

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

The Commission today made public a list of assignments for present FM licensees and permittees. Any licensee or permittee desiring to object to the assignment made by the Commission must do so on or before September 25, 1945.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1945.

All of the assignments which were made today are for metropolitan stations with the exception of Station WMIT at Winston-Salem, N. C., and WMTW at Mount Washington, N. H., both of which are rural stations. WMIT is authorized to operate on the frequency 97.3 megacycles (channel No. 47) with power of 200 kilowatts and WMTW is authorized to operate on the frequency 97.9 megacycles (channel No. 50) with power of 10 kilowatts. Other rural stations will be authorized upon a proper showing.

In making the allocations for the metropolitan stations, the Commission has provided in both area I and area II for an effective radiated power of 20 kilowatts and an antenna height of 500 feet above the average terrain.¹ Where existing antenna heights are in excess of 500 feet the Commission has required a reduction in effective radiated power so that the service area of such a station (within its 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour) is substantially similar to what it would be with an antenna height of 500 feet and effective radiated power of 20 kilowatts. Where the existing antenna heights are less than 500 feet the Commission is authorizing 20 kilowatts power but such stations in the future will be required to conform with a minimum antenna height of 500 feet above the average elevation unless a showing is made that such an antenna height is not feasible.

The basis on which the Commission made its assignments is set forth below. In area II there are sufficient frequencies so that all existing licensees in any city can be given facilities providing substantially the same coverage and this has been done. In area I a somewhat different situation exists. The Commission's rules and regulations provide that metropolitan stations in area I shall be limited to a maximum effective

¹In area II greater coverage than is possible with effective radiated power of 20 kilowatts and a 500-foot antenna will be authorized upon proper showing. Some stations in area II have smaller coverage at present than is provided for by the Commission's authorization. If such stations desire the smaller coverage, this will be authorized upon a proper showing.

radiated power of 20 kilowatts and an antenna height of 500 feet and that the service area of such stations will not be protected beyond the 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour.² Accordingly, all the metropolitan frequencies in any city in area I will be substantially equal so far as the 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour is concerned. However, it is recognized that metropolitan stations will be able in many instances to serve beyond their protected 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour—although this additional unprotected service area will undoubtedly be cut down as additional stations are licensed—and that some of the metropolitan stations will be able to serve a greater area beyond their 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour than do the others. To this extent some channels may be considered more desirable than others, although so far as the protected contours are concerned all channels will be equal. Nevertheless, while not all of the facilities are equal in coverage, it has been possible in each city in area I (with one exception) to assign frequencies of substantially the same coverage to all existing stations in that city. These facilities, moreover, are amongst the most desirable in each city from the point of view of service beyond the 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour. The one exception is New York City where it has not been possible to find 11 frequencies for the 11 existing stations with substantially the same coverage.

Two alternative plans were available to the Commission in making the assignments in New York City. Under the first alternative, stations would be allocated in the new band in approximately the same order as they are in the present FM band. Under this method, some of the existing networks would be given facilities which initially would be considerably better than those of other networks, and thus an unequal competitive situation would result. Moreover, under this system, some of the independent stations which were pioneers in FM—including the inventor of FM—would be given the least desirable assignments. Finally, this method would result in saving for latecomers the best facilities in New York instead of making them available to those who pioneered in FM broadcasting.

The second alternative plan involves making a choice among existing licensees on the basis of the best information presently available to the Commission. The Commission recognizes that it would be better to make such a choice after a hearing. However, the Commission is of the opinion

²Until there is full occupancy of metropolitan channels in area I, the Commission will give consideration to applications from licensees of metropolitan stations to operate temporarily with power in excess of that prescribed in the rules (i.e., the equivalent of 20 kilowatts radiated power with an antenna height of 500 feet) upon a special showing that this would provide a better signal in specified rural areas. It should be emphasized that such increases in power, if granted, will be temporary only and will be required to be reduced upon the licensing of additional stations to serve the area in question.

that public interest requires FM broadcasting to get started as soon as possible, and hence some authorizations without a hearing are necessary if FM broadcasting is not to be handicapped by a slow start. Moreover, as has already been pointed out, stations will be given an opportunity to object to the Commission by September 25, 1945, concerning the specific assignments.

In making the assignments in New York City, the Commission has decided to assign the frequencies with the maximum service area beyond the 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour to existing stations since these stations are the pioneers in FM broadcasting.³ In making assignments in New York City to the networks, the Commission has endeavored to assign substantially equivalent facilities for all the networks. As a result, the facilities assigned to the network pioneers have a somewhat smaller service area beyond the 1,000 microvolts-per-meter contour than in the case of the nonnetwork pioneer FM stations in New York. This should result in maximum service to listeners in the New York area. The programs of the network stations are available either from the network-owned stations or from their affiliates. Hence, listeners living beyond the 1,000 microvolts-per-meter contour of the network owned station will have an opportunity of receiving network programs from an affiliate of the network in whose 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour they reside, and all networks will have an opportunity to compete for affiliates in this area. So far as nonnetwork stations in New York are concerned,⁴ their programs are not available from any other station as in the case of network programs. Thus, the listening public gains by making available to the nonnetwork stations those frequencies which have a maximum service area beyond the protected 1,000 microvolt-per-meter contour.

