

From: Michael Wagner [mailto:Michael.Wagner@fcc.gov]

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2005 2:00 PM

To: Greg Lewis

Cc: Peter Doyle; Donna Gregg; Barbara Kreisman; Rebecca Fisher

Subject: RE: Blanket Request for Waiver of Section 73.503(d)

This is with reference to the request by National Public Radio ("NPR"), on behalf of its affiliates, to waive Sections 73.503(d) of the Commission's Rules to allow these noncommercial radio stations to participate in fundraising efforts for Hurricane Katrina relief and for NPR-affiliated radio stations directly affected by Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. NPR indicates that the fundraising efforts may interrupt regular programming on these stations.

You indicate that NPR affiliates are interested in suspending regular programming for limited times to make on-air fundraising appeals to benefit the human relief organizations working in the affected areas as well as affected NPR radio affiliates. You explain that the fundraising events may be in the form of benefit concerts, telethons, or other special programming of a limited duration. In addition, you indicate that the stations may originate their own fundraising appeals, broadcast programming produced by others, or simulcast televised programming from noncommercial educational stations. You emphasize that the amount of time spent on fundraising will be limited in nature and duration and will in no way compromise or threaten the noncommercial nature of the public broadcasting. Due to the extraordinary nature of the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina and the limited duration of the proposed programming, the Commission concludes that the public interest would be served by grant of the requested waiver. The waiver request IS HEREBY GRANTED.

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