

October 4, 2021

KFER (FM) Santa Cruz, CA - Facility ID: 59064
Minor Modification Application for Construction Permit
License File Number BLED-19920212KB

Engineering Statement in Support of a Request for waiver of 47 C.F.R. §73.510(b)

Following the recent California wildfires the licensed transmitter site property was sold, the Applicant lost its currently licensed tower site (FCC File No. BLED-19920212KB) and is currently operating pursuant to Special Temporary Authority (FCC File No. BSTA-20210730AAM) in order to maintain service to the public. By means of this application, the Applicant proposes to permanently relocate KFER(FM) to an existing tower.

Unfortunately, there are very few existing towers (i.e. towers registered with the FCC) in the area and none appear suitable for a permanent FM installation in full-compliance with all applicable FCC Rules. Three of the existing towers (ASR Numbers 1270591 (crowded hospital/emergency room rooftop), 1279142 (crowded cell pole, literally 10 feet from a residential backyard fence) and, 1269505 (50' pole, top half in use)) are for cellular service and are very lightweight poles that are heavily loaded with cellular antennae and are historically incompatible with FM installations. The other three existing towers (ASR Numbers 1053096, 1053097, 1053098) are located in a lagoon and are used in a complex, diplexed AM directional antenna array. The use of any of these towers at the AM site would be cost prohibitive even if otherwise available.

Similarly, the costs and the overwhelming public opposition to any proposed tower construction in this area effectively eliminates the option to build a new tower to accommodate KFER(FM).

The tower proposed herein was identified after an extensive search and is located on private property where the Applicant has received site assurance. Unfortunately, in order to provide the requisite city-grade service to Santa Cruz (the KFER(FM) community of license) from this site and to satisfy the protection requirements of Section 73.509 of the FCC Rules with respect to all pertinent cochannel and adjacent-channel stations, a directional antenna is required which would allow KFER(FM) to operate with full power toward Santa Cruz and very limited power toward its protections (See Section 73.509 Exhibit elsewhere in this application). The ratio of the maximum power required to properly serve the community of license and the minimum power required to comply with Section 73.509 exceeds 15 dB. Therefore, the directional antenna specified herein unavoidably fails to comply with Section 73.510(b) of the FCC Rules which sets forth a maximum-to-minimum ratio of 15 dB. Accordingly, the Applicant requests a waiver of 15 dB front-to-back rule as set forth in Section 73.510(b) of the FCC Rules.

As discussed above, good cause exists for the requested waiver. Further, the directional antenna specified herein, an off-the-shelf, Kathrein (Scala) CL-FM Log-Periodic directional antenna, is in widespread use throughout the country by FM translator stations providing contour protection to hundreds (or more likely thousands) of

full-service FM stations. Further, the Applicant is committed to providing all necessary directional antenna performance and installation documentation as required of all full-service stations by Section 73.316 of the FCC Rules at licensing.

As shown elsewhere in this application, the proposed KFER(FM) 60 dBu contour will cover 83.4% of the community of license in compliance with Section 73.515 of the FCC Rules. In addition to maintaining the local service to Santa Cruz, the grant of the waiver request and the implementation of the instant proposal will result will be restoration of a full-service NCE-FM aural service to 131,776 people within the proposed 60 dBu contour.

47 C.F.R. Sections 73.203, 73.207,73.213, 73.315, 73.509, 73.515 73.525, & 73.1125

The table on the last sheet shows the contour overlap values for the proposed translator. The proposed facility satisfies each of the requirements of 47 C.F.R. Sections 73.203, 73.207,73.213, 73.315, 73.509, 73.515 73.525, and 73.1125.

The coverage map included shows that the proposed 60 dBu contour will cover 83.4% of the community of Santa Cruz. Further, the applicant will maintain a local telephone number in its community of license or a toll-free number.

47 C.F.R. Section 1.1306

A Commission grant of Authorization for this location would not be an action which will have a significant environmental effect. The proposed facility will operate with a maximum of 68 watts effective radiated power. Facilities with less than 100 watts ERP are categorically excluded from environmental processing. The permittee/licensee in

coordination with other users of the site will reduce power or cease operation as necessary to protect persons having access to the site, tower or antenna from radiofrequency electromagnetic fields in excess of FCC guidelines.