The complete assignment of frequencies as made by the Commission is set forth in the attached table.

³The frequency assigned to WNYC-FM will provide a smaller service area beyond the 1,000 microvolts per meter contour than in the case of the other assignments. This is in accordance with the showing previously made by WNYC to the effect that the station's purpose can be served with a service area limited to the area of New York City.

⁴Since the networks themselves own stations in New York, it is obvious that independent stations there cannot secure network affiliation.

*Frequency and Power Assignments for Existing FM Broadcast Stations and
Outstanding Construction Permits*

METROPOLITAN STATIONS

City	Call letters	Channel Number	Radiated power (kilowatts)	Antenna height above average terrain	Frequency
Baton Rouge, La.	WBRL	41	20	500	96.1
Birmingham	WNBZ-FM	44	10.5	657	96.7
Boston	WBZ-FM	39	20	455	95.7
Chicago	WBBM-FM	57	*10	668	99.3
do	WDDL	59	*20	479	99.7
do	WEHS	61	*12	616	100.1
do	WGNE	55	*20	472	98.9
do	WWZR	55	*12	611	98.5
Columbus	WELD	33	20	434	94.5
Detroit	WENA	45	10.5	663	96.9
do	WLOU	43	20	462	96.5
Evansville	WMLL	34	20	481	94.7
Fort Wayne	WOWO-FM	40	20	400	95.9
Hartford	WDRC-FM	32	7.0	758	94.3
do	WTIC-FM	28	9.5	673	93.5
Indianapolis	WABW	35	20	420	94.9
Kansas City	KOZY	60	20	500	99.9
do	KMBC-FM	50	20	500	97.9
Milwaukee	WMFM	22	*20	410	92.3
Nashville	WSM-FM	61	*8.5	720	100.1
Philadelphia	KYW-FM	26	20	482	93.1
do	WCAU-FM	38	20	466	95.5
do	WFIL-FM	32	20	464	94.3
do	WIP-FM	30	18	520	93.9
do	WIBC-FM	36	20	458	95.1
do	WPEN-FM	40	20	455	95.9
Pittsburgh	KDKA-FM	31	6.5	783	94.1
do	WTNT	33	20	500	94.5
Rochester	WHEP	53	20	487	98.5
do	WHFM	55	20	461	98.9
Salt Lake City	KSL-FM	61	8.5	720	100.1
Schenectady	WGFM	37	6	805	95.3
do	WBCA	39	6	805	95.7
South Bend	WSBF	67	20	412	101.3
Springfield, Mass.	WRZA-FM	56	20	500	99.1
Superior, Wis.	WDUL	22	20	500	92.1
Worcester, Mass.	WTAG-FM	71	20	477	102.1
do	WGTR	69	9.5	680	101.7
Alpine, N. J.	WFMN	65	6.0	795	100.0
New York, N. Y.	WOXO	63	11.5	632	100.5
do	WABF	53	15	567	98.5
do	WGYN	61	4.0	905	100.1
do	WFGG	59	7.2	747	99.7
do	WHNF	57	20	455	99.3
do	WNYC-FM	51	15	560	98.1
do	WRAM	45	15	559	96.0
do	WABC-FM	47	5	850	97.3
do	WEAF-FM	49	1.6	1,258	97.7
Jersey City, N. J.	WAAW	41	13.5	590	96.1

RURAL STATIONS (LOCATED AT PRESENT SITES)

Mount Washington, N. H.	WMTW	50	10		97.9
Winston-Salem, N. C.	WMIT	47	200		97.3

*This antenna height is based upon previously authorized antenna construction, and a minimum antenna height of 500 feet above average elevation will be required in the future unless a showing is made to the contrary that such an antenna height is not feasible.

*These stations in area II have been assigned power less than presently authorized. The question of operating with higher power is presently under study.

H. F. C. C.

The following metropolitan stations may operate from their present sites with the power indicated below until such time as the Commission considers all of the applications in the Los Angeles area:

City	Call letters	Channel Number	Radiated power (kilowatts)	Antenna height above average terrain	Frequency
Los Angeles, Calif. . .	KHJ-FM	59	24.8	870	99.7
.....do	KTLO	61	24.8	870	100.1

*These stations in area II have been assigned power less than presently authorized. The question of operating with higher power is presently under study.