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March 7, 2017

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Accepted / Filed

BY HAND VIA COURIER

MAR - 7 2017

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
12th Street Lobby, TW-A325  
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Re: **Alpha Media Licensee LLC**  
**Station WPBG(FM), Peoria, IL (Fac. ID 42114)**  
**Request for Extension of Experimental Authorization**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Alpha Media Licensee LLC ("Alpha"), licensee of FM broadcast station WPBG(FM), Peoria, IL, facility ID 42114, and pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 5.203, this is to request an extension of the experimental authorization granted by letter dated April 6, 2016, permitting WPBG(FM) to conduct testing of hybrid digital FM in-band on-channel (IBOC) operation using asymmetric power levels in the digital sidebands. See File No. 20160324ABG. The station is operating with lower sideband (LSB) digital effective radiated power (ERP) of -14 dBc<sup>3</sup> and upper sideband (USB) digital ERP of -10 dBc. An engineering report detailing the progress of the experimentation is attached. Alpha hereby requests continuation of the experimental authority.

Alpha has authorized undersigned counsel to certify on its behalf that no party to the application is subject to a denial of federal benefits, including FCC benefits, pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1998, 21 U.S.C. § 862. For the definition of a "party" for these purposes, see 47 C.F.R. § 1.2002(b).

If any questions arise in connection with this request, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory L. Masters

cc: Susan N. Crawford, Audio Division, Media Bureau (via e-mail)

WPBG(FM) Peoria IL

Report on asymmetrical HD experimental authority

03 March 2017

On April 6, 2016 WPBG(FM) was granted permission to conduct testing of hybrid digital FM in-band on-channel (IBOC) operation using asymmetric power levels in the digital sidebands. This experimental authority allowed station WPBG(FM) to operate with lower sideband (LSB) digital effective radiated power (ERP) of -14 dBc<sup>3</sup> and upper sideband (USB) digital ERP of -10 dBc.

WPBG(FM) has operated with these digital power levels continuously from April 6, 2016 to the present day with short periods of symmetrical operation for comparison. During this testing period WPBG(FM) staff has conducted extensive listening tests to determine the effect that asymmetrical power level operation has had on analog and digital reception.

These tests were conducted with a variety of receivers including OEM and aftermarket automotive radios, desktop radios, portable radios and tuners. Locations of the tests were local, distant and fringe coverage areas roughly corresponding to the 70/60, 50 and 40 db contours.

Additionally WPBG(FM) surveyed listeners to determine if the experimental operation was causing any noticeable degradation of the station's signal.

The results of these tests indicated no issues with WPBG(FM) analog reception in any of the station's coverage area whether operating symmetrical or asymmetrical. Listeners and tests did indicate more robust digital coverage in all areas when operating with upper sideband (USB) digital ERP of -10 dBc.

We have received no reports and are unaware of any interference to any first adjacent stations on 93.5mhz.

The conclusion is that asymmetrical operation has had no detrimental effect on WPBG(FM)'s analog operation and has, in fact, improved digital coverage over symmetrical operation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne R Miller", with a stylized, looped flourish at the end.

Wayne R Miller – WPBG(FM) Chief Operator