WPMI

CARD NO. 2

BROADCASTING STATION HISTORY RECORD

COMMERCIAL TELEVISION

CH 15

First licensed .....

Call Letters WPMI

Station Location MOBILE, ALABAMA

Name HESS BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Transmitter Location 5-6 MILES E. OF LOXLEY, ALABAMA

Main studio location 103 DAUPHIN ST., MOBILE, ALABAMA

Form BC-126
December 1978

Authorization Record

File No.	Granted	Facilities	Expires
BPCT-790830KF AH: 1630; MSL: CP FOR A NEW CO	10-3-80 1780' MMERCIA	CH-15; Unl; A. 91.2KW;V. 912KW L TV STATION 476-482	4-3-82
BPCT-790830KF	12-15-80	CALL LETTERS & EBSA	
BMPCT801029KE	3-5-81	MP to chg ERP. , TL, SL	9-5-82
BMPCT-801029KE AND SL. SUPERE CORRECT EXP. DA	3-5-81 ED PREV TE, AND	MP TO CHG. ERP, TL. AUTH. OF SAME DATE TO SHOW OBSTRUCTION MARKINGS.	9-5-82

CARD No. 1

COMMERCIAL TELEVISION
APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING

Call Letters: WPMI NEW TV

Name: HESS BROADCASTING CORPORATION

CH-15

Station Location: MOBILE, AL (4900 Bayou Blvd., Pensacola, FL 22503)

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BPCT-790830KF Received Filed PN REC'D:	8-28-79 8-30-79 1-11-80 10-3-79	CP for New TV Station: Freq.: Ch-15, 476-482MHz ERP: Vis. 2570kW(M) 908kW(H)RMS, Aur. 90.8kW(H)RMS HAAT: 1630 ft. TL: 5.6 mi. E. of Loxley, AL (30-37-15 87-36-32) SL: 103 Dauphin St., Mobile, AL Trans.: RCA TTU-55C Ant.: RCA TFU-30JDAS (BT) Atty.: John P. Bankson, Jr. (Hemel, Park, McCabe & Saunders) Engr.: Cohen Associates ACCEPTED CUT OFF AMENDED 5-21-80 refinancial AMENDED 7-25-80 re legal MAR 27 '80 MAY 21 '80 AMENDED 9-11-80 re financial AMENDED 9-16-80 re EEO	GRANTED 10-3-80

Form BC-121
March 1979

JOINT REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT 7-25-80 By John P. Bankson, Jr., for Hess Broadcasting Corporation.

CONSULTING CONTRACT 8-26-80 by Joe D. Edge for Hess Broadcasting Corporation

4900 Cayton Blvd #106 Bermuda, FL 32503

CARD #2

COMMERCIAL TELEVISION
APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING

Call Letters: WPMI
UNASSIGNED

Name: HESS BROADCASTING CORPORATION
CH-15

Station Location: MOBILE, AL

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BMPCT-801029KE R & F	10-23-80 10-29-80	NP (BPCT-790830KF) to chg. ERP to Vis. 5000kW(M) 1469kW(H), Aur. 146.9kW(H); chg. TL to Town of Loxley, AL (30-37-35 87-38-50); SL to Under investigation; type trans. to Comark CTT-U-110; type ant. to Bogner BUH 24 H (BT); and HAAT 1706 ft. MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION Atty.: John P. Benkson, Jr. (Hamel, Park, McCabe & Saunders) Amended 2-24-81 re Studio Location	GRANTED March 6, 1981

Form BC-121
March 1979

About the History Cards …

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast radio stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file.

TV History Cards were initiated in the early 1940s, with the authorization of the earliest TV stations. History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12th Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). Prior to that move, the History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only a few sets of microfiche exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images, like those you see above.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They are not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found. Cards may be incomplete, missing, or occasionally out of sequence.

The History Cards are presented here as they were copied to microfiche, to preserve this record for public use, and with the hope that they will be of value to future researchers of television station history.