

WFUV, 90.7 mHz, Bronx, NY, has had a booster transmitter site for some time located on the steeple of the Riverside Church in Manhattan.

I examined the steeple for RFR compliance on March 21, 2007.

The elevator in this steeple goes as high as the 20th floor. This is the highest floor with rooms used by the general public. A stairway leads to the 21st floor, which contains a private office, and the WFUV transmitter room. Access above this level is tightly controlled by building security.

The space above the 21st floor is occupied by a large carillon. This carillon occupies the equivalent of several stories. There is a grillwork stairway and catwalks for access to the carillon. At the highest level, there is access to an "observation deck". This is outside of the main walls of the steeple, yet inside of grillwork windows. This deck circumnavigates the steeple. This area is clearly off limits to the general public, but it is accessible by workers not necessarily trained in RF safety.

A ladder is permanently mounted to the outside wall of the "observation deck" which leads to the roof proper. There are several vertical two-way antennas mounted around the edge of the roof. The operational status of these is not known. The WFUV antennas are mounted on a pole at the center of the roof. There is an anti-climb device on this ladder.

An individual on the roof proper would be unavoidably within the aperture of all of these antennas. It is believed that the roof should be considered a controlled environment, and that the WFUV transmitter should be turned off whenever anyone is on the roof. To this end, an appropriate sign has been placed near the ladder.

The stairways and accessible catwalks in the carillon area and the "observation deck" were all explored using a Narda model 8715 meter, serial #13001, and model A8742D probe, serial #02813. Both of these were last calibrated in May of 2006.

At no place on the interior or exterior walkways did the total RF level exceed 5% of the maximum permissible exposure to the general public.

It is therefore believed that these spaces, which are in fact restricted to only maintenance workers, can be treated as allowable for the general public for RF exposure purposes.

No measurements were made on the roof proper, where it is believed that access should be restricted to trained workers only in any case.

This RF survey was performed entirely by me, and is believed to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.



William Weeks
March 30, 2007