

I, Marvin Glass, am the president of MG Media, Inc. licensee of WGNQ. I also hold a General Class amateur radio license and have for many years (WB4WSL).

WGNQ operates on 1480 kHz with an authorized non-directional daytime power of 1,000 watts and nighttime power of 39 watts. WGNQ is the only radio station licensed to my small rural town.

I write in support of this petition. WGNQ operates in the extreme eastern edge of the Central Daylight Time Zone. This means drive time for my listeners in reality beings at 4:00 A.M. local time as my community is a bedroom community for many who work in Chattanooga, which is in the Eastern Time Zone. At 4:00 A.M. of course I am operating at 39 watts and my signal does well to cover more than a few blocks away from the transmitter. Because of my geographic location I am actually losing two hours of drive time. In truth, this deficit is mitigated somewhat by my AM to FM translator and I am thankful beyond measure for this FM translator and the rule changes making it possible. However, because of technical limitations inherent in the AM to FM translator rules, this FM translator still lacks coverage for many potential listeners at this time of day.

Others have aptly covered the technical pros and cons of this petition. Let me just state from my vantage point, everything we can do to approach providing an equal playing field (equal to FM) for AM operators is something we should do without delay. The issue goes beyond providing an extra hour of drive time public service time. For many of us the issue is whether we can survive at all. If we disappear, our communities lose a tremendous asset, public service is decreased and the FCC stated goal of increased ownership diversity are pushed that much farther away from realization.

Again, I urge speedy implementation of this proposal and thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Marvin Glass