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**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20554**

BY

**IN REPLY REFER  
TO:  
1800B3-ALM**

Gerald Stevens-Kittner, Esq.  
Arter & Hadden  
1801 K Street, N.W., Suite 400K  
Washington, D. C. 20006-1301

In re: NEW, Hickory, North Carolina  
University Radio Foundation, Inc.  
File No. BPED-930114MF

Dear Mr. Stevens-Kittner:

This is in reference to the subject application filed by the University Radio Foundation, Inc. ("Foundation") for a new noncommercial, educational FM station in Hickory, North Carolina. The applicant seeks a waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125(a) (4) to operate its proposed Hickory facility as a satellite station of commonly owned station WFAE(FM), Charlotte, North Carolina.

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

1. Systematically ascertain the problems, needs and interests of the Hickory area by regularly contacting and interviewing local officials and community leaders. Their input will be reflected in the proposed station's news, public affairs and informational programming.
2. Regularly assign reporters to cover stories of particular concern to Hickory.
3. Seek out individuals from the Hickory community to serve on the corporation's board, and/or serve in an advisory capacity to insure that the station stays informed about the problems, issues and concerns of the local community.
4. Maintain a toll-free telephone number between Hickory and the main studio in Charlotte to enable Hickory residents to speak with station management and personnel.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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