

WILEY, REIN & FIELDING

1776 K STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006  
(202) 429-7000

15693.10.2  
DUPLICATE  
T. Stansbury, 114h  
CPA/Account

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER

November 4, 1998

FACSIMILE  
(202) 429-7049

(202) 828-4948

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Magalie Roman Salas  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: KNGA(FM), Saint Peter, MN  
FCC File No. BPED-970203IE  
KGAC(FM), Saint Peter, MN  
FCC File No. BPED-970203IC  
Minnesota Public Radio

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of Minnesota Public Radio ("MPR"), this is to provide additional information in connection with the waivers of the main studio rule, 47 C.F.R. § 1125, recently granted for the stations referenced above. This is in response to an inquiry from the Commission's staff.

On October 28, 1998, this office, on behalf of MPR, submitted a letter clarifying certain facts with respect to the main studio waivers. In particular, the letter orders approving the waivers stated that MPR would base a reporter in Saint Peter, whereas by amendment dated June 15, 1998, MPR had represented that as a result of destruction of its Saint Peter studio facilities by a tornado, the reporter instead would be relocated to MPR's headquarters in Saint Paul. That amendment also stated that MPR intended to disband a KNGA/KGAC Regional Advisory Council and, instead, rely upon MPR's "Institutional Sponsor Council" to assist it with ascertaining and addressing issues of concern in Saint Peter.

In response to a recent request from the Commission's staff, MPR provides the following information regarding the nature of its Institutional Sponsor Council:

MPR has developed a unique partnership between its stations and colleges and universities throughout its listening region. The Institutional Sponsor Council

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was established as a means to benefit MPR and the educational entities. Institutional Sponsors receive on-air and print recognition which acknowledges and strengthens their presence in the regions they serve. The MPR stations receive community representation as well as financial and resource support from the institutions.

Currently, there are eight Institutional Sponsors, all of whom are educational institutions in the regions served by MPR. Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, and Bethany Lutheran College in nearby Mankato, Minnesota, are two of MPR's Sponsors. Each Institutional Sponsor has appointed an individual associated with its institution to be its representative on the MPR Institutional Council. Senior MPR management meets with the Institutional Sponsor representatives to discuss public affairs, programming, development, and marketing and technology. For instance, in December 1998 MPR's Programming Director will meet with the representative from Saint Peter's Gustavus Adolphus, as well as representatives from other Central Minnesota Institutional Sponsors, to talk about ways to better represent their communities in the programming of MPR.

Through the Institutional Sponsors Council, MPR can effectively address local needs. By way of example in Saint Peter, MPR's commitment to issues unique to the local community and surrounding area was strongly evidenced this past year during the extensive coverage that MPR provided to both the region and the nation about the devastating tornado that hit Saint Peter on March 30, 1998. Immediately following the tornado, MPR provided coverage of the storm, its aftermath, the cleanup efforts and the effects it had on the community. MPR produced two special reports which aired from Saint Peter on the entire MPR network (despite the fact that MPR's studio in Saint Peter had been destroyed by the tornado): a special half-hour report on All Things Considered on April 3, 1998; and a special two-hour Midmorning call-in program from a church in Saint Peter on April 10, 1998. Issues covered included the status of the cleanup, and how faith plays a role in the lives of people affected by tragedy.

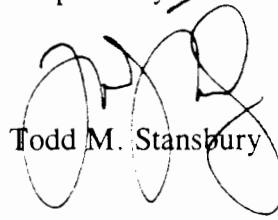
Moreover, since MPR's reporter from the Saint Peter bureau, Lynette Nyman, has been relocated to Saint Paul, she has continued extension coverage of the Saint Peter area. Ms. Lyman has done some on-going coverage looking at two or three residents, checking in with them occasionally on their progress in rebuilding their homes, etc. She also has continued to produce those stories. She has visited St. Peter several times and produced several other pieces looking at the recovery efforts there, including three such stories in the month of October.

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In sum, as stated in MPR's request (as amended) for waiver of the main studio rule for KNGA and KGAC, the needs and interests of Saint Peter will continue to be well served.

Please contact this office if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



Todd M. Stansbury

cc: Allen Myers, Esq., FCC