to rule making proceedings to amend the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules. See Certification That Sections 603 and 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act Do Not Apply to Rule Making to Amend Sections 73.202(b), 73.504 and 73.606(b) of the Commission's Rules, 46 FR 11549, February 9, 1981.

7. For further information concerning this proceeding, contact Leslie K. Shapiro, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180. For purposes of this restricted notice and comment rule making proceeding, members of the public are advised that no ex parte presentations are permitted from the time the Commission adopts a Notice of Proposed Rule Making until the proceeding has been decided and such decision is no longer subject to reconsideration by the Commission or review by any court. An ex parte presentation is not prohibited if specifically requested by the Commission or staff for the

clarification or adduction of evidence or resolution of issues in the proceeding. However, any new written information elicited from such a request or a summary of any new oral information shall be served by the person making the presentation upon the other parties to the proceeding unless the Commission specifically waives this service requirement. Any comment which has not been served on the petitioner constitutes an ex parte presentation and shall not be considered in the proceeding. Any reply comment which has not been served on the person(s) who filed the comment, to which the reply is directed, constitutes an ex parte presentation and shall not be considered in the proceeding.

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

John A. Karousos  
Chief, Allocations Branch  
Policy and Rules Division  
Mass Media Bureau

Attachment: Appendix

APPENDIX

1. Pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i), 5(c)(1), 303(g) and (r), and 307(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Sections 0.61, 0.204(b) and 0.283 of the Commission's Rules, IT IS PROPOSED TO AMEND the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, as set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached.

2. Showings Required. Comments are invited on the proposal(s) discussed in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached. Proponent(s) will be expected to answer whatever questions are presented in initial comments. The proponent of a proposed allotment is also expected to file comments even if it only resubmits or incorporates by reference its former pleadings. It should also restate its present intention to apply for the channel if it is allotted and, if authorized, to build a station promptly. Failure to file may lead to denial of the request.

3. Cut-off protection. The following procedures will govern the consideration of filings in this proceeding.

(a) Counterproposals advanced in this proceeding itself will be considered, if advanced in initial comments, so that parties may comment on them in reply comments. They will not be considered if advanced in reply comments. (See Section 1.420(d) of the Commission's Rules).

(b) With respect to petitions for rule making which conflict with the proposals in this Notice, they will be considered as comments in the proceeding, and Public Notice to this effect will be given as long as they are filed before the date for filing initial comments herein. If they are filed later than that, they will not be considered in connection with the decision in this docket.

(c) The filing of a counterproposal may lead the Commission to allot a different channel than was requested for any of the communities involved.

4. Comments and Reply Comments; Service. Pursuant to applicable procedures set out in Sections 1.415 and 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached. All submissions by parties to this proceeding or by persons acting on behalf of such parties must be made in written comments, reply comments, or other appropriate pleadings. Comments shall be served on the petitioner by the person filing the comments. Reply comments shall be served on the person(s) who filed comments to which the reply is directed. Such comments and reply comments shall be accompanied by a certificate of service. (See Section 1.420(a), (b) and (c) of the Commission's Rules.) Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554.

5. Number of Copies. In accordance with the provisions of Section 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, an original and four copies of all comments, reply comments, pleadings, briefs,

or other documents shall be furnished the Commission.

6. Public Inspection of Filings. All filings made in this proceeding will be available for examination by interested parties during regular business hours in the Commission's Reference Information Center, at its headquarters, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C.