 
Carl E. Gluck, CPBE

TECHNICAL NARRATIVE
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Channel Study of Proposal for KFER (FM)

REFERENCE CH# 210A - 89.9 MHz, Pwr= 0.068 kW DA, HAAT= 331.4 M, COR= 672.2 MDISPLAY DATES
37 06 27.0 N. Average Protected F(50-50)= 17.2 km DATA 10-02-21
121 53 50.0 W. Standard Directional SEARCH 10-02-21

CH CITY km)	CALL	TYPE	ANT STATE	AZI. <--	DIST FILE #	LAT. LNG.	Pwr(kW) HAAT(M)	INT(km) COR(M)	PRO(km) LICENSEE	*IN* (Overlap in	*OUT*
210A Santa Cruz	KFER!	LIC	CN CA	213.1 33.0	12.59 BLED19920212KB	37 00 121 58	44.80 28.80	0.200 8	---	Reference---	
209B1 Los Altos	KFJC	LIC	CN CA	317.6 137.4	32.13 BLED19961105KB	37 19 122 08	13.70 32.80	0.110 562	29.5 820	18.4 Foothill-De Anza Community	0.1
210A Morgan Hill	KHCF	LIC	HN CA	92.2 272.3	25.27 BLED20131017APM	37 05 121 36	55.10 47.10	0.160 -178	21.1 104	6.3 Common Frequency, Inc	2.0
208A Morgan Hill	KHCF	APP	DHN CA	116.7 296.8	13.75 0000125602	37 03 121 45	06.60 32.30	0.014 458	0.3 750	2.8 Common Frequency, Inc	9.2
207A Boulder Creek	KBCZ	LIC	CN CA	274.7 94.5	18.42 0000145377	37 07 122 06	14.70 13.90	0.115	0.8 383	5.9 Boulder Creek Recreation &	7.7
207A San Jose	KMTG	LIC	DCN CA	16.3 196.3	10.88 0000109662	37 12 121 51	05.80 45.80	0.300 -95	0.2 185	3.2 San Jose Unified School Di	8.5
209B Prunedale	KNVM	LIC	DCN CA	138.0 318.2	52.49 BLED20060822AJC	36 45 121 30	21.90 09.80	0.450 715	34.6 1013	18.1 Educational Media Foundati	7.5
213A San Jose	KSJS	LIC	DCN CA	43.5 223.6	15.58 BLED20010928AAK	37 12 121 46	32.80 33.80	1.500 144	0.9 396	6.5 San Jose State University	12.5
209B1 Prunedale	KNVM	CP	DCN CA	138.0 318.2	52.49 BPED20190507ABL	36 45 121 30	21.90 09.80	0.330 715	31.9 1013	18.1 Educational Media Foundati	9.8
212B1 Pacific Grove	KAZU	LIC	CN CA	171.1 351.2	62.34 BLED20160223ABC	36 33 121 47	08.70 21.00	3.100 189	3.3 406	40.7 University Corporation At	41.6
211A Stanford	KZSU	LIC	CN CA	323.7 143.5	42.00 BLED1774	37 24 122 10	41.70 44.80	0.500 -3	12.0 155	8.5 The Board Of Trustees Of T	26.9
210A Soledad	KFRS	LIC	VN CA	148.8 329.1	108.14 BLED20020408ABB	36 16 121 16	24.80 15.70	0.250 93	64.3 386	22.0 Family Stations, Inc.	31.0

Terrain database is NED 03 SEC, R= 73.215 qualifying spacings or FCC minimum spacings in KM, M= Margin in KM In & Out distances between contours are shown at closest points. Reference Zone= - Zone 1A, Co-3rd adjct. Call signs with exclamation marks need not be protected.
Ant Column: (D= DA Standard, Z= DA 73.215, N= Not DA 73.215, _= Omni), Polarization (C,H,V,E), Beamtilt(Y,N,X) « = Station meets FCC minimum distance spacing for its class.