

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
**445 TWELFTH STREET SW**  
**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

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February 12, 2013

Gary S. Smithwick  
Smithwick & Belendiuk, PC  
5028 Wisconsin Ave, NW  
Suite 301  
Washington, DC 20016

Re: Request for Experimental Authority  
Saga Broadcasting, LLC  
KISM(FM), Bellingham, WA  
Facility ID No. 34469

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed January 3, 2013, on behalf of Saga Broadcasting, LLC ("Saga"). Saga requests experimental authorization pursuant to Section 73.1510 to permit Station KISM to test IBOC operation with asymmetrical power levels in the digital sidebands.<sup>1</sup>

In support of the request, Saga indicates that the intent of the request is to protect first-adjacent Canadian station CKYE-FM, Vancouver, BC, pursuant to the Media Bureau's *Order* adopted January 27, 2010, in MM Docket No. 99-325 ("*Order*"). Saga further states that it meets the contour nonoverlap requirements of the *Order* for operation with digital ERP of -10 dBc on the lower sideband. Saga requests experimental authority for operation with lower sideband digital ERP of -10 dBc and upper sideband digital ERP of -20 dBc.

Our review indicates that the proposed experimental operation complies with the contour nonoverlap and other technical requirements of the *Order* and that the results obtained from the proposed operation are likely to be useful to the development of digital terrestrial radio broadcasting. Thus, the Public Interest would be served by grant of Saga's request.

Accordingly, the requested experimental authority for the hybrid digital operation described above IS HEREBY GRANTED. This authority is specifically conditioned on the lack of objectionable interference. A report detailing the methodology employed and the results obtained must be

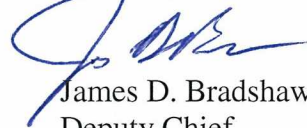
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<sup>1</sup> KISM is licensed for operation on Channel 225C with effective radiated power of 50.0 kilowatts (H&V) and antenna height above average terrain of 744 meters.

submitted within 90 days following the completion of the experimental operation pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 73.1510(d).

This experimental authority expires on **February 12, 2014**. Any request for extension of this authority should be filed at least 30 days prior to the expiration date. Such request must include an interim version of the experimental report described above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Bradshaw', is written over the printed name.

James D. Bradshaw  
Deputy Chief  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Saga Broadcasting, LLC