

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of
Amendment of Section 73.202(b),
Table of Allotments,
FM Broadcast Stations.
(Las Vegas, and Pecos, New Mexico)
MB Docket No. 04-218
RM-10987

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

Adopted: June 8, 2004

Released: June 10, 2004

Comment Date: August 9, 2004

Reply Comment Date: August 24, 2004

By the Assistant Chief, Audio Division:

1. The Audio Division has before it a petition for rule making filed by KFUN/KLVF Inc., ("Petitioner"), licensee of Station KLVF(FM) ("KLVF"), Channel 264C3, Las Vegas, New Mexico. Petitioner seeks to amend the FM Table of Allotments by reallocating Channel 264C3 from Las Vegas to Pecos, New Mexico, and allotting Channel 296A to Las Vegas. The current licensee of Station KLVF, Meadows Media, LLC, affirms the instant petition for rule making and states that if the Commission grants the proposals contained therein, the current licensee will file appropriate applications to effectuate those proposals.

2. Petitioner seeks to invoke the provisions of Section 1.420(i) of the Commission's rules which permits the modification of a station's authorization to specify a new community of license without affording other interested parties an opportunity to file competing expressions of interest. The proposed use of Channel 264C3 at Pecos, New Mexico, is mutually exclusive with Station KLVF's existing authorization at Las Vegas, New Mexico.

3. Petitioner asserts that its proposal will provide Pecos (2000 U.S. Census population of 1,441 persons) with its third local aural transmission service. The allotment of Channel 264C3 to Pecos would not deprive Las Vegas (2000 U.S. Census population of 14,565 persons) of its sole local transmission outlet, because Las Vegas will retain local service from four FM broadcast stations and two AM broadcast stations. In addition, there are two other vacant FM allotments provided for Las Vegas.

1 This request to allot Channel 296A to Las Vegas, New Mexico, conflicts with a pending rulemaking request by Sierra Grande Broadcasting ("Sierra Grande") to allot Channel 296C1 to Cimarron, New Mexico. Nevertheless, Sierra Grande's request must be dismissed because it conflicts with the licensed transmitter site of Station KNKN(FM), Channel 296C2, Pueblo, Colorado. See Section 73.208(a)(1)(i) of the Commission's rules and Cut and Shoot, Texas, 11 FCC Rcd 16383 (MMB 1996) (rulemaking proponent must meet the distance separation requirements for both licensed sites and construction permit sites).

2 See Modification of FM and TV Authorizations to Specify a New Community of License, 4 FCC Rcd 4870 (1989), recon. granted in part, 5 FCC Rcd 7094 (1990).

4. Since Petitioner's reallocation proposal involves a transmitter site change, there will be gain and loss areas for Station KLVF. In this light, we request that Petitioner submit information describing the size and population of its predicted gain and loss areas. Because Petitioner's proposal is consistent with the provisions of Section 1.420(i) of the Commission's Rules, we shall propose to modify the authorization of Station KLVF without entertaining competing expressions of interest in the use of Channel 264C3 at Pecos, New Mexico, or requiring Petitioner to demonstrate the availability of an additional equivalent channel for use by other parties.

5. Consistent with the technical requirements of the Commission's rules, Channel 264C3 can be allotted to Pecos, New Mexico, utilizing coordinates of 35-40-48 NL and 105-32-26 WL, with a site restriction of 17.4 kilometers (10.8 miles) northeast of Pecos. Since providing a third local aural transmission service to Pecos would fall under priority (4) "other public interest matters" of the FM allotment priorities,³ we request that Petitioner demonstrate what public interest benefits would derive from providing this third local service to Pecos. In addition, consistent with the technical requirements of the Commission's rules, Channel 296A can be allotted to Las Vegas, utilizing coordinates of 35-36-33 NL and 105-09-31 WL, with a site restriction of 5.4 kilometers (3.3 miles) east of Las Vegas, New Mexico.

6. Accordingly, we seek comments on the proposed amendment to the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules, with respect to the communities listed below, as follows:

<u>City</u>	<u>Channel Nos.</u>	
	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Las Vegas, New Mexico	224A, 244A, 251C, 264C3 283C2	224A, 244A, 251C, 283C2 296A
Pecos, New Mexico	268C3, 275C3	264C3, 268C3, 275C3

7. The Commission's authority to institute rule making proceedings, showings required, cut-off procedures, and filing requirements are contained in the attached Appendix and are incorporated by reference herein. In particular, we note that a showing of continuing interest is required by paragraph 2 of the Appendix before a channel will be allotted.

