

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

MEDIA BUREAU
AUDIO DIVISION
TECHNICAL PROCESSING GROUP
APPLICATION STATUS: (202) 418-2730
HOME PAGE: www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/

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APR 24 2006

Minnesota Public Radio
480 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

In re: Minnesota Public Radio
K283AN Translator, Hinckley, MN
Facility ID No. 141856
File No. BMPFT-20060419ABX

Minnesota Public Radio
W248AS Translator, Hinckley, MN
Facility ID No. 141828
File No. BMPFT-20060419ABY

Minnesota Public Radio
W226AY Translator, Hinckley, MN
Facility ID No. 141839
File No. BMPFT-20060419ACP

Minnesota Public Radio
W293AV Translator, Hinckley, MN
Facility ID No. 141860
File No. BMPFT-200600419ACN

Dear Applicant:

This refers to the above-captioned applications for minor changes to construction permits. The applicant proposes to mount two 10 foot (approx. 3 meters) masts atop a 140 foot (approx. 43 meters) water tower. One antenna will be mounted on each mast. Each antenna will have two individual translator frequencies di-plexed through it. The total effective radiated power (ERP) for all four proposals is 220 watts. The centers of radiation are 45 meters above ground level. Thus, the centers of radiation are located two meters above the top of the water tower.

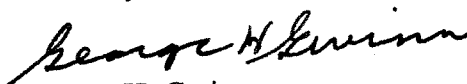
For FM broadcast stations, the exposure limits for the uncontrolled and controlled environments are 0.2 mW/cm² and 1.0 mW/cm², respectively.¹ In the instant case, an engineering study conducted in

¹ **General population/Uncontrolled** exposure limits apply to situations in which the general public may be exposed or in which persons who are exposed as a consequence of their employment may not be made fully aware of the potential for exposure or cannot exercise control over their exposure. Members of the general public are always considered under this category when exposure is not employment-related. **Occupational/Controlled** exposure limits apply to human exposure to RF fields when persons are exposed as a consequence of their employment and in which those persons who are exposed have been made fully aware of the potential for exposure and can exercise control over their exposure. These limits also apply where exposure is of a transient nature as a result of incidental passage through a

accordance with OET Bulletin No. 65 has revealed that the combined proposals would result in an RF field exposure exceeding the uncontrolled and controlled exposure limits at the proposed location atop the water tower. An amendment for each proposal must be submitted that either (1) explains why the proposed facilities do not exceed the RF exposure guidelines at locations where humans are likely to be present (e.g., water tower maintenance workers, radio technicians, etc.); (2) describes those measures or circumstances which will prevent or discourage humans from entering those areas where the RF levels exceed the guidelines; or (3) provides a detailed explanation of how access will be controlled in accordance with the time-averaging limits described in the guidelines (See OET Bulletin 65).² Alternatively, the applicant may propose the use of a specific antenna or agree to accept a condition on the construction permit which will require it to make proper RF field strength measurements throughout the transmitter site prior to the commencement of program test operations to demonstrate that the station complies with the pertinent RF exposure limits.³ If the site cannot meet the FCC-adopted guidelines for RF exposure with respect to the public and workers, a complete Environmental Assessment (EA) must be submitted (see Section 1.1311 of the Commission's Rules⁴).

Further action on these applications will be withheld for a period of thirty days from the date of this letter to provide an opportunity to respond. Failure to respond within this time period will result in the dismissal of the applications pursuant to Section 73.3568(a)(1) of the Commission's Rules.⁵ Any amendments must be submitted in the same manner as the original applications.

Sincerely,



George H. Gwinn
Supervisory Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Todd Stansbury, Esq.

location where exposure levels may be above the general population/uncontrolled limits as long as the exposed person has been made fully aware of the potential for exposure and can exercise control over his or her exposure by leaving the area or some other appropriate means.

² This statement may include: antenna radiation patterns showing that the site complies with the guidelines described in OET Bulletin 65; measurements that show the site to comply with the FCC-adopted guidelines; or a description of what warning signs, fences or other barriers preclude excessive RF exposure. In addition, please note that, regarding the use of a vertical radiation pattern to verify RF compliance, it is permissible to provide precise computations using the EPA model referenced in OET Bulletin No. 65 in lieu of "worst case" tables and figures given in OET Bulletin No. 65. However, such computations must provide adequate documentation and must be technically supportable. For example, if EPA antenna patterns are used, clear justification should be given for their use. Also, vertical radiation patterns supplied by manufacturers are often only "array" patterns and do not incorporate "element" pattern data. Therefore, in order to use the EPA FM model, such patterns should be shown to incorporate both array and element pattern data.

³ Staff suggests consideration of mounting each antenna further above the top of the water tower or other surface where water tower services or contract workers may be present.

⁴ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1311.

⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 73.3568(a)(1).