



NEW LIFE RUSSIAN CHURCH

February 25, 2010

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

Re: ET Docket No. 10-26

Dear Ms. Dortch:

A few years ago, a donor gave our growing congregation a 72 MHz auditory assistance system that we have been using with very much success. As our services are conducted in Russian, the 72 MHz equipment is used to provide auditory assistance to members who are not fluent in Russian. Often, these are the spouses or guests of other parishioners. Currently, services are held in a chapel that has a capacity of about 200 persons. Our interpreter, who sits in the back of the room, provides nearly simultaneous interpretation of the services from Russian into English. Some congregants who prefer to hear the services in English sit near him. Others, however, prefer to sit further away so that they will be closer to the front of the room in order to see better the children and others who participate. Because he must speak softly not to disturb other members of the congregation who are listening in Russian, it is difficult to hear our interpreter throughout the room. This is why 72 MHz system has been such a blessing to those who worship with us. The simple system allows all to hear better.

Before entering pastorate, I was an engineer. I can tell you that our system seems to work well for providing such auditory assistance. We have not experienced interference, nor have we received complaints yet we know there is another system in a nearby sanctuary less than 200 feet from the chapel in which we now meet. I now understand from the petition in this matter that there is some question as to whether it is permissible to use 72 MHz system to provide auditory assistance for the English speakers in our congregation. I urge you to clarify that such a use is permissible. It aids the hearing of all concerned.

Finally, I understand that there would be no question as to the permissibility of use of the 72 MHz system if we translated Russian spoken from the pulpit into English during breaks in the Russian speech so that all in attendance would hear both Russian and English in succession over the system. This "sequential" interpretation is fine for very short presentations and it is sometimes necessary when we have a guest speaker who speaks only English and we have to translate into

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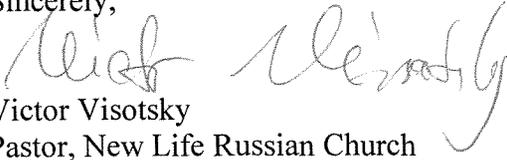
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"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." (Jesus Christ)

Russian, but is distracting for longer works such as sermons. Not only would such use extend the service, but it also would shorten the time available for content. As such, it becomes a “lose-lose” proposition for all.

Thank you for your consideration and for this opportunity to express my views. The opportunity to provide viewpoints to the government is a blessing that all in America should appreciate.

Sincerely,



Victor Visotsky
Pastor, New Life Russian Church