

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

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DIRECTED BY

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IN REPLY REFER
TO:
1800B3-ALM

Mr. Dennis Haarsager, General Manager
KWSU Radio-Television Services
Washington State University
382 Murrow Communications Center
Pullman, Washington 99164-2530

In re: NEW, Cottonwood, Idaho
Washington State University
File No. BPED-930113MB

Dear Mr. Haarsager:

This is in reference to the subject application filed by the Washington State University ("University") for a new noncommercial, educational FM station in Cottonwood, Idaho. The applicant seeks a waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125(a)(4) to operate its proposed Cottonwood facility as a satellite station of commonly owned station KRFA-FM, Moscow, Idaho.

In order to ensure that local issues in Cottonwood will be met, University has agreed to undertake the following:

1. Station KRFA-FM, as part of Northwest Public Radio, is currently served by a 30-person community advisory board to assist it in determining the needs and problems of the communities that the station serves. The bylaws for that board establish membership proportionally to the number of contributors in each community; that, in turn, is normally proportional to the number of people in the community. Priority will be given to filling vacancies on the board from the new coverage area.
2. A toll free number will be maintained from Cottonwood to the station's main studio in Moscow, Idaho.
3. University currently has a full-time news reporter whose beat includes north-central Idaho.
4. University will subscribe to the Idaho County Free Press which provides print news to the Cottonwood area.

A "satellite" station has been defined by the Commission as one "operating on a channel specified in the ... Table of Assignments and meeting all of the technical requirements of our rules, but one which usually originates no local programming ... It rebroadcasts the programming of the parent station."

Multiple Ownership Rules, 3 RR 2d 1554, 1562 (1964). Satellite stations involve deviations from such Commission regulations as station main studio locations (Section 73.1125).

The Commission has stated that "we have recognized the benefits of centralized operations for noncommercial educational stations, given the limited funding available to these stations, and we have granted waivers to state and regional public television and radio networks to operate 'satellite' stations that do not necessarily meet the requirements of a main studio. These stations, however, have not been permitted to ignore local service obligations, and waivers generally have been granted only upon a showing that the local community would be served." Memorandum Opinion and Order in MM Docket No. 86-406, 3 FCC Rcd 5024 (1988). Thus, local needs should be met by this applicant.

We have determined that Washington State University has established that its centrally programmed simultaneous schedule will serve the problems, needs and interests of Cottonwood, Idaho. Accordingly, 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125(a)(4) IS HEREBY WAIVED to the extent indicated hereinabove. Furthermore, the application by Washington State University for a new noncommercial, educational FM station in Cottonwood, Idaho IS HEREBY GRANTED. The construction permit authorization will follow under separate cover.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Jorgensen". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Dennis Williams
Chief, FM Branch
Audio Services Division
Mass Media Bureau