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FROM: Kevin T. Sterne, Chief Engineer, WUVT-FM

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RE: Report of Antenna Problems

It has recently come to my attention that our antenna has sustained some damage and has caused our transmitter to behave incorrectly. Many of our amplifiers have been rendered inoperable because of the problem. In order to identify the problem, our antenna has been taken off of the tower and a single bay, circularly-polarized antenna has been put in its place. Currently, we are running on an exciter that is transmitting into the antenna at 15 Watts. We are using an emergency operational antenna so that we can continue to broadcast our signal as we are licensed as given by FCC regulation 47cfr§73.211. This regulation states that a FM Class A broadcast station must transmit with at least 100 Watts effective radiated power.

We wanted to continue to broadcast our signal because of our commitments in underwriting from local businesses. Most of these businesses were sold current underwriting a couple of months ago and we would like to continue to keep our word that their message will be broadcast on our signal. We would also like to continue to provide quality programming for Blacksburg and serve as a teaching radio station for our student members. Our temporary setup has allowed us to transmit to as much of our community of license as much as possible given our situation.

To correct our technical problems with our antenna, we have taken it down from the tower to which it was attached. We are currently working to identify the problem with our antenna with the help of faculty from Virginia Tech. Once the problem is identified we will either try to repair it ourselves on site or send the antenna to the company who manufactured the antenna, Electronics Research, Inc. We estimate that our repairs will take at most 3 to 4 weeks. At that time we will return to conditions specified in our license.