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

In the Matter of)))		
Amendment of Section 73.202(b),) MI	M Docket No. 00	-26
Table of Allotments,) RN	M-9822	
FM Broadcast Stations.)		
(Pearsall, Texas))		

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

Adopted: February 9, 2000 Released: February 18, 2000

Comment Date: April 10, 2000 Reply Date: April 25, 2000

By the Chief, Allocations Branch

- 1. The Commission has before it for consideration a Petition for Rule Making filed on behalf of The Pearsall Company ("Petitioner") requesting the allotment of Channel 277A to Pearsall, Texas, as the community's third local FM service. Petitioner indicated that it would file an application for Channel 277A at Pearsall if the channel is allotted to the community.
- 2. We believe the proposal warrants consideration because the proposed allotment would provide additional service to the community of Pearsall, Texas. A staff engineering analysis indicates that Channel 277A can be allotted to Pearsall consistent with the minimum distance separation requirements of the Commission's Rules provided there is a site restriction 11.3 kilometers (7 miles) northwest of the community. The site restriction will prevent a conflict with Station KSJL, Channel 223C2, Devine, Texas. Mexican concurrence will be requested for the allotment of Channel 277A at Pearsall as a specially negotiated short-spaced allotment.
- 4. In view of the fact that the proposed allotment could provide additional service to Parsall, Texas, the Commission believes it would serve the public interest to solicit comments on the proposal to allot Channel 277A to Pearsall, Texas. Therefore, we will seek comments on the proposed amendment to the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules, with respect to Pearsall, Texas:

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The coordinates for Channel 277A at Pearsall are 28-56-40 and 99-11-44.

Channel No.

Present Proposed

Pearsall, Texas 237A, 281A² 237A, 277A, 281A

Community

5. 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.

6. Interested parties may file comments on or before April 10, 2000, and reply comments on or before April 25, 2000, and are advised to read the Appendix for the proper procedures. Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D. C., 20554. Additionally, a copy of such comments should be served on the petitioner's counsel, as follows:

Henry E. Crawford Law Offices of Henry E. Crawford 1150 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 900 Washington, D. C. 20036

- 7. 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. See Certification that Sections 603 and 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act Do Not Apply to Rule Making to Amend Sections 73.202(b), 73.504 and 73.606(b) of the Commission's Rules, 46 FR 11549, February 9, 1981.
- 8. For further information concerning this proceeding contact Kathleen Scheuerle, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180. For purposes of this restricted notice and comment rule making proceeding, members of the public are advised that no <u>ex parte</u> 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 <u>ex parte</u> 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 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

² MM Docket No. 99-342 has proposed the substitution of Channel 281C1 for Channel 281A at Pearsall, Texas, in response to a petition filed by John R. Furr. <u>See</u> DA No. 99-2684, released December 3, 1999.

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and shall not be considered in the proceeding. Any reply comment which has not been served on the person(s) who filed the comment, to which the reply is directed, constitutes an <u>ex parte</u> presentation and shall not be considered in this proceeding.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

John A. Karousos Chief, Allocations Branch Policy and Rules Division Mass Media Bureau

APPENDIX

1.Pursuant to authority found 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. <u>Showings Required</u>. Comments are invited on the proposal(s) discussed in the <u>Notice of Proposed Rule Making</u> to which this Appendix is attached. Proponent(s) 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. <u>Cut-off Procedures</u>. 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(s) 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. <u>Comments and Reply Comments; Service.</u> 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 <u>Notice of Proposed Rule Making</u> 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(s) who filed comments to which the reply is directed. such comments and reply comments shall be accompanied by a certificate of service.

(<u>See</u> 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. <u>Number of Copies</u>. 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. <u>Public Inspection of Filings.</u> All filings made in this proceeding will be available for examination by interested parties during regular business hours in the Commission's Public Reference Room at its headquarters, 445 Twelfth Street, SW, Washington, D. C 20554.