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APR 13 2001

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

April 13, 2001

Magalie Roman Salas, Esquire  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-B204  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MM Docket No. 01-54  
RM-9918  
Nampa, Idaho

Dear Ms. Salas:

Transmitted herewith, on behalf of State Board of Education, State of Idaho, are an original and four copies of its "Comments" in the above-referenced proceeding, which proposes the substitution of DTV Channel 13 for DTV Channel 44 at Nampa, Idaho.

Should any questions arise concerning this matter, please communicate with this office.

Very truly yours,



Anne Goodwin Crump  
Counsel for  
State Board of Education, State of Idaho

Enclosures

AGC:pjp

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BEFORE THE

Federal Communications Commission

APR 13 2001

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Amendment of Section 73.622(b)	)	MM Docket 01-54
Table of Allotments,	)	RM-9918
Digital Television Broadcast Stations.	)	
(Nampa, Idaho)	)	

Directed to: Chief, Video Services Division

COMMENTS

State Board of Education, State of Idaho ("State of Idaho"), licensee of noncommercial educational station KIPT(TV), Twin Falls, Idaho, by its attorneys, hereby respectfully submits its Comments in opposition to the proposed change in DTV allotments set forth in the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, DA 01-425, released February 23, 2001 ("*NPRM*"). With respect thereto, the following is stated:

1. In the *NPRM*, the Commission has proposed, at the request of Idaho Independent Television, Inc. ("IIT"), licensee of KTRV(TV), Nampa, Idaho, to change the DTV channel associated with KTRV(TV) from Channel 44 to Channel 13. The proposed substitute DTV channel is adjacent to the NTSC channel on which KTRV(TV) currently operates. The *NPRM* recites IIT's argument that the proposed substitution would reduce its costs to build and operate its DTV facilities and indicates that the proposed channel change would be acceptable under the two percent criterion for *de minimis* impact that is applied in evaluating requests for modification of initial DTV allotments.

2. Attached hereto, however, is an Engineering Statement which indicates that the proposed channel substitution does not, in fact, meet the two percent requirement for *de minimis* impact. As indicated above, State of Idaho is the licensee of noncommercial educational television broadcast station KIPT(TV), Twin Falls. KIPT(TV) operates on NTSC Channel \*13. The attached Engineering Statement graphically demonstrates the substantial interference impact which the proposed substitution of DTV Channel 13 at Nampa will have upon reception of KIPT(TV). As set forth therein, the proposed DTV Channel 13 facility at Nampa is predicted to cause interference to 2,422 persons within the KIPT(TV) Grade B contour, which amounts to 2.4 percent of the persons that receive Grade B service from KIPT(TV). Obviously, this figure is much higher than the 0.5 percent figure provided by IIT in its Petition for Rule Making in this proceeding. More importantly, it exceeds the two percent *de minimis* impact permitted by the Commission's Rules. On this basis alone, the proposed channel substitution must be rejected.

3. Adding greater significance to the loss of service which would occur, however, is the fact that the proposed substitution would cause persons within the current KIPT(TV) Grade B contour to lose their second primary television station. Specifically, as a result of interference from the proposed IIT Channel 13 facility, 640 persons in this area would lose their second primary television service and their only primary noncommercial television service. Such a result clearly would disserve the public interest. Furthermore, the loss of service would be contrary to the Commission's television allotment priorities as set forth in the *Sixth Report and Order on Television Allocations*, 41 F.C.C. 148 (1952). The proposed substitution thus would run afoul of the third television allotment priority, which is to provide a choice of at least two television stations to all parts of the United States, and the proposal would not advance any of the

other television allotment priorities. Thus, the change to Channel 13 would create significant public interest harm without providing any substantial public interest benefits sufficient to offset that harm.

