

Secretary Of The FCC

Dear Ms. McCauley;

We would need to request a Waiver of Expiration extension until July 18th, 2021, for our tandem construction permits in Grand Portage, MN. The IDs for the CPs in Grand Portage are: 191572 and 191573. Our registration FRN # is: 0021371125. Included in this explanation will be documentation below that indicates that we have had various supply and workmen complications beyond our immediate control. I know you have a busy schedule as well, and I thank you for your time with this assessment.

More than likely you're aware that small, one-station only, rural operators face some very unique challenges in this mainly large, corporate radio environment. To heap on top of that, the Covid year in 2020 had hugely depleted our revenue, and I know you'll understand that we tiny radio folks are scrambling to make up for heavy losses.

During mid-to-late year 2020 We had begun reaching out to tower companies. i've personally phoned various companies multiple times, and have received zero return calls. Again, with a small company, it appears that these tower companies aren't that willing to commit to a tiny job, or even return the calls. This was consistent throughout the 2nd half of 2020. Knowing that our due date is May 18, 2021, I also reached out to our former tower guy with NSight, Todd Scheffen, in January. He had installed our antenna for our current Tigerton station. I'd already known he was no longer in the business, but at least I received a return call from him. He, too, relayed the name and number of the person who had bought his company, and after multiple phone messages I received no call-back from him, either. I'm not sure if I am allowed to list companies i've phoned in this document for any legal reasons? I don't believe they're implicated in any wrongdoing by not getting back with me. They're simply busy. There were various calls placed, and again, zero responses to any of my calls. This is what life is like when one is a tiny operator. This is also true of various engineering services as well. I can only guess that when they realize who is calling, it doesn't add up to the kind of income they're looking for, and that they're able to earn with large corporate facilities. At one point early this year, I had reached out to a consultant engineer friend of mine, and asked him why I wasn't getting any call-backs. That's when I was informed that these tower companies have their hands full with a Television upgrade that was/is going on. That seemed to make sense.

Earlier this year I had reached out to and connected with an engineering service, OMG in MN. The weather and snow was brutal in the early months in MN, and they were not able to perform any service at that time, but would be available later in the season. We reached out to a local tower climber, who said the work could be done in time. We ordered broadcast equipment in March from OMB in lieu of this prospect, and were told the gear would arrive in time before the CP deadline. The climber informed us that the project was cancelled, but that he could be available come summer. OMB contacted us that supply chain problems were keeping them from receiving the equipment before the

CP deadline time, but will be available in June. We're including correspondence below from these companies.

In the beginning of May I opted to take a band-aid approach to the problem, still getting zero replies from any tower companies. A young climber in our area said he would do the job. We have an old, back-up transmitter, and an antenna that's fairly close in frequency to one of the CPs. So I was personally going to go there with the climber and ground crew to put a makeshift station on the air in time for at least one of the CPs, to show our best, good-faith effort. But the insurance plan he thought he had available turned out not to be valid for this project, and at the last minute we were not able to do the install. After that time I reached out to you and Mr. Bonacci at the Commission to ask for help in resolving this troubling venture.

Please note that I am a long-time, solid broadcaster that's been at this for nearly 50 years. I hold one of the original First-Phone licenses from back in the day that I earned through rigorous study. Our current Tigerton station was likely one of the first to post our public file online. We keep up with all the regulatory fees on-time, and operate a station that is exclusively dedicated to the local community out here in our little rural environment. We are considered to have great ethics, and frankly, I never thought I'd be in this position with you good folks at the Commission. While I ask you to please understand what a great burden this virus time has been on our tiny, one-station company. Our community is only now just beginning to feel it can re-start. Businesses have been desperately hurt by the losses, and as you know, advertising is the first thing businesses cancel.

We now have commitment from all 3 services; engineering, tower climbing services, and equipment supply to deliver by no later than July, since things are beginning to fall back into place for these folks, too. We can get these CPs on the air by July 18th, I'm certain. Below is documentation re: companies that could not be available prior who have made certain they will be available within the next 60 days. In addition, I had already purchased certain gear, such as RF Detector, and extra-heavy duty climbing rope some time ago to be ready for any sort of eventuality, even if we hire our own climbing crew. We know there's a minimum 3 person tower crew needed on these projects, and we're prepared for that.

Again, thank you for your time in consideration of our little project. I look forward to all that we do together in the years ahead.

Sincerely;

Charles Stroud
Multi-Cultural Diversity Radio Inc.

Hi Charlie,

Yes, OMG can help you out. We have openings just after the July 4th holiday, but I might have someone available just prior to that around June 28th. I know that's outside of your window, but I'm booked solid until then. I will let you know if any openings happen between then.

Hopefully the FCC can understand that a lot of us in the field are still playing catch-up as well.

Alex Hartman
Partner
Optimized Media Group LLC
Cell: +1 651-354-5565

Dear Mr. Charley,

We want to update you on the supply of the order placed since last March, 2021, that we have not been able to deliver as scheduled, the main reason has been the drastic reduction of personnel at the factory for health issues derived from the covid pandemic and transport troubles we have to deal with to bring the material from factory. We can tell you that we are doing our best to comply with this and all others in back order.

Your order of two transmitters OMB model EM 500 HE DIG Compact, combiner unit with band pass filters and the SGP WB 2 FM circular polarization broadband antenna, we estimate to be delivered by the end of next month or first week of July, 2021. In regards to the two MT20 / MR Platinum link units we will have them also available by the end of the month of June 2021.

We want to assure you that we are doing the best we can to overcome all those difficulties created by this unfortunate pandemic, and we trust to be able to fulfill the order you have with our company.

Sincerely yours,

Rafael Arreaza

Sales Manager

3100 NW 72nd Ave. Unit 112

Miami, FL 33122

Tel: 305-477-0973

Fax: 305-477-0611

Hello Charley...

Thanks for writing again. I'm sorry that we were not able to get up to Grand Portage earlier due to various setbacks and Covid concerns, lack of available crew, etc. I'm sorry it didn't work out earlier, but we're getting back on track with our company now, and yes can be available for you. I assume you have that heavy duty hauling rope you bought for the job, and RF detector? We'll still need that to get the job done. Yes, we can get to your job order by sometime in June, and no later than July 15th. Will that work for your

needs? Let me know, and i'll put in a job order for your company right away. We still have you on file as MCDRInc. Is that correct?

Respectfully;

Gabe Boersma

S&G Excavating and Gabe's Tower Service

W6945 St Rd 152, Wautoma, WI 54982 - 920-787-7410 - liz@sgexcavating.org - Stephanie or Gabe

Chuck:

Sorry that me climbing the tower will not work out to get the new radio station on the air. I'm only covered with insurance through my employer and since this would be a personal side job, that coverage would not appear to count for the task I was going to help you with. So it appears because of the needed insurance to climb the tower I'm unable to assist. Still happy to help out in another way getting both stations going.

Thanks,

Josh Werner
joshua@joshuawerner.com

Dear, Secretary of the FCC;

Again, we would need to request a Waiver Of Expiration extension until July 18th, 2021, for the CPs in Grand Portage, MN: # 191572 and 191573, For Multi-Cultural Diversity Radio Inc. Thank you very much.

Charles