

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
1800B3-ALM

Wayne Coy, Jr., Esq.
Cohn and Marks
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, D. C. 20036-1573

In re: NEW, Walla Walla, Washington
Washington State University
File No. BPED-940309MA

Dear Mr. Coy:

This refers to the above-captioned application filed by Washington State University ("University") for a new educational FM radio station in Walla Walla, Washington. The application includes a request for waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125 (the Commission's main studio rule) so to allow University to operate the Walla Walla facility as a satellite station of commonly owned station KWSU(AM), Pullman, Washington.

In order to ensure that local issues in Walla Walla will be met, University has agreed to undertake the following:

1. Priority will be given to filling vacancies on the 14 member community advisory board, which serves KWSU(AM) as part of Northwest Public Radio, from residents of the coverage area of the Walla Walla facility. The board's purpose is to assist KWSU(AM) in determining the needs and problems of the communities that the station serves.
2. Utilize its full-time news reporter at KFAE-FM, Richland, Washington, to cover issues of importance to Walla Walla.
3. Subscribe to the "Walla Wall Union Bulletin", the region's local newspaper.
4. Make periodic visits to the Walla Walla area in an effort to understand and respond to the issues and concerns of the community.
5. Maintain a toll-free telephone number from Walla Walla to the proposed station's main studio in Pullman, Washington.

The Commission has stated that "we have recognized the benefits of centralized operations for noncommercial educational stations, given the limited funding available to these stations, and we have granted waivers to state and regional public television and radio networks to operate 'satellite' stations that do not necessarily meet the requirements of a main studio. These stations, however, have not been permitted to ignore local service obligations, and waivers generally have been granted only upon a showing that the local community would be served." Memorandum Opinion and Order in MM Docket No. 86-406, 3 FCC Rcd 5024 (1988). Thus, local needs should be met by this applicant.

We have determined that University has established that its centrally programmed simultaneous schedule will serve the problems, needs and interests of Walla Walla, Washington. Accordingly, 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125(a)(4) IS HEREBY WAIVED to the extent indicated herein. Lastly, the application of Washington State University for a new, noncommercial FM station in Walla Walla, Washington, being in all respects acceptable, IS HEREBY GRANTED. The construction permit authorization will be forwarded under separate cover.

Sincerely,

Diana Scanlan
for

Dennis Williams
Assistant Chief
Audio Services Division
Mass Media Bureau

cc: Dennis Haarsager