

Albert David
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January 9, 2024

Federal Communications Commission
Washington D.C. 20554

cc: David Shantz
4057 Rural Plains Circle
Suite 300B
Franklin, TN 37064
and via email: DSHANTZ@FAMILYRADIO.ORG

Kathleen Victory, Esq.
1300 North 17th St, Ste 1100
Arlington, VA 22209
and via email: VICTORY@FHHLAW.COM

Re: WFME: AM Engineering STA Application
Family Radio
File No. 0000234382
Facility ID No. 29024
Informal Objection

Good evening,

I am writing to file an informal objection to Family Radio's AM Engineering STA Application for WFME (File No. 0000234382, Facility ID No. 29024).

On December 29, 2023, Family Radio filed an application seeking “a reinstatement and extension of the prior STA (BESTA-20230522AAH).” 47 CFR § 73.1635 (4) states that “An STA may be granted for an initial period not to exceed 180 days. A limited number of extensions of such authorizations may be granted for additional periods not exceeding 180 days per extension.” While no specific number is given as to how many extensions fall under the definition of “limited”, the situation that necessitated the initial STA was of Family Radio's own making, and it is against the public interest to allow the licensee an unlimited number of extensions of their STA.

Family Radio voluntarily sold the property that their transmitter site was located on for \$51 million. This sale was widely reported in the media (<https://commercialobserver.com/2020/11/prologis-wfme-queens-site/>). This did not create a

situation beyond their control, which would justify a more lenient response towards the licensee. Rather, the situation the licensee finds itself in is one of their own making. In the years since the sale of their transmitter site, the licensee could have used the reported \$51 million that they received from the sale to find a permanent site, even if it would have been a smaller site that would have necessitated a reduced power from the 50,000 watts it is licensed to operate at. The continued extension of WFME's special temporary authority to operate at a lower power amounts to frequency warehousing. Instead of applying for a modification to operate at 500 watts and downgrade to Class B, the licensee has been maintaining its Class A status and license to operate at 50,000 watts. While operating at the level or power in its STA, the licensee is failing to provide the levels of secondary service that clear-channel status is intended to protect and is not providing the public service that a Class A station is intended to provide. This runs contrary to the public interest, as it prevents other stations on the frequency from adding nighttime service or increasing power, which would help make up for the loss of nighttime skywave service caused by WFME's extended operation at a reduced power. As such, WFME's AM Engineering STA Application should be denied and the licensee should apply for a modification to operate at 500 watts from the site it has been operating from and downgrade its class to Class B.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Albert David". The script is cursive and fluid.

Albert David