



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

April 1, 2015

Gem Burke  
1808 Roxy Ann PL  
Medford, OR 97504

Re: KSYS, Medford, Oregon  
File No. BREDT-20140926AEI  
Facility ID No. 61350

Dear Petitioner/Licensee:

This is with respect to your letter opposing the grant of the broadcast television renewal application filed by Southern Oregon Public Television for Station KSYS, Medford, Oregon ("KSYS").

On December 15, 2014, you filed a letter opposing the renewal of KYSY's broadcast television license.<sup>1</sup> You stated that you object to the substance of a program aired by KSYS, a PBS affiliate. In particular, you believe that the programming on KSYS featuring Rashid Khalidi should not have aired, and that many of his claims while on the air were either not true or lies.

In your letter, you stated that the content of the PBS show contained an explanation of a Quran verse by Rashid Khalidi.<sup>2</sup> You contend that the explanation was wrong and that there were also "overlooked parts of the verse [that] contain the word killed."<sup>3</sup> Further, you disagree that PBS should not have aired the piece "without checking anything for validity."<sup>4</sup> Although the Commission does regulate broadcast content where federal statutes direct it to do so,<sup>5</sup> the Commission does not take adverse action on a license renewal application based upon the "subjective determination of a viewer or group of viewers, as to what is or is not good programming."<sup>6</sup> Under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Section 326 of the Act, the Commission is generally prohibited from involving itself in the content of specific programs or otherwise engaging in activities that might be regarded as program censorship. Although individuals may disagree with a broadcaster's choice in programming, broadcasters are afforded a great deal of discretion in the scheduling, selection and presentation of programming. The Commission will only intervene in programming matters only if a licensee is shown to have abused that discretion. The Petitioner has failed to provide a showing in accordance with this standard.

---

<sup>1</sup> Informal Objection.

<sup>2</sup> Informal Objection at 1.

<sup>3</sup> Informal Objection at 2.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> See 18 U.S.C. § 1464 (prohibiting the broadcast of obscene, indecent and profane material).

<sup>6</sup> See *WGBH Educational Foundation*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 69 FCC 2d 1250, 1251 (1978).

Thank you for your inquiry regarding this station.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent than the last name "Brown".

David J. Brown  
Deputy Chief, Video Division  
Media Bureau

cc:  
Southern Oregon Public Television  
Attn: Brad Fay  
28 S. Fir. Street  
Suite 200  
Medford, OR 97501