

***Engineering Exhibit
and Request for Waiver***

Application for Minor Change to Licensed facility

KYNE TV - File number BLEDT-20030409AAV

Facility # 47974

Nebraska Educational Television Commission (NET)

November 10, 2015

 **Doug Vernier**
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Telecommunication Consultants

Reason for Request for Waiver - Tower site is lost

KYNE-TV is a digital television station licensed to serve Omaha, Nebraska on channel 17, 491 MHz. The station currently broadcasts from the center of the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) campus in Omaha. The University has told Nebraska Educational Television (NET) that the KYNE-TV tower needs to be removed from the campus to ensure the safety of the UNO community and to allow for planned expansion of the UNO campus. As reflected in the attached letter from UNO's Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance, UNO is concerned about the safety risk of the 50 year old tower in the heart of its campus, both because snow and ice collect on the tower and rain down on people during the winter, and because of concerns about a possible compromise of the structural integrity of the tower. In addition, the tower blocks UNO's ability to expand its College of Public Affairs & Community Service building, a high priority for the University. For these reasons, UNO characterizes the need for removal of the tower as "urgent." UNO seeks to have the tower taken down during the school in the early summer of 2016 – May and/or June of 2016. ¹

Currently, on the NET tower at UNO there are three cellular systems (AT&T, Cricket and US Cellular), an antenna for NOAA Weather Service and a Studio Transmitter Link (STL) for KVNO. Provisions are being made to remove these services as well.

Proposed tower farm location

Nebraska Educational Television has an agreement to share the existing KETV , (BLCDT-20041222AED), channel 20 tower. This tower is located 5.85 kilometers to the north northwest of the present KYNE-TV tower location. The move to this proposed tower location will result in KYNE-TV being able to consolidate its transmitting antenna at a recognized tall-tower antenna farm that would give the station the ability to approximately duplicate its present coverage to Omaha. The Commission has long encouraged the location of stations' transmitting facilities at such antenna farms in order to promote efficient land use and reduce environmental impacts of radio and TV stations. While other locations have been considered, there are no locations supporting tall towers that were found to be available or acceptable at locations closer than the KETV tower facility.

Request for Waiver

The Commission is currently in the midst of developing a repacking plan for the TV band. The applicant fully understands that the outcome of this plan may affect the channel of KYNE-TV, however with the looming loss of its transmitter site it cannot wait. It is imperative that KYNE-TV be moved off the UNO Omaha campus tower as soon as possible.

During the repacking, as stated in the FCC's Public Notice DA-618 (April 5, 2013), the Commission's policy is to accept minor changes to TV station facilities as long as the currently licensed noise limited service contour is not expanded. However, the Public Notice also stated that the Media Bureau will consider, on a case-by-case basis, requests for waiver of the filing limitation when a modification application is necessary or otherwise in the public interest for technical or other reasons to maintain the quality of service to the public, such as when ... unforeseen events ... require relocation to a new tower site. Such a request will be granted on a showing of good cause and when grant of the waiver will serve the public interest. NET understands that, to date, the Commission has granted waivers for two other public TV stations to relocate since the issuance of the Public Notice, KETA in Oklahoma City and KERA in Dallas.

Pursuant to the Public Notice, therefore, NET respectfully requests waiver of the policy against expansion in noise limited service contours due to the significant loss of coverage KYNE-TV will otherwise sustain over a populated area of its coverage. The coverage map on the attached page shows that, to nearly duplicate the current coverage, without losing abundant coverage to the south, KYNE-TV must operate with an ERP of 21.5 kW from its proposed 272.8 AG meter antenna height. This operation would expand the proposed noise limited coverage in the northerly direction by some 10 kilometers while reducing the extent of coverage to the south by approximately 5 kilometers. The table below shows the area and population of the presently licensed noise limited coverage, the coverage at 3 kW (if the KYNE-TV coverage from the new transmitter site were required to be contained fully inside the existing coverage) and the coverage under this proposal at 21.5 kW.

