

January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ASYMMETRICAL  
SIDE BAND INJECTION IN HYBRID FM IBOC SYSTEM



FM BROADCAST STATION WGCU-FM  
(FACILITY ID 69042)  
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA  
CHANNEL 211C1, 90.1 MHz

1. This report was prepared on behalf of The Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees, licensee of FM Broadcast Station WGCU-FM, Fort Myers, Florida (Facility ID No. 69042).

2. WGCU-FM is licensed for analog FM operation on Channel 211C1 (90.1 MHz), with a nominal non-directional effective radiated power of 100 kW with an antenna height above average terrain of 248 m.\* WGCU-FM received FCC authorization for experimental authority for in-band on-channel (IBOC) operation with asymmetric power level in the digital sidebands on March 30, 2020. See FCC File No. 20200213ABN. The IBOC system is authorized with a lower sideband level of -14 dBc and an upper sideband level of -10 dBc.†

3. The results of the experimental IBOC operation for WGCU-FM, which has now been in operation for nearly three years, continue to show positive results with no interference complaints since the implementation of the experimental asymmetrical sideband IBOC operation.‡

4. With the asymmetrical sideband IBOC operation, WGCU-FM continues to broadcast a second high-fidelity classical music service (HD2) that would otherwise be more limited in reach at the -14 dBc symmetrical sideband level. This format is not found anywhere else in the area. In addition, WGCU-FM is able to provide a third audio channel (HD3) that is employed for long form news and special events as needed. In view of the ongoing success of the operation, WGCU-FM would like to continue its service and observations of the asymmetrical sideband IBOC system to facilitate potentially greater implementation for the industry in the future.

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Associate General Manager, Technology & Operations

\* See FCC File No. BMLEL-19990823KA.

† WGCU-FM originally launched IBOC service at -20 dBc in March 2008. Subsequently, IBOC service at -14 dBc was authorized by the FCC in April 2012.

‡ WGCU-FM first received experimental authority for its asymmetrical IBOC operation in March 2019.