

July 29, 2013

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St SW  
Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to add my support to the recently issued FCC report on clarifying and amending TIS Part 90 Rules to provide more efficient and effective public safety service broadcasts to our residents through our city-owned low-frequency emergency radio station. The City of Sugar Land is a pass-through community within 50 miles of the Gulf Coast here in southeast Texas. It is critical to be able to provide emergency information to residents and travelers or evacuees who must go through our city to evacuate a hurricane or other rain or emergency event impacting our coastal area. This scenario is all too common and frequent to Gulf Coast communities across the southern U.S. and the impacts must be considered and treated with the utmost seriousness.

In communities like ours where weather conditions can change dramatically within a short time, we need the ability and total discretion to broadcast the most appropriate emergency and weather information. We are a small city, so NOAA broadcasts are important to us in providing the most up-to-date weather information impacting residents and drivers. This is even more critical for smaller cities like Sugar Land, as regional media often concentrate on emergency events in the larger Houston metropolitan area and it can be difficult to get our emergency information and recommendations out to residents/drivers throughout the city. We would like to emphasize that even fair weather forecasts be allowed for broadcasts as this information also allows residents/visitors to be prepared and plan for best times to travel or not. We believe this information is important for public safety, as well, and should not be limited to the broadcast of only imminent dangers or threats. We also believe the City emergency management and communications team are in the best position and most knowledgeable to determine the relevancy of this information in our limited broadcast area and that we should be given total discretion on deciding that content.

Our last appeal is that the FCC allow cities/communities the option of removing filters used on TIS transmitters because of the significant impact these filters have in decreasing audio quality and how that important information is received. We believe the removal of the output filter could greatly improve the audio and broadcast quality of every station, thereby improving the sharing of important emergency information to residents and visitors alike. Cities should be able to choose to keep or remove these filters at their discretion. But, if they do choose to remove them, this should not force cities to recertify their TIS transmitters. The need and information remains the same, but being heard more clearly is a great improvement in communicating more effectively during emergencies.

Again, we appreciate your consideration of modifying these rules to ensure the best quality and most effective emergency communications to our communities. Our residents and visitors deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

Pat Pollicoff  
Director of Communications

Patrick Hughes  
Director of Emergency Management

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