



**Federal Communications Commission**  
**Washington, D.C. 20554**  
November 9, 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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Re: KQAL(FM), Winona, MN  
Winona State University  
Facility ID No. 72955  
File No. 20211013AAD

**Request for Experimental Authority**

Dear Applicant:

The staff has under consideration the above-referenced October 13, 2021 request for experimental authority (Request)<sup>1</sup> submitted on behalf of the Winona State University (WSU), licensee of a non-commercial educational FM Station KQAL(FM), Winona, Minnesota,<sup>2</sup> to permit KQAL 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.<sup>3</sup>

The Request states that WSU is seeking experimental authority to continue to operate KQAL with lower sideband (LSB) digital effective radiated power (ERP) of -17 dBc<sup>4</sup> (0.025kW) and upper sideband (USB) digital ERP of -13 dBc (0.063kW). In support of the extension request, as required, WSU submits an interim report detailing the methodology employed and the progress and results of its testing under its current experimental authorization. WSU reports that KQAL's conversion to HD has solved the many multipath reception issues. Moreover, coverage has improved since converting to operate using the asymmetric sidebands compared to the previous symmetric side band operation at 17dBc. Finally, KQAL reports that there has been no complaint of interference from other parties.

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<sup>1</sup> File Number 20200916ABI (granted 11/18/2020).

<sup>2</sup> File Number BLED-20120720ADE.

<sup>3</sup> 47 CFR § 5.203 (Section 5.203).

<sup>4</sup> Decibels relative to analog carrier.

WSU's request for extension of experimental authority for KQAL meets the requirements for experimental operations set forth in Section 5.203. Accordingly, the extension request is **HEREBY GRANTED**. This experimental authority expires on **November 18, 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 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: Winona State University (via email)