



**Federal Communications Commission**  
**Washington, D.C. 20554**  
March 31, 2021

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

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Steve Shultis, Chief Technology Officer  
New York Public Radio  
160 Varick St.  
New York, NY 10013  
[sshultis@nypublicradio.org](mailto:sshultis@nypublicradio.org)

Re: Station WQXR-FM, Newark, NJ  
New York Public Radio  
Facility ID No. 46978  
File No. 20210219AAI

**Request for Extension of  
Experimental Authority**

Dear Mr. Shultis:

The staff has under consideration the above-referenced February 19, 2021, request for extension of experimental authority<sup>1</sup> on behalf of the New York Public Radio (NYPR), licensee of commercial FM station WQXR-FM, Newark, New Jersey,<sup>2</sup> to continue to operate the station's main facility with a digital effective radiated power (ERP) increase to levels as high as 4 dB above the current permitted digital power level of -14 dBc.<sup>3</sup> NYPR requests an extension of experimental authorization due to the COVID-19 pandemic disrupting the schedule for testing. NYPR requests a 180-day extension of the experimental authority.

The request states that NYPR is seeking continued experimental authority to conduct a test program to assess the actual level of interference experienced by first adjacent channel stations in the presence of an increased digital power of up to -10 dBc (0.061kW).<sup>4</sup> NYPR states that it will continue to keep affected broadcasters informed and keep them apprised of the test plan.

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<sup>1</sup> File No. 20200130AAQ, granted 3/6/2020 and extended on 8/26/2020

<sup>2</sup> File Number BMLH-20091009AAI.

<sup>3</sup> Decibels relative to the analog carrier

<sup>4</sup> Analog ERP is 0.61 kilowatts ("kW"), H&V

Our review indicates that the proposed experimental operation meets the requirements for experimental operations set forth in Section 5.203.<sup>5</sup> We note that by increasing WQXR-FM's digital ERP to -10 dBc, the proposal fails to meet the contour nonoverlap requirements<sup>6</sup> of the Media Bureau's Order, adopted January 27, 2010, in Mass Media Docket No. 99-325<sup>7</sup> with first-adjacent station WBLI(FM), Patchogue, NY, Cox Radio, Inc. Originally, the NAB indicated that the digital power increase would occur only between midnight and 4 am.<sup>8</sup> However, due to the pandemic, the test plan has been scaled back and will be run during daytime hours in accordance with the new COVID protocols.<sup>9</sup> We find that public interest would be served by the knowledge gained through testing of interference level in the presence of an overlap.

NYPR's request for extension of experimental authority for WQXR-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 **August 28, 2021**. 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 extension of this experimental authority should be filed at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of this 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,

James D. Bradshaw  
Senior Deputy Chief  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: David H. Layer, NAB (via Email)  
Glynn Walden, Entercom (via Email)  
Russ Mundschenk, Xperi Corporation (via Email)  
Brian Claydon, Wiley Rein LLP (via Email)

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<sup>5</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 5.203

<sup>6</sup> The predicted 49.5 dBu F(50, 10) interfering contour will overlap with the 60 dBu F(50,50) protected contour of the first adjacent station

<sup>7</sup> See *Digital Audio Broadcasting Systems And Their Impact on the Terrestrial Radio Broadcast Service*, Order, 25 FCC Rcd 1182 (MB 2010).

<sup>8</sup> Email dated March 4, 2020 from David Layer to James Bradshaw

<sup>9</sup> Email dated March 4, 2021 from Brian Claydon to James Bradshaw