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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20554

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IN REPLY REFER TO: 1800B3-ALM

Patrick J. Vaughn, Esquire Assistant General Counsel American Family Association Post Office Drawer 2440 107 Parkgate Tupelo, Mississippi 38803

In re: KLYC-FM, Lake Charles, LA

American Family Association Facility ID No. 87832 Request For A Waiver of Section 73.1125 (Main Studio)

Dear Mr. Vaughn:

The staff has under consideration the request filed, on January 31, 2001¹, by American Family Association ("AFA") for a waiver of the Commission's main studio requirement, *see* 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125, in order to operate KLYC-FM as a satellite of its commonly owned NCE station KSJY(FM), Lafayette, Louisiana.² For the reasons set forth below, we shall grant AFA's request for waiver.

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 11113 (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 "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

¹ Supplements to the request for waiver were filed on March 29, 2001 and April 12, 2001.

² 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).

meet its local service obligation to satisfy the Section 73.1125 "public interest" standard. *Id.*

AFA's request is based on the economies of scale that 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) in these circumstances.

AFA proposes to operate KLYC-FM, Lake Charles, Louisiana, as a satellite station of KSJY(FM), Lafayette, Louisiana approximately 60 miles from Lake Charles. Where there is a great distance between parent and satellite stations, as here, we are particularly concerned that the licensee take adequate measures to maintain its awareness of the satellite community's needs and interests. To that end, AFA has pledged to: (1) add to its Community Advisory Board at least one resident of Lake Charles, who will be asked to provide recommendations on community needs and programming directly to AFA management; (2) at least annually, conduct interviews with residents and community leaders to assess community needs and programming; (3) provide periodic local programming for Lake Charles including coverage of significant local news and cultural events; (4) broadcast local public service announcements; and (5) maintain a toll-free telephone number between Lake Charles and the KSJY(FM) main studio.

In these circumstances, we are persuaded that AFA will meet its local service obligations and thus, that grant of the requested waiver is consistent with the public interest. We remind AFA, however, of the requirement that it maintain a public file for KLYC-FM at the main studio of the "parent" <u>station, KSJY(FM)</u>, Lafayette, Louisiana. It must also make reasonable accommodation for listeners wishing to examine the file's contents. *See Reconsideration Order*, 14 FCC Rcd 11113, 11129 at ¶45. We further remind AFA that, notwithstanding the grant of the waiver requested here, the public file for KLYC-FM must contain the quarterly issues and programs list for Lake Charles, Louisiana required by 47 C.F.R. § 73 §527(e)(8).

Accordingly, the request of American Family Association for a waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125 IS HEREBY GRANTED.

Sincere

Linda Blair, Chief Audio Services Division Mass Media Bureau