
**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI**

Re: *New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority Request to Cancel License for Translator DW276BX, Pompton Lakes, New Jersey.*

Mariana Broadcasting has presented a compelling case for why it would be in the public interest for WGHT(AM), a daytime-only station, to have an FM translator. WGHT covers local news, weather and community events. And it covers them well, judging from the awards it's won for doing so. But when the sun sets, WGHT must go off the air, and no radio station serving Pompton Lakes, New Jersey provides nighttime coverage of local news. This is why Mariana's Application for Review is supported by local law enforcement, emergency responders, and elected representatives.

For these reasons, I would like to vote to grant Mariana's Application for Review. But as explained in the item, the law compels a different result. Going forward, I hope that the Commission soon will open an FM translator window for AM stations so that WGHT and other stations across the country will have an opportunity to improve the local service they provide to their communities. The record compiled in our AM Revitalization proceeding contains overwhelming support for this proposal,¹ and there is no reason to delay moving forward.

¹ *Revitalization of the AM Radio Service*, MB Docket No. 13-249, Notice of Proposed Rule Making, 28 FCC Rcd 15221 (2013).