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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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J. C. Goggan, President
Missouri River Christian Broadcasting, Inc.
Post Office Box 87
Washington, MO 63090

In Re: KGNA-FM, Arnold, MO
Missouri River Christian
Broadcasting, Co
Facility ID No. 2842
File No. BPED-20010306ACB

Dear Mr. Goggan:

The staff has under consideration the application of Missouri River Christian Broadcasting, Inc. ("MRCB") for a minor change in the facilities of station KGNA-FM, Arnold, Missouri. The application requests a waiver of the Commission's main studio requirement, 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125, in order to operate KGNA-FM, as a satellite of commonly owned noncommercial educational ("NCE") station KGNV(FM), Washington, Missouri.[1] For the reasons set forth below, we will grant both MRCB's waiver request and its application.

Pursuant to Section 73.1125(a), a main studio must be located either (1) within a station's principal community contour, (2) within the contour of any other broadcast station licensed to its community, or (3) within 25 miles of the center of its community. See Report and Order, *Review of the Commission's Rules regarding the main studio and local public inspection files of broadcast television and radio stations,* 13 FCC Rcd 15,691 (1998); *recon. granted in part,* 14 FCC Rcd 11,113(1999)*("Reconsideration Order").* However, under Section 73.1125(b)(2), the Commission will waive these requirements where "good cause" exists to do so and where the proposed studio location "would be consistent with the operation of the station in the public interest." Each waiver request by an NCE station seeking to operate as the satellite of another NCE station is considered on a case-by-case basis. The Commission has recognized the benefits of centralized operations for NCE stations, given their limited funding, and thus found

[1] A "satellite" station meets all of the Commission's technical rules. However, it originates no programming and instead rebroadcasts the parent station's programming. *See* Amendment of Multiple Ownership Rules, *Memorandum Opinion and Order*, 3 RR2d 1554, 1562 (1964).

"good cause" exists to waive the main studio location requirement where satellite operations are proposed. Id. A satellite station must, however, demonstrate that it will meet its local service obligation to satisfy the Section 73.1125 "public interest" standard. *Id.*

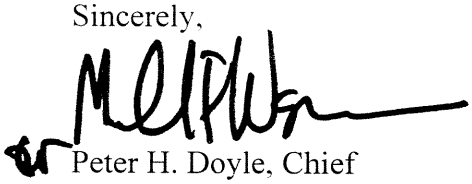
MRCB's request is based on the economies of scale, which would be realized by grant of its waiver. We agree and conclude that there is "good cause" to waive 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125(a)(4) under these circumstances.

MRCB proposes to operate KGNA-FM, Arnold, Missouri as a satellite of station KGNV(FM), Washington, Missouri, approximately 35 miles from Arnold. Where there is a great distance between the parent and satellite station, as here, we are particularly concerned that the licensee takes adequate measures to maintain its awareness of the satellite community's needs and interests. To that end, MRCB has pledged to: (1) maintain personnel representation in the Arnold area, including one corporate Board Advisor who lives in Arnold; (2) maintain an auxiliary production studio in Arnold; (3) maintain a public inspection file for the station within the Arnold area, whereby a copy of the local public file will be at both the KGNV(FM) main studio and at the auxiliary studio in Arnold; (4) continue to air daily community calendar announcements and weather reports for the Arnold area; (5) engage the services of MRCB principals to conduct an annual ascertainment survey of listeners in Arnold; (6) conduct regular ascertainment surveys and air weekly requests with the residents of Arnold to determine their concerns, problems and needs; (7) offer programming responsive to the results of the ascertainment surveys; and (8) maintain a toll-free telephone number between Arnold and the KGNV(FM) main studio.

In these circumstances, we are persuaded that MRCB will meet its local service obligation and thus, that grant of the requested waiver is consistent with the public interest. We remind MRCB, however, of the requirement that it maintain a public file for the Arnold station at the main studio of the "parent" station, KGNV(FM), Washington, Missouri. Notwithstanding MRCB's proposal to maintain a copy of the public file at the Arnold production facility, it must also make reasonable accommodation for listeners wishing to examine the file's contents. *See Reconsideration Order,* 14 FCC Rcd 11,113, 11,129 at ¶45. We further remind MRCB that, notwithstanding the grant of the waiver requested here, the public file for KGNA-FM must contain the quarterly issues and programs list for Arnold, Missouri required by 47 C.F.R. § 73.3527(e)(8).

Accordingly, the request for waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125 and application of Missouri River Christian Broadcasting, Inc. for a minor change in the facilities of station KGNA-FM, Arnold, Missouri (BPED-20010306ACB) ARE HEREBY GRANTED. The authorization is enclosed.

Sincerely,



Peter H. Doyle, Chief
Audio Services Division
Mass Media Bureau