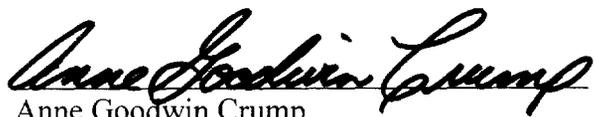
4. Moreover, it must be remembered that the area which would be affected is highly rural and quite remote from any population center. As a result, many of the residents of the area have no access to cable television. Therefore, the availability of over-the-air broadcast television is of much greater significance to residents of this area than would be the case in a more densely populated area. Further, the broadcast stations in the area can provide a lifeline to information during times of severe weather or other emergency and to the marketplace of ideas during calmer times. Approval of the proposed channel change would relegate the residents of the area to only one source of broadcast television. The proposed cost-saving and other benefits to IIT which would be realized as a result of the proposed channel substitution do not even come close to outweighing the severe public interest detriments which would be suffered as the result of the loss of second primary television service.

5. Accordingly, in light of the fact that the proposed substitution of DTV Channel 13 for DTV Channel 44 not only fails to meet the two percent *de minimis* interference standard set forth in the Commission's Rules but also would cause the loss of second primary television service to persons within the KIPT(TV) Grade B contour, the proposal must be rejected. The balance of public interest factors clearly favors retention of the current DTV channel at Nampa rather than substitution of Channel 13.

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, State of Idaho respectfully requests that the proposed substitution of DTV Channel 13 for DTV Channel 44 at Nampa be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION,  
STATE OF IDAHO

By:   
Anne Goodwin Crump

Its Attorney

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April 13, 2001

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## ENGINEERING STATEMENT

IN SUPPORT OF COMMENTS IN MM DOCKET NO. 01-54  
DIGITAL TELEVISION TABLE OF ALLOTMENTS  
NAMPA, IDAHO

PREPARED FOR  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, STATE OF IDAHO

4/2001

This Engineering Statement has been prepared on behalf of the State Board of Education, State of Idaho ("State of Idaho") in support of comments filed in MM Docket No. 01-54. The proponent in that proceeding, Idaho Independent Television ("IIT"), licensee of KTRV(TV), NTSC Channel 12, Nampa, Idaho, has requested the substitution of DTV Channel 13 for its assigned DTV Channel 44.

State of Idaho is the licensee of KIPT(TV), NTSC Channel \*13 at Twin Falls, Idaho. IIT's engineering analysis claims that their Nampa 13 proposal meets the 2 percent criterion for de minimis impact that is applied in evaluating requests for modification of initial DTV allotments under §73.623(c)(2), with respect to KIPT(TV), and also with respect to KTVR(TV), which operates on NTSC Channel \*13 at La Grande, Oregon.

On behalf of State of Idaho, an analysis has been made of the impact which the Nampa 13 proposal will have upon the reception of KIPT(TV) Twin Falls. This analysis does not agree with IIT's finding that the Nampa 13 proposal would cause just under 0.5% additional population interference to KIPT(TV) Twin Falls. Furthermore, this analysis reveals that the Nampa 13 proposal would deprive hundreds of persons of their second television service, and only non-commercial television service.

#### **Area Served by KIPT(TV)**

Twin Falls is a city of approximately 34,000 persons (2000 Census) located in Twin Falls County, in south-central Idaho. The territory surrounding Twin Falls is rugged, marked by

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craggy hills, buttes, and ancient lava flows. Outside of the immediate Twin Falls area, population centers are small and widely dispersed.

The population served by KIPT(TV) is not particularly large. There are just 103,046 persons (1990 Census) living within the 11,888 km<sup>2</sup> covered by the KIPT(TV) Grade B contour. Of this population, just 101,000 persons are predicted to receive a Grade B signal from KIPT(TV), according to the DTV Table contained in the Second Memorandum Opinion and Order on Reconsideration of the Fifth and Sixth Report and Orders in MM Docket No. 87-268.

