FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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MEDIA BUREAU
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April 13, 2017

John M. Burgett, Esq.
Wiley Rein LLP
1776 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Re: WUSF(FM), Tampa, Florida
University of South Florida
Facility ID No. 69122
File No. 20170309ABW

Request for Extension of Experimental Authority

Dear Counsel:

The staff has under consideration the above-referenced March 9, 2017, request for extension of experimental authority[1] (Request), submitted on behalf of the University of South Florida (USF), licensee of noncommercial educational FM Station WUSF(FM), Tampa, Florida,[2] to permit WUSF(FM) to continue to conduct testing of hybrid digital FM in-band on-channel (IBOC) operation using asymmetric power levels in the digital sidebands. The experimental authority is requested pursuant to Section 5.203 of the Commission's Rules.[3]

In the Request, USF is seeking extension of its current experimental authority which permits operation of WUSF(FM) with lower sideband (LSB) digital effective radiated power (ERP) of -11 dBc[4] and upper sideband (USB) digital ERP of -14 dBc. In support of the Request, as required, USF submitted an interim report detailing the methodology employed and the progress and results of its testing under its current experimental authorization. USF states that WUSF(FM) has operated its digital facilities using asymmetric digital sideband powers since commencing operation pursuant to its current experimental authority in April 2016 without any complaints of interference. Additionally, USF reports that operation with increased digital power in the WUSF(FM) LSB has allowed the station to provide digital service to listeners within its protected coverage area who were unable to receive the WUSF(FM) digital signal prior to the increase in LSB digital power.

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[1] File Number 20160407AAY.

[2] File Number BLED-20161103AAY.

[3] 47 CFR § 5.203 (Section 5.203).

[4] Decibels relative to analog carrier.

Our review indicates that the proposed WUSF(FM) experimental operation complies with the contour nonoverlap and other technical requirements of the Media Bureau's Order, adopted January 27, 2010, in Mass Media Docket No. 99-325,[5] and the request for experimental authority meets the requirements for experimental operations set forth in Section 5.203. Accordingly, the Request is HEREBY GRANTED. WUSF(FM) may operate with analog and digital ERP as follows:

Analog ERP:	69 kilowatts (kW), H&V[6]
LSB Digital ERP:	2.75 kW
USB Digital ERP:	1.40 kW.

This experimental authority expires on **April 13, 2018**. This authority is specifically conditioned on the lack of objectionable interference. It will be necessary to reduce digital power or cease digital operation if complaints of interference are received. A report detailing the methodology employed and the results obtained must be submitted within 90 days following the conclusion of the experimental operation pursuant to Section 5.203(d) of the Commission's Rules.[7] The report should describe the test procedures in detail, should identify those adjacent channel stations vulnerable to interference, and note any interference observed during the tests. The report should also characterize the observed changes in digital coverage.

USF received its initial experimental authorization for WUSF(FM) digital operation using asymmetric digital sideband powers on March 6, 2012. Pursuant to Section 5.71(c) of the Commission's rules, a broadcast experimental authorization is issued for a one year period and may be renewed for an additional term not exceeding five years upon an adequate showing of need.[8] Upon expiration of this experimental authority, WUSF(FM) experimental operation using asymmetric digital sideband powers will have reached the five year renewal limit set forth in Section 5.71(c), and no further renewals of this authority will be granted.

Sincerely,

Susan N. Crawford
Senior Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: University of South Florida

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[5] *See Digital Audio Broadcasting Systems And Their Impact on the Terrestrial Radio Broadcast Service*, Order, 25 FCC Rcd 1182 (MB 2010).

[6] All ERP values rounded in accordance with 47 CFR § 73.212(a).

[7] 47 CFR § 5.203(d).

[8] 47 CFR § 5.71(c) (Section 5.71(c)).