

**Main Studio Waiver Request**

California Lutheran University (“CLU”), the proposed assignee of station KHFR(FM), Santa Maria, California (Facility ID No. 87300), hereby respectfully requests a waiver of Section 73.1125 of the Commission’s rules (the “main studio rule”) to permit CLU to maintain the main studio of KHFR(FM) at the main studio of CLU’s co-owned stations KCLU-FM, Thousand Oaks, California, and KCLU(AM), Santa Barbara, California. The main studio for KCLU(AM) and KCLU-FM is located at 3500 Campus Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

CLU intends to operate KHFR(FM) primarily as a satellite of KCLU-FM. Ultimately, CLU hopes to develop a sufficient audience for KHFR(FM) to support a local office and staff in Santa Maria. In the interim, however, it would not be economical to operate KHFR(FM) on a stand-alone basis. CLU notes that KHFR(FM) has historically operated as a satellite of KEAR-FM, Sacramento, California, under the ownership of Family Stations, Inc.<sup>1</sup>

To ensure that a station will serve the needs and interests of the residents of its community of license, the main studio rule requires that each broadcast station maintain a main studio (i) within the station’s community of license; (ii) at any location within the principal community contour of any AM, FM, or TV broadcast station licensed in the station’s community of license; or (iii) within twenty-five miles from the reference coordinates of the center of its community of license. 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125. The Commission will waive the main studio rule where “good cause” exists to do so and where the proposed studio location would be consistent with the operation of the station in the public interest. *Main Studio and Program Origination Rules*, 3 FCC Rcd 5024 (1988). *See also Review of the Commission’s Rules Regarding the Main Studio and Local Public Inspection Files of Broadcast Television and Radio Stations*, 13 FCC Rcd 15691, 15695 n.18 (1998).

The Commission has routinely granted waivers of the main studio rule for noncommercial educational stations where satellite operations are proposed. *E.g.*, Letter to Aaron P. Shainis, Esq., David Oxenford, Esq., and Percy Squire, DA 13-29, released Jan. 11, 2013. Where noncommercial educational stations propose satellite operations, the Commission has found good cause exists to waive the main studio rule because noncommercial educational stations have limited funding. *E.g., id.* A noncommercial educational station requesting a waiver of the main studio rule, however, must demonstrate that it will meet its local service obligations. *E.g., id.*

CLU is a not-for-profit educational institution, and each of KHFR(FM) and KCLU-FM is a noncommercial educational station. CLU proposes to centralize operations of the stations by operating KHFR(FM) primarily as a satellite station of KCLU-FM. By co-locating the main studios of the stations, CLU will be able to maintain lower operating costs and will not have to divert limited funds typically spent on programming to pay for an additional main studio.

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<sup>1</sup> Family Stations, Inc., the proposed assignor, currently holds a waiver of the main studio rule for KHFR(FM). *See* Letter to Alan C. Campbell, Esq., Reference No. 1800B3-ALM, dated Dec. 3 2003.

To ensure that KHFR(FM) fulfills its local service obligations to Santa Maria residents, CLU pledges to: (1) routinely contact Santa Maria community leaders to ascertain the needs and interests of Santa Maria residents and provide programming specifically addressing those needs and interests; (2) maintain a website for the station whereby Santa Maria residents can communicate directly with CLU concerning programming and station operation; (3) maintain a local Santa Maria telephone number or a toll-free telephone line between Santa Maria and KCLU-FM by which residents can contact CLU management; and (4) maintain a public inspection file for KHFR(FM) at the main studio of its proposed parent station, KCLU-FM, making reasonable accommodations to listeners wishing to examine the file's contents.

Good cause exists to waive the main studio rule in this case. Furthermore, CLU will meet its local service obligations to Santa Maria residents. Accordingly, CLU respectfully requests that the Commission grant a waiver of the main studio rule following consummation of the transaction proposed in this application.