For many of these people, KIPT(TV) provides the second free, over-the-air, primary television service. Indeed, KIPT(TV) provides the only non-commercial primary television service to much of its Grade B contour area.<sup>1</sup>

Eleven primary service television stations have Grade B contours which overlap the Grade B contour of KIPT(TV), although most overlap just a small portion. These stations are:

KBCI(TV)	Ch. 2	Boise, ID
KIDK(TV)	Ch. 3	Idaho Falls, ID
KAID(TV)	Ch. 4	Boise, ID
KIDA(TV)	Ch. 5	Sun Valley, ID
KIVI(TV)	Ch. 6	Nampa, ID
KPVI(TV)	Ch. 6	Pocatello, ID
KTVB(TV)	Ch. 7	Boise, ID

---

<sup>1</sup>The only other non-commercial primary television stations which provide Grade B service to any portion of the KIPT(TV) Grade B service area are: KAID(TV) Boise, which overlaps a small area in the northwest end of the KIPT(TV) service area; and KBGH(TV) Filer, which is collocated with KIPT(TV), but which has a smaller Grade B contour.

KMVT(TV)	Ch. 11	Twin Falls, ID
KTRV(TV)	Ch. 12	Nampa, ID
KBGH(TV)	Ch. 19	Filer, ID
KXTF(TV)	Ch. 35	Twin Falls, ID

Of these eleven stations, KIDA(TV) is an unbuilt construction permit. The attached map Exhibit 1 depicts the Grade B contours of the eleven stations with respect to the Grade B contour of KIPT(TV) Twin Falls. This map depicts the extent of the areas to which KIPT(TV) provides the second primary television service.

Clearly, the true impact of the Nampa 13 proposal cannot be reflected as a simple percentage of the KIPT(TV) Grade B population, because many of the people who will lose service from KIPT(TV) will not just lose reception of one television station. As will be demonstrated below, many will lose their second primary television service, and many will lose their only non-commercial television service.

### **Interference Analysis**

A detailed interference study has been conducted to evaluate the impact which the proposed operation of Nampa 13 will cause to KIPT(TV) Twin Falls.

The time-shared "HDTV" computer program offered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's *TA Services* in Boulder, Colorado was employed as the method for coverage and interference protection. The HDTV computer program has been developed in close coordination with the Commission's OET staff, and utilizes similar

methodology as the computer program used by the Commission to develop the DTV Table of Allotments. Predictions included "clipping" the extent of protected coverage as specified under §73.623(c)(2) at the Grade B contour distance for analog stations per §73.684 and at the DTV coverage contour distance for DTV assignments per §73.625(b). It is believed that the HDTV program offered by *TA Services* is compliant with the FCC's Office of Science and Technology Bulletin 69 Longley-Rice Methodology for Evaluating TV Coverage and Interference ("OET-69"), July 2, 1997.

It is not necessary to establish "baseline" data in this particular case, since the original DTV Channel 44 allotment at Nampa would have no impact upon KIPT(TV) Twin Falls, and since the HDTV program reports the "unmasked" interference contribution from Nampa 13.

HDTV program input data for the Nampa 13 proposal, following the guidelines established under OET-69, is supplied as Table 1.

The attached interference study map (Exhibit 2) graphically depicts the interference impact which the Nampa 13 proposal will have upon reception of KIPT(TV). On this map, pink shading indicates areas which are predicted to receive interference-free Grade B service from KIPT(TV), blue shading indicates areas where DTV interference is masked by existing NTSC interference, and green shading indicates areas which would otherwise receive Grade B service from KIPT(TV) but which would be subject to unmasked interference from the Nampa 13 proposal.

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The results of this analysis (shown in Table 2) reveal that the proposed Nampa 13 facility is predicted to cause interference to 2,422 persons within the KIPT(TV) Grade B contour. This is 2.4% of the 101,000 persons which receive Grade B service from KIPT(TV). This figure is much higher than the "<0.5%" figure quoted by IIT, and is in excess of the 2% de minimis impact permitted by §73.623 of the Commission's Rules.

