

Request for Waiver of Main Studio Rule

The Bridge of Hope, Inc.
WICO-FM Pocomoke, Maryland

The Bridge of Hope, Inc. ("BRIDGE") seeks a waiver of the Commission's main studio rule, 47 C.F.R. §73.1125. BRIDGE proposes to operate WICO-FM Pocomoke, Maryland (Facility ID 60884) (the "Station") as a satellite of WKNZ (FM) Milford, Delaware

As provided in Section 73.1125(a)(4), the Commission will waive the main studio rule where good cause is shown and where the proposed studio location "would be consistent with the operation of the station in the public interest." The Commission has recognized the benefits of centralized operations for noncommercial education stations, given their limited resources, and has granted waivers of the main studio rule. *See Main Studio and Program Origination Rules*, 3 FCC Rcd 5024 (1988); *see also American Family Association (Marksville, Louisiana)*, 12 FCC Rcd 15128 (Hearing Designation Order 1997); *Public Broadcasting in Northwest Ohio (Defiance, Ohio)*, 12 FCC Rcd 15114 (Hearing Designation Order February 19, 1997); *Greater Washington Education Telecommunications Association, Inc. (Leonardtown, Maryland)*, 12 FCC Rcd 15123 (1997).

BRIDGE seeks a satellite waiver of the main studio rule in order to locate the main studio for the Station at the main studio of WKNZ (FM) Milford, Delaware. WKNZ's main studio is located in Milford, Delaware

Grant of the satellite waiver request to locate the main studio in Milford will allow tremendous cost savings while imposing a *de minimis* inconvenience. The cost savings are in the public interest by allowing the limited funding available for noncommercial broadcasting to be used for programming. A waiver is necessary due to the limited funding available to noncommercial educational broadcast stations. The cost savings will help ensure the station's financial success.

In order to ensure that its public service obligations to Pocomoke, Maryland are met, BRIDGE agrees to undertake the following:

1. BRIDGE will maintain the public file for the Station at WKNZ's main studio, and make documents in the public file available to the public pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 73.3527(c)(2).
2. BRIDGE will establish toll-free phone service to WKNZ for service area residents of the Station.
3. BRIDGE will provide periodic local programming for Pocomoke, Maryland residents, including coverage of significant local news or cultural events.
4. BRIDGE will, on at least a quarterly basis, ascertain the interests, needs, and concerns of Pocomoke residents. BRIDGE will provide programming that addresses these community needs.