KYNE-TV	2010 Population	Area in Sq km
Licensed 200 kW	927,751	14,915
KYNE-TV - 3 kW	896,137	11,600
KYNE-TV - 21.5 kW	927,409	15,711

This study shows that if KYNE-TV were to change its transmitter location to the KETV tower and reduce its ERP to 3 kW (by nearly -9 dB) to fit its noise limited service contour within the existing licensed noise limited service contour, 31,614 rural public viewers would lose their public TV signal. The table above shows that, under the proposed waiver, the population served will remain basically the same.ⁱⁱ

Considering that the KYNE-TV can no longer use its current transmission site, located in the midst of the UNO campus, and considering that it must move its facilities as soon as possible to make way for a high priority campus expansion, and that the move to the proposed KETV tower has been approved by the KETV owners, and that such a move would use an existing tower and consolidate KYNE-TV's facilities at a known antenna farm, NET feels strongly that the instant proposal fits the public needs of people of Nebraska as well as established Commission policy for the granting of a waiver of the current freeze on TV station modifications that extend station contours. NET firmly believes a grant of the exception described in this request for waiver is clearly in the public interest.

ⁱ See the attached letter from William E. Conley, Vice Chancellor for Business & Finance, University of Nebraska, Omaha

ⁱⁱ The attached comparison map shows the currently licensed noise-limited coverage, the coverage as proposed and the coverage at 3 kW when restrained by the currently licensed KYNE-TV 39 dBu service contour. (The applicant notes that in order to sustain the somewhat constant population, there will be a small increase in the area served of 796 square kilometers.)

November 6, 2015

Mr. Michael Winkle
Asst General Manager, Operations
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications
1800 N. 33rd Street
Lincoln, NE 68503

Dear Michael:

The University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) appreciates the assistance received thus far from Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission (NETC) on the removal of the KYNE broadcast tower located on the UNO campus.

Our plan is to move forward on removal of the tower during the summer of 2016. The need to move quickly is to ensure the safety of the UNO community and to allow for planned expansion of the UNO campus.

Safety – Having a 50 year old, 280' tall, broadcast tower located in the heart of our main UNO campus poses a safety risk to students, faculty, staff and visitors. Within feet of this tower, in all directions, are academic, athletic, community and student services buildings that all are at risk, should there be a compromise in the stability of the tower, or any part of the tower. In addition, during the winter months, snow and ice collect on the tower and rain down on people below, posing risk of injury.

Campus Expansion – One of UNO's highest campus facility priorities is to expand the College of Public Affairs & Community Service (CPACS) building to accommodate current capacity needs as well as to provide for planned growth. The tower prevents this expansion and there are no other alternatives to physically expand the building.

The removal of the tower will enable the campus to not only move forward on the expansion of the CPACS building, but also to move forward on the fundraising and design for an additional new building planned for broadcast and communications activities on campus. There is strong donor interest in these projects as well as a tremendous need for both projects. Both of these projects are included in the UNO Facilities Development Plan that was finalized in the fall of 2013 and approved by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

The need for the removal of the tower is urgent. To ensure the safety of people and facilities on the UNO campus and to enable the UNO campus to expand to meet current and future needs, we request your continued assistance in enabling the removal of the tower next summer.

I understand that this letter will be submitted to the Federal Communication Commission as a part of NETC's application for permission to move the tower.

Sincerely,



William E. Conley
Vice Chancellor for Business & Finance

39 dBu (dipole corrected) Service Contours - Waiver Required

Proposed Waiver

Latitude: 41-18-32 N
 Longitude: 096-01-33 W
 ERP: 21.50 kW
 Channel: 17
 Frequency: 491.0 MHz
 AMSL Height: 627.0 m
 Horiz. Pattern: Omni
 Prop Model: None

Proposed No Waiver

Latitude: 41-18-32 N
 Longitude: 096-01-33 W
 ERP: 3.00 kW
 Channel: 17
 Frequency: 491.0 MHz
 AMSL Height: 627.0 m
 Elevation: 359.09 m

KYNE-TV-D Existing
 BLEDT20030409AAV
 Latitude: 41-15-28 N
 Longitude: 096-00-32 W
 ERP: 200.00 kW
 Channel: 17
 Frequency: 491.0 MHz
 AMSL Height: 451.0 m
 Horiz. Pattern: Omni
 Prop Model: None

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