### **Loss of Second Television Service**

Map Exhibit 3 correlates the interference analysis in Exhibit 2 to the 1990 Census "centroids" in the area within the KIPT(TV) Grade B contour. On this map, green shading indicates the unmasked Nampa 13 interference areas, and small crosses mark the 1990 Census centroids. This map also shows the location of the Grade B contours of KBCI(TV), KPVI(TV), KBGH(TV), and KXTF(TV), which bound the area in which KIPT(TV) provides the second primary television service.

The population of individual centroids which are impacted by unmasked interference from the Nampa 13 proposal have been counted, revealing that 640 persons in this area will lose their second primary television service if the Nampa 13 proposal is approved. These persons would also lose their only non-commercial primary television service.

## **Conclusion**

IIT's claim that their Nampa 13 proposal will cause interference to "<0.5%" of the population served by KIPT(TV) Twin Falls is inaccurate. An OET-69-compliant Longley-Rice analysis shows that the Nampa 13 proposal will cause unmasked interference to 2.4% of the population served by KIPT(TV) Twin Falls, in violation of the 2% de minimis interference permitted by §73.623 of the Commission's Rules.

IIT's analysis also overlooks the negative public interest impacts which grant of the Nampa 13 proposal will have. 640 persons who would be impacted by direct interference to reception of KIPT(TV) Twin Falls depend upon that station as their second primary, over-the-air television service, and their only primary non-commercial over-the-air television service. Loss of KIPT(TV) service to these persons would be contrary to the third television allotment priority as set forth in the Sixth Report and Order on Television Allocations, 41 FCC 148 (1952), i.e. to "provide a choice of at least two television services to all parts of the United States."

**Table 1**  
**Interference Analysis Input Data**  
**Nampa 13 Proposed DTV Allotment**

Communications System Performance Model  
Input Summary  
14-Dec-00 12:21:19

-----  
Process Filename: CS038Dec1400C.qes

1) Model:	Point-to-point irregular terrain model	
2) Output option:	Field intensity	
3) Length units:	Metric (km and m)	
4) Service Application:	Broadcast	
5) Results option:	None	
FAX number:	000-000-0000	
6) Location variability:	50.00 %	
7) Time availability:	10.00 %	
8) Situation variability:	50.00 %	
10) Frequency:	213.000 MHz	
Frequency offset( )		
11) Polarization:	Horizontal	
12) Conductivity:	.005 S/m	
13) Dielectric constant:	15.0	
14) Climate zone:	Continental temperate	
20) Transmitter name:	DKTRV-13	
21) Transmitter location:		
Latitude	Longitude	
Deg N	Deg W	
43.7550	43.45.18.0	116.0978 116. 5.52.0
22) Xmtr site elevation:	2133.3 m	6999.1 ft
23) Xmtr ant ht AMSL:	2216.00 m	7270.34 ft
23) Xmtr ant ht AGL:	82.67 m	271.22 ft
24) Transmitter radiation option:	ERP	
24) Effective Radiated Power:	17000.0 W	
Effective Isotropic Radiated Power:	27890.0 W	
30) Transmitter ant horiz pattern:	Omnidirectional	

**Table 1**  
**Interference Analysis Input Data**  
**Nampa 13 Proposed DTV Allotment**

32) Transmitter ant vert pattern: Beam tilt, directional

Vertical directional pattern data

No.	Elevation (deg)	Relative field radiation	Gain relative to pattern maximum (dB)
1	-10.00	.15000	-16.48
2	-9.00	.15000	-16.48
3	-8.00	.15000	-16.48
4	-7.00	.15000	-16.48
5	-6.00	.15000	-16.48
6	-5.00	.20000	-13.98
7	-4.00	.21000	-13.56
8	-3.50	.23500	-12.58
9	-3.00	.26000	-11.70
10	-2.50	.46000	-6.74
11	-2.00	.69000	-3.22
12	-1.50	.88000	-1.11
13	-.75	1.00000	.00
14	.00	.88000	-1.11
15	.50	.69000	-3.22

