

Request for Main Studio Waiver

KBPS Public Radio Foundation (the “Foundation”) requests a waiver of the Commission’s Main Studio Rule, 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125(a)(4). The Foundation is the licensee of noncommercial educational Station KBPS-FM Portland, Oregon and KQHR(FM) Hood River, Oregon. The purposes of the Foundation include the education of students and the provision of educational and cultural programming to the citizens of Portland and Hood River, Oregon.

The Foundation proposes to operate KQHR(FM) as a satellite station of KBPS-FM, of which the Foundation has recently become the licensee (See BALED200308ACM). Hood River, population 4,329 (1990 Census), is located approximately sixty (60) miles from Portland and therefore does not currently receive a high quality over-the-air signal directly from KBPS-FM. A main studio waiver will relieve the Foundation of maintaining a staff and a separate studio for KQHR(FM) and make continued service to this small community feasible.

The Commission has recognized the benefits of centralized operations for noncommercial operations for noncommercial educational stations, given the limited funding available to these stations, and has granted waivers to stations that do not meet the requirements of a main studio. *Memorandum Opinion and Order* in Docket No. 86-406, 3 FCC Rcd. 5024 (1988).

Grant of the requested main studio waiver will benefit the public interest by bringing a noncommercial service to new listeners. To assure that the local needs of Hood River will be addressed the Foundation will:

- Ascertain the needs of Hood River by interviewing Hood River residents and community leaders and provide issue-responsive programs each quarter;

- Cover news stories related to events in Hood River;

- Include representation of Hood River in the Foundation’s Community Advisory Board which advises the Foundation as to whether its programming meets the needs of the communities it serves;

- Maintain a public inspection file in Hood River;

- Provide a toll-free number by which Hood River residents can reach the Foundation studios.