

ENGINEERING STATEMENT
MARYLAND PUBLIC BROADCASTING COMMISSION
MODIFICATION OF LICENSE, FILE NUMBER 0000107690
WMPB, BALTIMORE, MD
LICENSED: CH 22, 90 KW-DIRECTIONAL, 307 m HAAT
PROPOSED: CH 22, 90 KW(H), 22.5 kW(V)-DIRECTIONAL, 307 m HAAT

This statement supports an application by Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission, licensee of WMPB, Baltimore, MD, to modify its licensed facility, FCC file number 0000107690. Applicant proposes to change its current directional antenna to a different make and model and add elliptical polarization.

An interference analysis was performed pursuant to the parameters used by the Commission for application interference processing. The analysis was performed using the methodology stated in OET-69 using the same software (TVStudy v2.2.5) utilized by the Commission and, therefore, should yield similar results.

The results of the analysis showed WMPB causing interference into Class A television station WMJF-CD (“WMJF”), licensed to serve Towson, MD. It is noted that this interference was identified in the study performed when the application, and subsequent license for WMPB (FCC file number 0000107690) was filed with the FCC. Acknowledgement and acceptance of this interference by WMJF was part of a multiparty Unable to Construct Channel Resolution Agreement (“Agreement”) dated September 13, 2017 and Side Letter dated October 10, 2017, both of which are attached to this application. WMPB proposes to continue to operate with parameters shown in the table on the last page of the Agreement. Applicant commits to resolving any interference issues caused by WMPB into WMJF pursuant to the terms of the Side Letter. WMPB is not predicted to cause interference in excess of that allowed by the rules to other television stations that are not a party to the Agreement.

TVStudy returned an alert that the proposal is within the coordination distance of the FCC monitoring station at Laurel, MD, and calculated a predicted field strength of 8.2 mV/m from WMPB. The predicted field strength is less than the 10 mV/m threshold cited in §73.1030(c)(2) of the rules and, therefore, further consultation with the FCC should not be required. Additionally, the modified facility reflects only a change of 0.2 mV/m from the field strength originally predicted by TVStudy for the licensed WMPB facility.

TVStudy also returned the following notification regarding AM stations:

Directional AM stations within 3.2 km:

WCAO 600 L DA1 U BALTIMORE, MD BL19890825AF

Applicant is proposing to replace the current antenna with one that is nearly identical in physical size. No changes in the overall tower height being proposed. Therefore, there will be no impact to WCAO by a grant of this application.