40) Rcvr ant ht above ground: 9.10 m 29.86 ft  
56) Corporate name: TA Services  
57) Color option: Color  
58) Scale option: No Scale  
59) Quality option: High  
60) Plot name: LR 50/10

**Table 1**  
**Interference Analysis Input Data**  
**Nampa 13 Proposed DTV Allotment**

62) Plot center:

Latitude	Longitude
Deg N	Deg W
43.7550 43,45,18.0	116.0978 116, 5,52.0

63) Plot size: 550.00 km 341.75 mi

64) Plot Roads option: No Roads

66) Field intensity contour levels:

1)	35.80 dBuV/m
----	--------------

66) Contour Legend label: Field Intensity(dBuV/m)

66) Contour labels and colors:

Contour levels	Labels	Colors
-----	-----	-----
1    Less than 35.80	Less than 35.80	Blue
2    Greater than 35.80	Greater than 35.80	Clear

67) Political boundaries: County and State

68) Landmarks: None

**Table 2**  
**Interference Analysis Results Summary**

NTSC/DTV Interference study

Desired Station Name: KIPT            Station Type: NTSC  
City: TWIN FALLS State: ID Channel: 13

Undesired Station 2 Name: KTRV            Station Type: NTSC  
City: NAMPA            State: ID Channel: 12 km:177.6 mi:110.4 bear:310.5

Undesired Station 3 Name: KSTU            Station Type: NTSC  
City: SALT LAKE        State: UT Channel: 13 km:294.4 mi:182.9 bear:140.7

Undesired Station 4 Name: KTVR            Station Type: NTSC  
City: LA GRANDE        State: OR Channel: 13 km:390.5 mi:242.7 bear:318.4

Undesired Station 5 Name: KGWRTV        Station Type: NTSC  
City: ROCK SPRING     State: WY Channel: 13 km:460.2 mi:286.0 bear:106.4

