

Explanation of Filings

Georgia Public Telecommunications Commission (“GPTC”) is the licensee of ten noncommercial educational television translator stations, including W50AB, Hiawassee, Georgia; W49AD, Carrollton, Georgia; and W22AC, Hartwell, Georgia. In a review occasioned by recent failures of several of its translators,¹ GPTC discovered that these three translators have been operating below their licensed power. In addition, our review found that the FCC’s database contains a typographical error in the “ERP” field for W49AD.² The purpose of the present filings is to notify the Commission of these discrepancies and to conform GPTC’s authorizations to its operations.

GPTC’s translators are approximately twenty-five years old, and are constructed with a 100 W first amplifier and a 1,000 W final amplifier. Essential parts for the final amplifiers have not been available for many years; accordingly, the final amplifiers are out of service and the translators have been operating with a transmitter power output (“TPO”) of 100 W rather than 1 kW. Most of the authorizations have been corrected to reflect this operation. However, as noted above, these three authorizations have not been updated. GPTC concurrently has filed written requests for Special Temporary Authority to operate these three translators at reduced power pending grant of these applications.

The sole purpose of these filings is to correct the power output figures to reflect operation with a TPO of 100 W. No other changes have been made to the facilities. Under Section 73.3572(a) of the rules, incorporated into Part 74 by Section 74.780, these are minor modifications to licensed facilities.

Because the presently-authorized facilities satisfy the interference criteria of Sections 74.705, 74.706, and 74.707 of the rules, and the proposed operations reduce rather than increase the potential for interference, the proposed operations also satisfy Sections 74.705, 74.706, and 74.707.

¹ As a result of one such failure, the Commission has granted GPTC Special Temporary Authority for W48AB to remain silent.

² Although the authorization for W49AD correctly lists its TPO as 1,000 W, it incorrectly lists the ERP as 0.008 kW (i.e., 8 W). With the specified antenna, a TPO of 1,000 W produces an ERP of 8 kW. This filing corrects the authorization to reflect the present operation of the facility with 100 W TPO and 0.8 kW ERP.