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4 OCT 2010 RCVD



*Congress of the United States*  
*House of Representatives*  
Washington, DC 20515-2201

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Chairman  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

*MB. Sweeney*  
*1565*

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to thank the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for the work that has already been done to process and grant WMKT-AM radio station's application to rebroadcast on FM Translator W221BQ Petoskey, Michigan (File number BSTA-20080220ABX), as well as to urge that WMKT be granted permission to move a translator location from Alpena to East Jordan, Michigan in one hop.

In 2007, the FCC granted WMKT's co-channel, Detroit radio station WXYT-AM (1270 AM) permission to change their tower site location and increase their signal strength during both daytime and nighttime broadcasting. As a result, WMKT's signal was severely and negatively impacted. FCC Detroit Field Office verified the damage by stating that in granting the license to WXYT, WMKT may have been the victim of an unpredictable phenomenon causing interference during their critical broadcasting hours.

In order to replicate the nighttime coverage WMKT charted before experiencing interference problems, in June of 2008, the FCC granted WMKT-AM permission to purchase two translators, one of which to be used immediately. Since that time, WMKT has found, purchased, and prepared to use the second translator. However, to ensure the station regains its original nighttime coverage, it is necessary that a newly purchased translator be moved from Alpena to East Jordan, Michigan.

Following FCC protocol, WMKT must apply for and receive permission to move a translator the maximum allowable distance of about ten miles per hop. Due to the significant distance between Alpena and East Jordan, it would take WMKT multiple applications, multiple hops, and a total of two years before use of the mentioned translator is possible. WMKT offers an exceptional service providing news, public safety information, weather updates, election coverage, and other essential local programming to northern Michigan residents.

PLEASE REPLY TO:

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- 2 SOUTH 6TH STREET SUITE 3 CRYSTAL FALLS, MI 49920 (906) 875-3751
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A two year delay in the full recovery of WMKT nighttime coverage is detrimental to the livelihood of the radio station, and ultimately deprives local citizens an important service. I urge you to look at WMKT's predicament as a unique situation, deserving of unique treatment. Granting WMKT permission to move translator locations in one hop will allow the radio station to thrive, ensuring that local programming reaches their public domain.

I thank you again for the work you have already done to remedy this problem, and look forward to continue working with you until the issue is resolved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bart Stupak". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

BART STUPAK  
Member of Congress

BTS/ mm