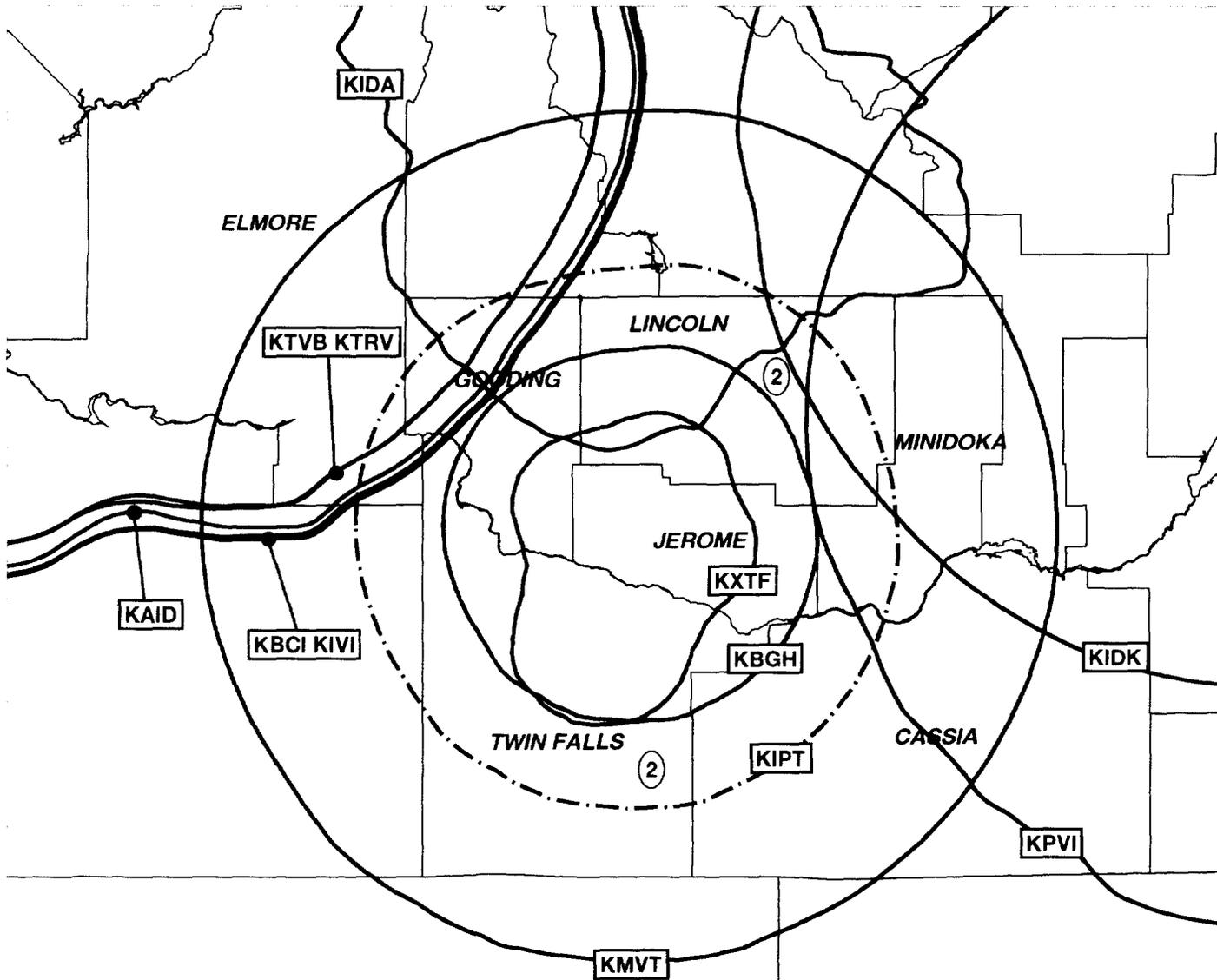
Undesired Station 6 Name: KECITV        Station Type: NTSC  
City: MISSOULA        State: MT Channel: 13 km:477.6 mi:296.8 bear: 3.7

Undesired Station 7 Name: KUIDTV        Station Type: NTSC  
City: MOSCOW           State: ID Channel: 12 km:483.4 mi:300.3 bear:336.2

Undesired Station 1 Name: DKTRV-13      Station Type: HDTV  
City: NAMPA            State: ID Channel: 13 km:177.6 mi:110.4 bear:310.5

Stations that actually do contribute to interference.

Name	NTSC Int	NonMasked HDTV Int	Population (1990)	Total Area of Int	Population
KTRV	229.90 sq km	.00 sq km	55.	229.90 sq km	55.
KSTU	2.89 sq km	.00 sq km	3.	2.89 sq km	3.
DKTRV-13	.00 sq km	1730.81 sq km	2422.	14428.05 sq km	2456.



Numeral "2" indicates areas in which KIPT(TV) provides the second television service.

