

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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MAR 21 2017

Immanuel Broadcasting Network, Inc.
P.O. Box 1000
Cartersville, GA 30120

In re: W270CP, Atlanta, GA
Facility ID No. 153804
BMPFT-20160211ACM
Informal Objection

Dear Applicant:

The staff has under consideration: (1) the above-captioned application as amended on June 6, 2016, for W270CP, Atlanta, Georgia; and (2) the Informal Objection (Objection) filed by REC Networks, ("REC"), on February 17, 2016. For the reasons set forth herein, we deny the Informal Objection and grant the application.

REC purports that the proposed translator will cause interference to several co-channel and first-adjacent channel Low Power FM (LPFM) stations in the Atlanta, Georgia area. Specifically, REC questions the feasibility of the proposed directional antenna pattern and whether it will be able to provide the necessary protection to the LPFM stations in the Atlanta market. In addition, REC purports that by using the Longley-Rice methodology, the proposed translator will cause real world interference to the LPFM stations within their service contours. Furthermore, REC states in its Objection that the proposed facility does not take into consideration the maximum permitted LPFM parameters per Section 74.1204(a)(4) of the Commission's Rules.

The proposed application was amended June 6, 2016, to modify the directional antenna pattern. We note that many translators use directional antennas as a means of protecting neighboring stations. For the purpose of determining contour overlap, translator applicants are required to comply with Section 74.1204(a) and Section 73.313. Under Section 74.1204(a), we find that there is no predicted overlap between the proposed interfering contour and the protected contours of the LPFM stations when using the standard FCC F(50, 50) curves. REC fails to provide convincing evidence that grant of the translator construction permit would result in interference to the surrounding LPFM stations.

It has been staff practice since the inception of the LPFM service to issue construction permits to LPFM applicants that specify both the maximum and minimum permissible facilities pursuant to Section 73.811(a)(1). While REC believes that unbuilt LPFM permits should be protected to a maximum of 0.1 kilowatts effective radiated power (ERP) and 30 meter height above average terrain (HAAT), we disagree. When it adopted the revised Rules

in Section 74.1204(a)(4), the Commission indicated that when "...issuing LPFM construction permits we will specify an acceptable range of ERP based on the proposed antenna HAAT. Any subsequently filed license authorization will include a specific operating ERP. An FM translator application must protect the maximum facility authorized in an LP100 construction permit (emphasis added) until the LP100 station is licensed."¹ Based on this language, the rule requires the protection of the LPFM facility based on the HAAT and maximum ERP specified on the construction permit. Pursuant to Section 73.811(a)(1), based on the maximum permitted facility for each LPFM construction permit specified in the Objection, there is no predicted interference by the proposed translator to any nearby LPFM station. Therefore, we will deny the Informal Objection.

Please note, Section 74.1203(a) states that should the translator commence operation and cause interference to any authorized broadcast station, the translator will be required to eliminate the interference or cease operation.

Accordingly, the February 17, 2016, Informal Objection filed by REC Networks, IS HEREBY DENIED and the application BMPFT-201600211ACM IS HEREBY GRANTED. This action is taken pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 0.283.

Sincerely,



for James D. Bradshaw
Deputy Chief
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Michelle Bradley

¹ *Creation of a Low Power Radio Service*, MM Docket No. 99-25.