

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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July 31, 2013

Milford K. Smith, Jr.
Greater Media, Inc.
P.O. Box 6501
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Re: WBT(AM), Charlotte, North Carolina
Greater Media Charlotte, Inc.
Facility ID Number 30830
File No. 20130723AEF

Request for Experimental Authority

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is in reference to the request filed July 23, 2013, on behalf of Greater Media Charlotte, Inc. ("Greater Media"), for an experimental authorization to conduct testing of all-digital AM transmission as defined in the NRSC-5-B IBOC Digital Radio Broadcasting Standard.¹ Greater Media is the licensee of Station WBT(AM), Charlotte, North Carolina, and it proposes to conduct the experimental operation using the Station WBT(AM) nighttime facilities during the experimental period as defined in Section 73.14 of the Commission's Rules.² Greater Media requests that the experimental authorization be effective for a period of 90 days.

Station WBT(AM) is a Class A AM station licensed to operate on 1110 kilohertz ("kHz") at Charlotte, North Carolina, with 50 kilowatts (kW) nominal power and a directional antenna system for nighttime operation.³ Greater Media states that the testing will be conducted in conjunction with the National Association of Broadcasters. Greater Media further states that it believes that the results of the testing will be of significant value to the broadcast industry because all-digital AM transmission "could quite conceivably provide a solution to many of the numerous technical challenges currently plaguing the service."

Our review indicates that the proposed experimental operation meets the requirements of Section 5.203 of the Commission's Rules,⁴ and is not likely to cause interference to any other station. We find that the public interest would be served by the knowledge gained through further testing of all-digital AM operation. Although the analog AM broadcast service provided by Station WBT(AM) must be

¹ National Radio Systems Committee NRSC-5-B, In-band/on-channel Digital Radio Broadcasting Standard, April 2008.

² 47 C.F.R. § 73.14.

³ FCC File Number BL-19850628AJ.

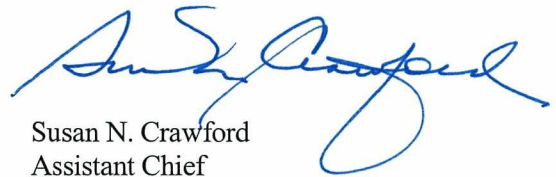
⁴ 47 C.F.R. § 5.203.

discontinued during the time that the all-digital AM transmission system is being tested, the Charlotte community is well served by other AM and FM radio stations.

Accordingly, the request for experimental authority IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WBT(AM) may operate with an all-digital AM signal as described above. Operation under this authority shall be terminated if complaints of interference are received, unless the interference can be eliminated immediately by power reduction or other means. Greater Media shall employ whatever means are necessary to prevent excessive exposure of workers or the public to radio frequency radiation, pursuant to Section 1.1310 of the Commission's Rules.⁵ Within 60 days following completion of the experimental operation authorized herein, Greater Media shall file a full report detailing the research, experimentation and results of the testing with the Commission, pursuant to Section 5.203(d) of the Commission's Rules.⁶

This authorization expires on **October 31, 2013**.

Sincerely,



Susan N. Crawford
Assistant Chief
Audio Division
Media Bureau

⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1310.

⁶ 47 C.F.R. § 5.203(d).