

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

May 14, 2018

In Reply Refer to: 1800B3-KV

Mountain Community Translators, LLC 87 Jasper Lake Road Loveland, CO 80537

In re: K243BN, Laveen, AZ

File No. BLFT-20171211AAV Facility ID No. 92373

Interference Complaint - Response Required

Dear Licensee:

This refers to the "Interference Complaint Under Section 74.1203" (Interference Complaint)¹ filed on March 19, 2018, by 1TV.com, Inc. (1TV), licensee of Station KIKO-FM, Claypool, Arizona.² In the Interference Complaint, 1TV alleges that FM Translator Station K243BN, Laveen, Arizona (K243BN or Station), licensed to Mountain Community Translators, LLC (Mountain or Licensee), is interfering with the reception of Station KIKO-FM.³

On March 29, 2018, Mountain responded to the Interference Complaint by filing an "Objection to Interference Complaint" (Objection). In the Objection, Mountain argues that: (1) 1TV has not demonstrated that the listeners can receive KIKO-FM on its current channel 243C2;⁴ and (2) it does not need to address the listener complaints because they are "deficient."⁵

Pursuant to 47 CFR § 74.1203 of the Rules, K243BN is required to eliminate any actual interference it causes. Therefore, it is necessary for Mountain to submit a detailed report (Interference Response) on each listener complaint even if an individual listener has previously filed a complaint in a different interference proceeding that Licensee has addressed. For each listener complaint, the Interference Response must include: (1) the name and address of the complainant; (2) specific devices

¹ All pleadings referenced herein are available at the Media Bureau's Consolidated Database (CDBS) under the Station's License Application, File No. BLFT-20171211AAV.

² The station is licensed to operate at Claypool, Arizona on Channel 243C2, pursuant to BLH-20170620ABG.

³ In support of the interference allegations, 1TV includes listener complaints. Interference Complaint, Exh. 2. Additionally, on April 12, 2018, 1TV filed a "Supplement Interference Complaint Under Section 74.1203" containing a map of locations where listeners experienced interference.

⁴ Mountain claims that the "complaints appear to be from listeners who could regularly receive the station from KIKO-FM's former channel (97.3 Mhz), but not its current channel (96.5 Mhz). 1TV has not demonstrated that the complainants can regularly receive KIKO-FM's signal from its current channel." Objection at 2.

⁵ Mountain contends" [e]ach of the complaints contains boilerplate language" and were actively solicitated by 1TV.

receiving the interference (*i.e.* type of device, manufacturer's name, model number, and serial number); and (3) any assistance provided by the Station for each device allegedly receiving the interference and whether such interference persists. Each of the listener complaints must be addressed <u>individually</u>.

The Rules regarding FM translators restrict FM translator stations to operate strictly on a secondary basis and limit their service. Section 74.1203(a)(3)⁶ of the Rules states that an FM translator station will not be permitted to continue to operate if it causes any actual radio signal interference to the direct reception by the public of the off-the-air signals of any authorized broadcast station.⁷ Actual interference is based on listener complaints indicating that the signal they regularly receive is being impaired by the signal radiated by the FM translator station. Section 74.1203(b)⁸ of the Rules states that if the interference cannot be properly eliminated by the application of suitable techniques, the operation of the offending FM translator station shall be suspended and shall not be resumed until the interference has been eliminated.

Within thirty days of this letter, Mountain must take appropriate actions required by the provisions of 47 CFR § 74.1203 to resolve all complaints of interference to fulfill its obligations and submit its Interference Response. Further action on the Interference Complaint will be withheld for a period of thirty days from the date of this letter to provide Mountain an opportunity to respond. Failure to correct all complaints within this time may require Station K243BN to suspend operation pursuant to 47 CFR § 74.1203 of the Rules.

Sincerely

James D. Bradshaw Senior Deputy Chief Audio Division Media Bureau

cc: John Low (by email)

A. Wray Fitch III, Esq. (by email)

^{6 47} CFR § 74.1203(a)(3).

⁷ An FM translator station creating actual radio signal interference to any authorized broadcast station is obligated to eliminate the interference, regardless of the location where the impaired signal reception occurs.

^{8 47} CFR § 74.1203(b).

⁹ Mountain should send a courtesy email to Kim Varner at <u>kim.varner@fcc.gov</u> and James Bradshaw at <u>james.bradshaw@fcc.gov</u>. Additionally, the obligation to resolve interference complaints is ongoing. Specifically, should any complaints be filed in the future, Licensee must resolve or address those complaints within 30 days of receipt.