



**Greater Media, Inc.**

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December 1, 2015

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission  
Bureau / Office

Re: Station WCSX(FM), Birmingham, MI  
Facility ID No. 25084  
File No. 20141107AEH  
**Interim Report on IBOC Asymmetrical Sideband  
Operation and Request for Extension of  
Experimental Authority**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 7, 2015, via a letter from Ms. Susan Crawford of the Commission's Audio Division and pursuant to a previous request by Greater Boston Radio, Inc., licensee of WCSX(FM), Birmingham, Michigan (Facility ID No. 25084), experimental authority (EA) was granted to WCSX to operate with asymmetrical IBOC sidebands. Specifically, WCSX was authorized to operate with a digital power of -14 dBc on its lower sideband and -10 dBc on its upper sideband. WCSX operation previous to asymmetrical operation under the EA was at -14 dBc, symmetrical.

Asymmetrical operation by WCSX was initiated on January 7, 2015 and has been continuous up to and including the date of this letter. There have been no complaints of interference from any party during the nearly 11 months of operation in this mode. The transmission system, consisting of main/alternate Nautel GV30 transmitters, has experienced no issues other than an initial minor metrology issue in power metering of the asymmetrical sidebands which was quickly addressed by the manufacturer. WCSX was apparently one of, if not the first, of Nautel's customers to employ this mode of transmission.

Following are the comments of WCSX Chief Engineer, Mike Kernen, relative to improvements observed on a number of consumer receivers:

*Observations at my home, ~ 22 linear miles from the tower, I've noted improved reception on 3 receivers:*

*Sangean HDT-1 very noticeable improvement. Receiver configuration unchanged and connected to a Terk external antenna. HD1 blends reduced to zero, whereas prior to the power*

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*increase the receiver required careful placement and adjustment to the antenna to make them occasional. HD2 reception changed from continuous drop-outs to 100% stable.*

*GigaWare HDRadio Accessory. Reception improved from unusable (outdoors) to stable and satisfactory reception.*

*Boston Receptor HD reception improved markedly. As with the Sangean, it required careful placement of its Terk external antenna to receive HD. This receiver, however, would never maintain HD reception and would drop back to analog after several seconds. This receiver now stays locked on HD reliably.*

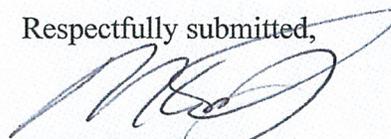
*Notable improvement in several vehicles:*

*Factory sound systems in 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee, 2015 Dodge Charger - similar systems, very noticeable improvement in range and receivers' ability to stay locked on HD.*

*Pontiac Grand Prix equipped with aftermarket Kenwood EZ700SR w/HDRadio tuner unit KTC HR100TR. While this radio was very good, there were still some areas where the signal would blend to analog prior to the power increase. These blends are all but eliminated afterward.*

Based on no reported complaints of interference and the above-noted improvement in coverage/reception, Greater Boston Radio, Inc. hereby seeks an extension of the experimental authority originally granted on January 7, 2015 with a current expiration date of January 7, 2016. A one year extension is respectfully requested. Greater Boston Radio would further urge the Commission to consider allowing routine use of this mode of transmission, consistent with the submission of technical exhibits showing compliance with the procedures set forth in the Media Bureau's Order in MM Docket No. 99-325.

Respectfully submitted,



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VP/Radio Engineering  
Greater Media, Inc.

cc: Susan Crawford, Audio Division