

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 TWELFTH STREET SW
WASHINGTON DC 20554

MEDIA BUREAU
AUDIO DIVISION
APPLICATION STATUS: (202) 418-2730
HOME PAGE: www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/

ENGINEER: CHARLES N. (NORM) MILLER
TELEPHONE: (202) 418-2767
FACSIMILE: (202) 418-1410
E-MAIL: charles.miller@fcc.gov

September 25, 2012

Peter Tannenwald
Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, P.L.C.
1300 North 17th Street 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22209-3801

In re: The American University
WAMU(FM), Washington, DC
Facility Identification Number: 65399
Request for Extension of Experimental Authority

Dear Counsel:

The staff has under consideration the request filed September 14, 2012, on behalf of The American University ("AMU"). AMU requests further extension of the experimental authority granted on September 23, 2010, to permit Station WAMU to test IBOC operation with asymmetrical power levels in the digital sidebands. The extension is requested pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 73.1510.

The request is accompanied by a report based AMU's experimental results to date. In support of the request, AMU states that, when its original request was filed, first adjacent stations WQIQ and WKNZ were authorized on the lower and upper first-adjacent channels, respectively, but that neither had commenced operation. AMU states that WKNZ is now operating and no complaints of interference have been received, but that WQIQ still has not completed construction. AMU further states that the Commission currently is considering a Petition to allow asymmetrical digital operation on a regular basis¹ and it does not want to lose the benefits it has gained from increased digital power.

Our review indicates that information important to the continued implementation of FM digital radio is likely to be obtained by grant of the requested extension. In particular, once Station WQIQ has commenced operation on the lower adjacent channel to Station WAMU, the experimental operation will be conducted with stations on both first adjacent channels and the coverage vs. interference potential of asymmetrical IBOC operation will be more fully evident.

Accordingly, the request for extension of experimental authority IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WAMU may continue to operate with asymmetrical power levels in the digital sidebands. This authority is specifically conditioned on the lack of objectionable interference. A report

¹ See DA-11-1832, released November 1, 2011.

detailing the methodology employed and the results obtained must be submitted within ninety days following the conclusion of the experimental operation pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 73.1510(d).

The report should describe the test procedures in detail, and should identify those adjacent channel stations vulnerable to interference and note any additional interference observed during the tests. The report should also characterize the observed changes in digital coverage.

This experimental authority expires on **September 25, 2013**. Any request for extension of this authority must include an interim version of the aforementioned report that details the progress of the experimental program as of the filing date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Miller", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau