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MEDIA BUREAU
AUDIO DIVISION
APPLICATION STATUS: (202) 418-2730
HOME PAGE: www.fcc.gov/media/radio/audio-division

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Re: WGCU-FM, Fort Myers, Florida
The Florida Gulf Coast University
Board of Trustees
Facility ID No. 69042
File No. 20210219AAG

**Request for Extension of Experimental
Authority**

Dear Counsel:

The staff has under consideration the above-referenced February 19, 2021 request for an extension of experimental authority¹ (Request) submitted on behalf of the Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees (FGCU), licensee of a noncommercial educational FM Station WGCU-FM, Fort Myers, Florida,² to permit WGCU-FM to conduct testing of hybrid digital FM in-band on-channel (IBOC) operation with asymmetric power levels in the digital sidebands. The experimental authority is requested pursuant to Section 5.203 of the Commission's Rules.³

The Request states that FGCU is seeking continued experimental authority to operate WGCU-FM with lower sideband (LSB) digital effective radiated power (ERP) of -14 dBc⁴ (2.0 kW) and upper sideband (USB) digital ERP of -10 dBc (5.0kW).⁵ FGCU reports that the asymmetric digital sideband operation has resulted in improved digital IBOC coverage in areas that are otherwise subject to intermittent and poor coverage. FGCU also states that there have been no interference complaints received from other party.

¹ File No. 20190226AAV (granted 3/26/2019) as extended by 20200213ABN

² File No. BMLED-19990823KA

³ 47 CFR § 5.203 (Section 5.203).

⁴ Decibels relative to analog carrier.

⁵ Analog ERP is 100 kilowatts ("kW"), H&V.

FGCU's request for extension of experimental authority for WGCU-FM meets the requirements for experimental operations set forth in Section 5.203. Accordingly, the extension request is **HEREBY GRANTED**. This experimental authority expires on **March 26, 2022**. This authority is specifically conditioned on the lack of objectionable interference. A report detailing the methodology employed and the results obtained must be submitted within 90 days following the conclusion of the experimental operation. Any request for further extension of this experimental authority should be filed at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the authority. Additionally, an extension request must include an interim report detailing the progress of the experimental operation as of the filing date of the request.

Sincerely,

Rodolfo F. Bonacci
Assistant Division Chief
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: The Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees (via email)