

2015 MAR 10 A 9:50

MAR @ 9 2015
FCC Mail Room

Board of Directors
Don Hooper
Bob Wiggins
Merle Gillespie
Stephen D. Petersen
Linda A. Hooper

**General Manager** W. Marc Farmer

February 25, 2015

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

ATTN: Chief, Audio Division, Media Bureau

RE: December 18 Decision, DA 14-1859, FM Channel 225C3 assigned from Clatskanie to Napavine for Threshold Communications Clatskanie/Napavine, Facility ID 189494 File No. BNPH-20110630AHJ

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is a request from the Clatskanie People's Utility District to leave the above FM channel assigned to the Clatskanie area. Clatskanie is a very rural community, it is 20 miles from the nearest city of any size and that is Longview, Washington. The greater Clatskanie community is approximately 4,000 in population. Because of the topography of our area, radio reception is very spotty, even from the big stations in Portland that are approximately 75 miles away. It is impossible to get our local news or coverage on any of the stations that we can receive here in Clatskanie.

Having a community radio station in town would be very beneficial to our customers. One of our main concerns is public safety. Being rather isolated from radio or TV media contacts, it becomes ever more important to plan for the future utilizing an FM station. The station could be used not only for local news, but for emergency broadcasts to our greater community. Especially in storm or emergency situations with large power outages, it would be important to the community to receive updates and safety information. This area has a history of natural disasters like the disastrous flood in 1996 that isolated our community for several days, and was devastating to our downtown core business area. There is also a growing concern about earthquakes expected in this western Oregon area according to scientists. We are surrounded by forests that can be vulnerable to forest fires. For all these reasons, having the availability and possibility of having a local station becomes more important and even life-saving to this community.

An industrial complex with an investment of \$1.8 billion dollars and offering 220 full time, family-wage jobs is being proposed at the industrial park at Port Westward, which is seven miles from our city. Thus this area will grow and the need for community communications will become even more important. Having an operating radio station would also be good for further economic development in Clatskanie.

It is our hope this option of the access to FM Channel 225C3 will continue to be allotted to the Clatskanie area.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the phone number or email address below.

Thank you for this consideration,

Marc Farmer

General Manager

Clatskanie PUD

503-728-2163 or mfarmer@clatskaniepud.com