8. Pursuant to Sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's Rules, interested parties may file comments on or before August 9, 2004, and reply comments on or before August 24, 2004, and are advised to read the Appendix for the proper procedures. Comments should be filed with the Federal Communications Commission, Office of the Secretary, 445 Twelfth Street, SW, TW-A325, Washington,

³ The FM allotment priorities are set forth in *Revision of FM Assignment Policies and Procedures*, 90 FCC 2d 88 (1982). Those priorities are: (1) first full-time aural service; (2) second full-time aural service; (3) first local service; and (4) other public interest matters. Equal weight is given to priorities (2) and (3).

D.C. 20554. Additionally, a copy of such comments should be served on counsel for the current licensee of Station KLVF, as follows:

Paul H. Brown, Esq.
Wood, Maines & Brown, Chartered
1827 Jefferson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

9. Parties must file an original and four paper copies of each filing. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Natek, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail or Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

10. The Commission has determined that the relevant provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to rule making proceedings to amend the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules.⁴

11. For further information concerning this proceeding, contact R. Barthen Gorman, Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180. For purposes of this restricted notice and comment rule making proceeding, members of the public are advised that no *ex parte* presentations are permitted from the time the Commission adopts a Notice of Proposed Rule Making until the proceeding has been decided and such decision is no longer subject to reconsideration by the Commission or review by any court. An *ex parte* presentation is not prohibited if specifically requested by the Commission or staff for the clarification or adduction of evidence or resolution of issues in the proceeding. However, any new written information elicited from such a request or a summary of any new oral information shall be served by the person making the presentation upon the other parties to the proceeding unless the Commission specifically waives this service requirement.

Any comment, which has not been served on the petitioner, constitutes an *ex parte* presentation and shall not be considered in the proceeding. Any reply comment that has not been served on the person(s) who

⁴ See *Certification that Sections 603 and 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act Do Not Apply to Rule Making to Amend Sections 73.202(b) and 73.606(b) of the Commission's Rules*, 46 FR 11549, February 9, 1981.

filed the comment to which the reply is directed, constitutes an *ex parte* presentation and shall not be considered in the proceeding.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

John A. Karousos
Assistant Chief, Audio Division
Media Bureau

Attachment: Appendix

APPENDIX

1. Pursuant to authority contained in Sections 4(i), 5(c)(1), 303(g) and (r), and 307(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Sections 0.61, 0.204(b) and 0.283 of the Commission's Rules, IT IS PROPOSED TO AMEND the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, as set forth in the *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* to which this Appendix is attached.

2. Showings Required. Comments are invited on the proposal discussed in the *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* to which this Appendix is attached. Proponent will be expected to answer whatever questions are presented in initial comments. The proponent of a proposed allotment is also expected to file comments even if it only resubmits or incorporates by reference its former pleadings. It should also restate its present intention to apply for the channel if it is allotted and, if authorized, to build a station promptly. Failure to file may lead to denial of the request.

3. Cut-off Procedures. The following procedures will govern the consideration of filings in this proceeding.

(a) Counterproposals advanced in this proceeding itself will be considered, if advanced in initial comments, so that parties may comment on them in reply comments. They will not be considered if advanced in reply comments. (See Section 1.420(d) of the Commission's Rules.)

(b) With respect to petitions for rule making which conflict with the proposal in this Notice, they will be considered as comments in the proceeding, and Public Notice to this effect will be given as long as they are filed before the date for filing initial comments herein. If they are filed later than that, they will not be considered in connection with the decision in this docket.

(c) The filing of a counterproposal may lead the Commission to allot a different channel than was requested for any of the communities involved.

4. Comments and Reply Comments; Service. Pursuant to applicable procedures set out in Sections 1.415 and 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates set forth in the *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* to which this Appendix is attached. All submissions by parties to this proceeding or by persons acting on behalf of such parties must be made in written comments, reply comments, or other appropriate pleadings. Comments shall be served on the petitioner by the person filing the comments. Reply comments shall be served on the person who filed comments to which the reply is directed. Such comments and reply comments shall be accompanied by a certificate of service. (See Section 1.420(a), (b) and (c) of the Commission's Rules.) Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554.

5. Number of Copies. In accordance with the provisions of Section 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, an original and four copies of all comments, reply comments, pleadings, briefs, or other documents shall be furnished the Commission.

6. Public Inspection of Filings. All filings made in this proceeding will be available for examination by interested parties during regular business hours in the Commission's Reference Information Center (Room CY-A257), at its headquarters, 445 Twelfth Street, SW, Washington, D.C.