

STATEMENT AS TO SILENT STATION STATUS

Station WFAD was silent for a period of more than 30 days at three times during the current renewal term of the Station's license.

The first time was during the period from November 6, 2015 to October 9, 2016. The reason for that silent period was that the Station had equipment problems, involving its aging transmitter and feedline, that rendered them no longer serviceable. The equipment used by the Station, in rural Vermont, was no longer being manufactured and it was difficult for the licensee to repair and replace the equipment on an expeditious basis. The licensee was finally able to do so and restored the Station to its licensed operating parameters.

The next silent station event occurred between March 27, 2020 and March 9, 2021. The Station was taken silent on March 27, 2020 in order to allow for the dismantling of the existing tower, which was unsafe for continued use, and prepare for the erection of a new tower located at the same tower location. The erection of the new tower took far longer than expected owing to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the licensee's financial affairs, equipment unavailability owing to supply chain disruptions, and the unavailability of tower crews to undertake the work. The work was eventually completed and the Station resumed its broadcasting on March 9, 2021 under licensed operating parameters.

The final silent station period commenced on August 19, 2021. On that day, the Station was forced to cease operations when several critical tuning components failed in the Station's antenna tuning unit. Replacement equipment are not easily procured as they must be custom ordered and built to unique specifications. As soon as the replacement items are received and the system fully tuned, the licensee will restore the Station's broadcast operations to licensed operating parameters.

The licensee wishes to make note that its Station serves a small community in rural Vermont. WFAD has had to operate with older equipment as it lacks the resources to acquire and operate more modern versions. This has made the Station prone to service disruptions. Despite these equipment problems, the licensee has sought to maintain, to the best of its ability, service to its listening public.