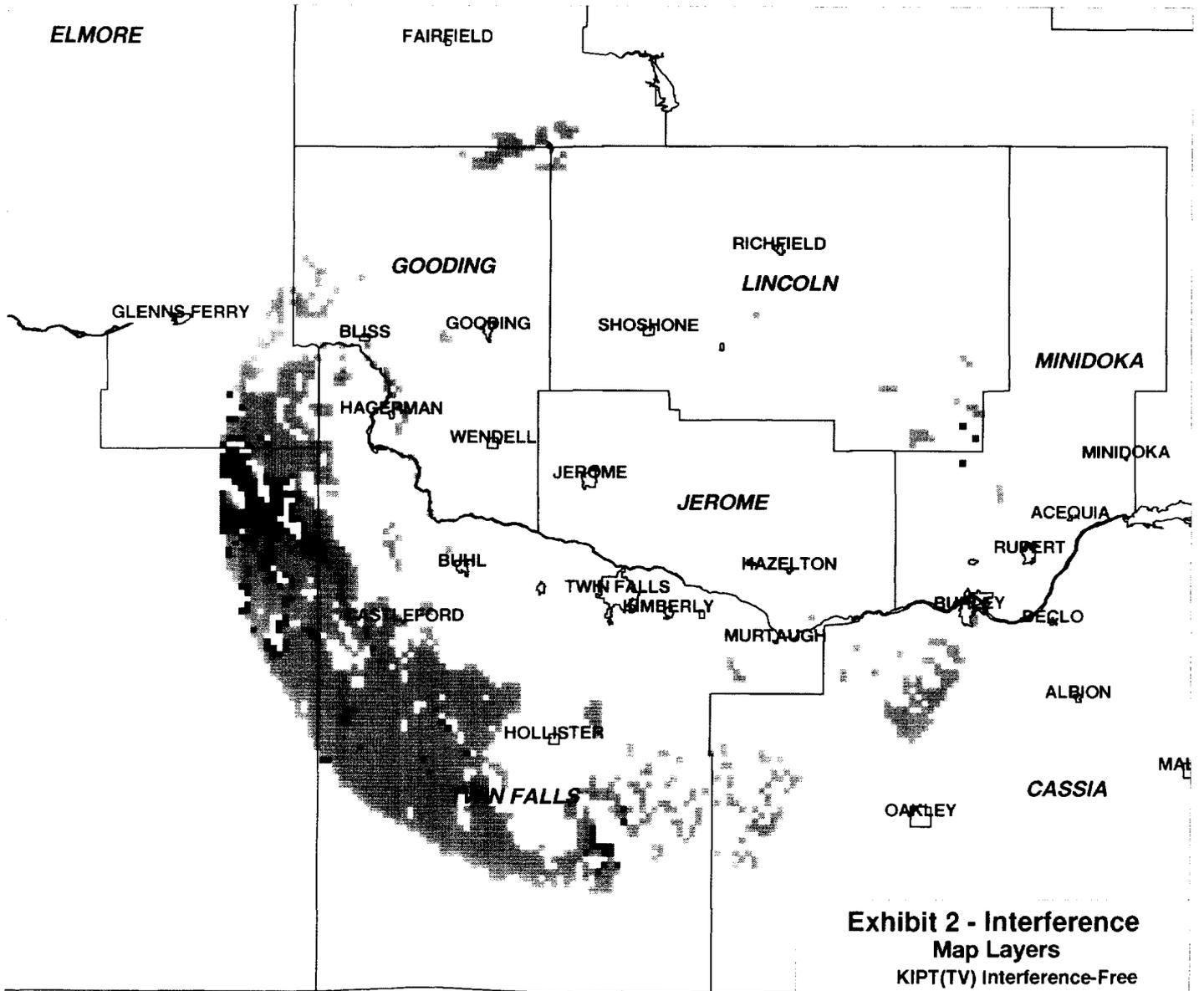
**Exhibit 1 - Grade B Contours**

0 20 40 60



Kilometers

KIPT(TV) Twin Falls, ID 4/2001

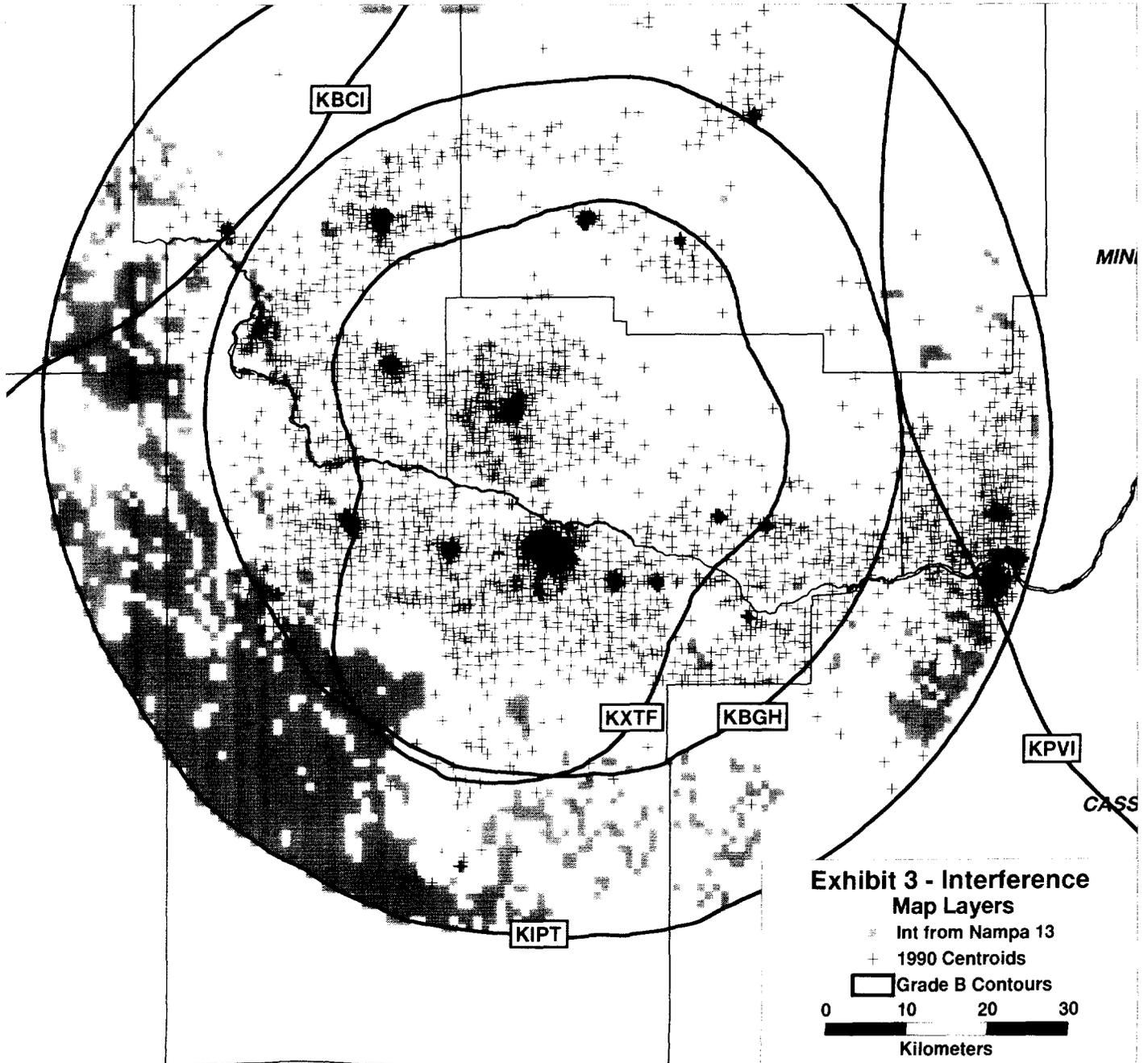


**Exhibit 2 - Interference  
Map Layers**

- KIPT(TV) Interference-Free
- Masking NTSC Interference
- Int from Nampa 13

0 10 20 30

Kilometers



KIPT(TV) Twin Falls, ID 4/2001

### Statement of Engineer

This Engineering Statement, which has been prepared in support of comments in MM Docket No. 01-54, has been prepared under my direct supervision. All representations contained herein are true to the best of my knowledge. I am an experienced radio engineer whose qualifications are a matter of record with the Federal Communications Commission. I am a partner in the firm of Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Engineers and am Registered as a Professional Engineer in the States of Washington and Alaska.

Signed this 11th day of April, 2001



Stephen S. Lockwood, P.E.

Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Engineers

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing "Comments" was served by first-class mail, postage pre-paid, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2001 to

Scott S. Patrick, Esq.  
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