

Exhibit: Timeliness of OPIF Filings
KNKX(FM) (51199) Tacoma, WA
KVIX(FM) (91468) Port Angeles, WA
KPLI(FM) (91212) Olympia, WA
KPLK(FM) (173038) Sedro-Woolley, WA
Licensee: Pacific Public Media (PPM)
License Renewal Application, Schedule 303-S

Pacific Public Media (PPM) is the non-profit licensee of the four above-listed FM NCE radio stations. KNKX (51199) is the “flagship” station and main studio for a small public radio network operated by the licensee. KVIX (91468), KPLI (92212), and KPLK (173038) function as satellite stations, repeating the KNKX broadcast content. All four stations comprise a single Station Employment Unit (SEU).

Background: Assignment in 2016

These stations were assigned to PPM by their previous licensee, Pacific Lutheran University(PLU), in 2016 (respectively, BALED-20160706AAM, -20160706AAN, -20160706AAO, and -20160706AAP). The Commission consented to these assignment applications on August 16, 2016, and the assignments were consummated on August 30, 2016. PPM, the Assignee and current Licensee for these stations, is not responsible for the stations’ public files for any quarters concluded before that date. PPM’s public file and OPIF compliance responsibilities begin with the the last two quarters of 2016. As discussed below, all four stations are complete and in compliance for all license years since that Consummation date.

Public File Compliance

As of the date of this renewal filing, the electronic Online Public Inspection Files (OPIF) for all four stations are complete for all quarters since the Assignment of the stations to PPM in 2016 by their previous licensee: the last two quarters of 2016, all four quarters of 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020, and the first two quarters of 2021. No required documents are missing from the OPIF of any of these four stations. All documents required to be retained by FCC Rule 73.3527 and 73.2080 were created in a timely manner, initially on paper for those files created before 2018. All required files for the years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 have been uploaded, respectively, to the four PPM stations’ respective OPIFs.

During 2016 and 2017, the PPM stations’ public inspection files were maintained on paper, as was required by the Commission’s rules for NCE radio stations at that time. The transition to public files on the Commission’s OPIF pages took place on January 9 through 11, 2018 and was almost completely successful, as discussed below. As of that date, all eight quarterly files from 2016 and 2017 had been loaded for each station in a timely manner. However, review of the stations’ respective OPIF pages in preparation for license renewal identified certain issues relating to the timeliness of the uploads for some more recent Issues Programs Lists (IPLs) and for one EEO Annual Public File Report. These discrepancies are explained in this exhibit.

Timely Upload of EEO Annual Public File Reports:

One EEO Annual Public File Report (for 2016-17) was filed late. It should have been filed on or before March 1, 2018, but was not filed until 9/27/19. This EEO Annual Report, the first one handled by PPM following its acquisition of the stations, was prepared on paper and timely placed in the public files of all four stations, but the PPM staff members who managed the initial file migration of 2016 and 2017 files on January 9 through 11, 2018, experienced technical difficulties with the system, within the various subsections of the EEO section, such as attempting to load an EEO Annual Report to the wrong EEO subsection. In September 2019, the staff member who prepared and uploaded the 2018-19 EEO Annual Report became aware of the discrepancy involving the 2016-17 Report, and uploaded it at that time. All EEO Annual Reports, except for this one for 2016-17, have been timely uploaded to OPIF.

Timely Upload of Issue-Program Lists:

As indicated above, some IPLs were uploaded late to the OPIF of one or another of the stations. We stress that the only problem with these IPL files is untimely upload. All these IPLs had been created and were in existence as of the dates that they should have been uploaded to the OPIF. Furthermore, the content of these IPLs is compliant with the public file rule. All late uploads were inadvertent, caused by confusion, inexperience, or technical problems, which have been resolved and will not recur. KNKX had a total of three late-filed IPLs. KPLI, KPLK, and KVIX each had a total six late IPL uploads.

IPL Details - KNKX:

2016 and 2017: All quarters of both years were timely uploaded on January 9-10, 2018 .

2018: Two quarters were filed late: the first quarter was uploaded on 4/13/2018 (3 days late), and the third quarter was uploaded on 10/11/18 (one day late). Q2 was timely uploaded that year, and Q4 was uploaded on 1/29/19, excused in advance by the FCC because of the government shutdown that year.

2019: The first, third, and fourth quarters were all timely uploaded on or before the respective quarterly deadlines, but the second quarter was uploaded late on 7/30/19.

2020 All quarters were timely uploaded, on or before the respective quarterly deadlines.

2021 Both quarters (Q1 & Q2) timely uploaded, on or before the respective quarterly deadlines.

IPL Details - KVIX, KPLI, and KPLK:

2016 and 2017: All quarters of both years were timely uploaded on January 10 and/or 11, 2018.

2018: All four quarters of 2018 were uploaded late, on 2/5/2019.

2019: The first and third quarters were uploaded on or before the respective quarterly deadlines, but the second and fourth quarters were uploaded late. The second quarter was uploaded on 7/31/2019, and the fourth quarter Q4 was uploaded on 4/10/2020.

2020 All quarters were timely uploaded, on or before the respective quarterly deadlines.

2021 Both quarters were timely uploaded, on or before the respective quarterly deadlines.

Explanations for Untimely Uploads

PPM staff conducted the initial migration of paper files to the respective station OPIF pages relatively early in the NCE process, prior to the how-to session provided for members of its regional public radio association. Staff who handled the migration uploaded the six IPLs for 2016 and 2017 for all stations on a timely basis prior to March 1, 2018, but several subsequent IPL uploads in 2018 were untimely (2 IPL uploads for KNKX and four untimely IPL uploads each for KVIX, KPLI, and KPLK during the the balance of 2018) due to unfamiliarity with the system by staff members not involved with the initial migration. In January 2019, following the sudden death of a long-term key staff operations administrator, staff and management reached out to legal counsel for assistance in evaluating and correcting any problems with the stations' OPIFs. On February 5, 2019, after consultation with legal counsel, the necessary IPL uploads were made.

The late uploads later in 2019 occurred when staff experienced difficulties attempting to upload the second quarter IPLs on July 10, 2019, but the upload was ultimately successfully when again attempted on July 30 and 31, 2019, and the fourth quarter on April 10, 2020. Since that date, IPLs for all four stations in all four quarters of 2020 and both quarters of 2021 have been uploaded on time, on or before the deadline for each respective quarter.

The licensee and station management acknowledge and sincerely regret these untimely uploads described above, and wish to assure the Commission that they are taking concrete specific actions to prevent a recurrence of these problems. Experienced FCC legal counsel will provide education as needed to ensure that staff members understand how to fulfill PPM's OPIF obligations to achieve timely and complete public file compliance. Staff members will also be encouraged to seek assistance either from legal counsel or from IT experts among their colleagues whenever questions arise about the rules, technology problems occur, or when assistance with the Commission's OPIF HELP lines is needed.