

Vermont Public Third-Party Fund Raising for Vermont Flood Response & Recovery Fund July, 2023

On July 9 and 10, 2023, Vermont received extraordinary amounts of rain do to a large weather system that moved slowly over the region. The state of Vermont suffered major damage to roads, infrastructure, and personal property.

Vermont Public partnered with The Vermont Community Foundation (a 501(c)(3) organization) to raise funds for the foundation's Vermont Flood Response & Recovery Fund 2023. This fund "Supports Vermonters in responding to and recovering from the catastrophic rainfall across Vermont in 2023."

Vermont Public received a waiver (detailed below) from the FCC for the on-air portion of these fundraising activities.

Over the air fund raising activities on Vermont Public's stations occurred on the following days:

Radio stations: July 21 and 22, 2023.

Television stations: July 22, 2023.

During the live on-air fundraising periods it was mentioned several times per hour that donations were going to the Vermont Community Foundation's fund.

The total of donations made to Vermont Public during this effort was approximately \$850,000, 100% of which went to the Vermont Flood Response & Recovery Fund.

Joseph Tymecki
July 31, 2023

From: Barbara Kreisman <Barbara.Kreisman@fcc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2023 8:31 AM

To: Melodie Virtue <melodie.virtue@foster.com>

Cc: Albert Shuldiner <Albert.Shuldiner@fcc.gov>; Brad Deutsch <brad.deutsch@foster.com>

Subject: Vermont Public Co- Request for Waiver of Third Party Fundraiser Rules for Flood Relief
GRANTED

This is with reference to the request on behalf of Vermont Public Co. (VPC), licensee of the 14 radio and 3 broadcast television stations (listed below), for a waiver of Sections 73.621(e)(3) and 73.503(e)(3) of

the Commission's Rules to air a fundraiser for the Vermont Community Foundation. The licensee states that the Foundation, which coordinates philanthropic response after disasters, has set up a special Vermont Flood Response & Recovery Fund to help victims of this week's floods in Vermont.

In support of the waiver request, VPC documents with references to recent news reports the dire need for financial support among the various communities and residents of Vermont after suffering devastating damage in the floods this past week. Specifically, the VPC stations propose to raise money through on-air solicitations for flood relief and ask viewers to donate by phoning a call center, visiting on-line, or directly mailing a donation. The proposed fundraiser would be held sometime between July 20 through July 22, 2023 and will consist of a one-day fundraiser on TV and radio most likely on Friday, July 21, 2023. However, as plans are developed the fundraiser may be held a day earlier or later. VPC states that it will provide announcements at least once an hour during the fundraiser to inform the public that funding will be donated to the Vermont Community Foundation for Flood Relief.

In consideration of the limited duration of the on-air fundraising, the devastation from unprecedented flooding to large areas of Vermont and the need for public support to facilitate recovery, the requested waiver of Sections 73.621(e)(3) and 73.503 (e)(3) of the Commission's rules to permit the limited third-party fundraising program described above, IS GRANTED.

Vermont Public Co. stations:

WBTV-FM Bennington, VT FIN 9310
WNCH(FM) Norwich, VT FIN 84441
WOXM(FM) Middlebury, VT FIN 174578
WOXR(FM) Schuyler Falls, NY FIN 78628
WRVT(FM) Rutland, VT FIN 69953
WVBA(FM) Brattleboro, VT FIN 175088
WVNB(FM) Manchester, VT FIN 175524
WVPA(FM) St. Johnsbury, VT FIN 85029
WVPR(FM) Windsor, VT FIN 69951
WVPS(FM) Burlington, VT FIN 69952
WVTI(FM) Brighton, VT FIN 165996
WVTQ(FM) Sunderland, VT FIN 54687
WVTX(FM) Colchester, VT FIN 58598
WVXR(FM) Randolph, VT FIN 63473
WVTB(TV) St. Johnsbury, VT FIN 69940
WETK(TV) Burlington, VT FIN 69944
WVER(TV) Rutland, VT FIN 69946