

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
**445 Twelfth Street, SW**  
**Washington, DC 20554**

**MEDIA BUREAU**  
**AUDIO DIVISION**  
**APPLICATION STATUS:** (202) 418-2730  
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July 5, 2006

John W. Zucker  
 ABC, Inc.  
 77 West 66<sup>th</sup> Street  
 New York, NY 10023

Re: Request for Experimental Authority  
 KQRS, Inc.

Dear Mr. Zucker:

The staff has under consideration the request received on June 9, 2006, for experimental authority to transmit a hybrid digital signal incorporating multiple channels. The licensee requests experimental authority pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 73.1510 for the following stations:

<b>Station</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Facility ID</b>
KQRS-FM	Golden Valley, MN	35505
KXXR(FM)	Minneapolis, MN	35506

The stations propose to test a modified version of the hybrid IBOC system which the Commission has authorized for interim use.<sup>1</sup> The IBOC system under test splits the digital bitstream into multiple audio channels and uses some of the digital capacity for transmission of data. According to the letter request, the stations plan to transmit a hybrid IBOC signal incorporating a second digital audio channel with its associated data. The licensee states that is cooperating with the broadcast industry "in evaluating if the presence of a second audio program increases listeners' acceptance of the IBOC digital system as a whole."

<sup>1</sup> Radio stations do not require experimental authority for normal hybrid IBOC operations. See *Digital Audio Broadcasting Systems and Their Impact on the Terrestrial Radio Broadcast Service*, 17 FCC Rcd 19990 (2002) ("IBOC Order").

The test requires modification of the audio coder system to divide the digital audio stream into multiple audio and data channels. The occupied bandwidth of the digital sidebands will remain as specified in Appendix B of the IBOC Order. The hybrid signal will be transmitted via each station's authorized antenna, and will not require a change in authorized ERP.

Accordingly, the requested experimental authority for the hybrid digital operation described above IS **HEREBY GRANTED**. This authority is specifically conditioned on the lack of objectionable interference. A report detailing the methodology employed and the results obtained must be submitted within **ninety** days following the conclusion of the experimental operation pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 73.1510(d). This experimental authority expires on July 5, 2007. Any request for extension of this authority should be filed at least thirty days prior to this expiration date. **Additionally, such a request must include an interim version of the aforementioned report that details the progress of the experimental program as of the filing date.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Gallagher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "A".

Ann Gallagher  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau