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FCC MAIL SECTION

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20554

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JUL 15 1994

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1800B3-CAC

DISPATCHED BY

Ms. Susan L. Washburn  
Vice President for University Relations  
St. Lawrence University  
Canton, NY 13617

In re: WSLJ(FM), Canton, NY; WSLO(FM), Malone, NY;  
WSLL(FM), Saranac Lake, NY; WXLJ(FM), Peru, NY;  
WSLJ(FM), Watertown, NY; WXLH(FM), Blue Mountain  
Lake, NY; WXLG(FM), North Creek, NY  
St. Lawrence University  
Request for Waiver of C.F.R. 47 §  
73.1201(c) (3) (ii)

Dear Ms. Washburn:

This is in response to your request filed June 19, 1994 on behalf of St. Lawrence University for a waiver of Section 73.1201(c) (3) (ii) of the Commission's Rules concerning station identification.

Specifically, you state that all the noncommercial educational FM stations operated by St. Lawrence University (as licensee or permittee) -- namely, WSLJ, WSLO, WSLL, WXLJ, WSLJ, WXLH, and WXLG -- simulcast their programming as "satellite" operations of WSLJ, Canton, NY. You advise that the station identification announced at the top of the hour contain the call signs, communities of license, and the frequencies for each of these seven stations, in accordance with the requirements of Section 73.1201. You assert, however, that this method of station identification is inordinately lengthy and overwhelmingly unpopular with your listeners, and you therefore ask that the Commission allow you to delete the recitation of frequencies in these announcements.

In support of the waiver request you state that the shorter station identification breaks provided by your program providers, rather than containing "all those numbers" (as your complaining listeners phrase it), could be better used to provide important weather and other public service information. You also state your belief that most listeners will readily recognize the frequency of the station they are hearing by observing the display on their receivers, should they so desire. In addition, you state that you will continue to announce frequencies during the three time periods specified in Section 74.1283(c) (1) of the Rules. Furthermore, you will continue to provide call letter and community of licensing information during your hourly station breaks. Thus, you argue, no harm will result from omitting the frequency information from the top-of-the-hour identifications. Finally, you assert that a waiver in this case is consistent with a similar waiver granted to the West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority on January 14, 1983.

Under all the circumstances, a waiver of Section 73.1201(c) (3) (ii) appears to be warranted. We reserve the right to revisit this matter should information come to our attention which indicates that public confusion or other adverse consequences have resulted from the absence of such information.

Accordingly, a waiver of Section 73.1201(c) (3) (ii) IS GRANTED to permit St. Lawrence University to delete the frequency recitations from its Section 73.1201 station identification announcements. Grant of this waiver is made pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 0.283.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

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