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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR DIANNA G. HOLLAND

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT:

FCC Monitoring Stations

This should be closed out with no response. When this was first referred to our office, I discussed it with the Office of the General Counsel at the Federal Communications Commission. That office recommended against any White House involvement. Since the issue is a particular matter under the jurisdiction of the FCC, I agreed that the best course of action would be no response.

FB128

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

gjh

Name of Correspondent: Bill Bayer

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: FCC Monitoring Station

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>W Holland</u>	<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>DD 84106101</u>			<u>1 1</u>
<u>EWAT18</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>DD 84106104</u>		<u>58410614</u>	
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: Jun 1 84 Kathy Camalier memo to FFF

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

6/1/84

Fred:

Barbara Hayward has fielded two phone calls from Bill Bayer to Jim Baker regarding the attached. Bill Bayer feels that this will be an embarrassment to the Administration and asked that someone please call him regarding this matter.

Jim Baker has not seen this material nor is he aware of the two telephone calls.

As this matter involves the FCC and a legal matter, would your office please handle on behalf of Jim Baker as you deem appropriate? Would you send me a copy of any follow-up correspondence?

Thanks.

Kathy Camalier

MR. JAMES BAKER:

Rec'd 5/31/84

BILL BAYER WILL TELEPHONE YOU ON THIS LATER.

THANK YOU

↓ 305/665-4400

Will need to go to Fielding's
office as it involves a
legal matter + FCC



Dade: (305) 624-9490 • Broward: (305) 764-8288

The following memo is a transcript of a debriefing of Dan DiLoreto, General Manager of WGBS. Dan has been spearheading the efforts to move the FCC monitoring station. He is now leaving Jefferson-Pilot and Miami and is suggesting that we now get involved with Jefferson-Pilot to get the station moved:

Jules Cohen, Wally Jorgensen, President of Jefferson-Pilot and Dan DiLoreto made presentations to Dick Smith, head of the FCC Field Offices Bureau. The presentation included 12 alternate pieces of real estate. WGBS has been trying to get the field station moved for 15 years (from 1971).

The State of Florida has agreed to fund the moving of the FCC monitoring station on its present site. Jefferson Pilot made a presentation to relocate the station to another location. All presentations were made to the Field Office Bureau since it had to be rejected by them before the WGBS proposal could go to Mark Fowler.

A law firm specializing in Federal land problems, Sandy Riggs and Kimmel was hired. They, in turn, hired an attorney named Arnold Weiner who specializes in condemnation of Federal land for the government. WGBS put together a field site selection team of biologists, attorneys, etc. to search for alternative parcels of land in South Florida not scheduled for any immediate use. This presentation was made to Dick Smith in Washington, D. C. just after January 1, 1984. He was slightly receptive, but said they still planned on moving the monitoring station, but on its present site. He agreed to hear the proposal, however, moving the station on its existing site will probably occur within the next 18 months and once the State of Florida's \$3/4 million pledged funds are used, chances are slim of getting it moved again.

The current monitoring station real estate is worth approximately \$6 million. It is almost 80 acres on S.R. 84. If this land were sold, the money would go to the general accounting office. Dick Smith says that he has zeroed in on two alternative sites that he would consider, but he wants more info from WGBS. In the meantime, he is going ahead with plans to move on the S.R. 84 site. He sent Dan a letter saying they were going ahead with the plan to move the building on the existing and they could not hold that up. They are now letting bids on the site and will start construction this summer. We have about three or four months to stop the construction. Smith is making Jefferson Pilot do all the work on alternate sites hoping to bog them down since he does not really want to move to any other site. Bureaucracy at the FCC is moving it in this direction.

Page two.

Smith contends that since he cannot realize a profit from the sale of the existing land, he has no funding to move to another site. Using the \$3/4 million from the State of Florida, it will still take another \$1.25 million to move it. Smith wants us to come up with \$1.25 million to move it. WGBS suggested that they now invite WINZ to go to our Congressional delegations since we are the two biggest stations involved. We must meet with Dante Fascell or his senior assistant. He was approached in the past, but he suggested exhausting all possibilities through the FCC Field Office Bureau and to keep him posted.

The obvious solution is to sell the existing site and use money to fund the move. The problem is how to get approval from the Federal government to do this. This can be done by a Congressional appropriation. Congress should say, "We will get \$4 million dollars positive cash flow if we sell for \$6 million and use \$2 million for the move." Smith has no current budget and it would be a capital expense for him to do it. We must now tell Fascell that we have this problem and that we are at a dead end. We must get help from him to get the Federal funding. Everybody wants to do it now, but we don't know exactly how it can be done.

WGBS met with Fowler's chief aid who told them it is up to the Field Office Bureau to find and approve an alternate site, and Fowler's office would endorse the move. That is where we are now. It is now up to the stations involved to initiate this move.

The steps involved are:

1. WGBS wants to share legal expenses from this point on.
2. Meet with Fascell to get Congressional approval of funding.

SC:jl

CC: Mr. Robert L. Gilbertson
Mr. Richard Edwards
Mr. Charles Sanford

WINZ along with other AM radio stations in South Florida would like to improve our services to the communities we are licensed to serve.

Unfortunately we are not being allowed to do this because of the location of the FCC Monitoring Station in Ft. Lauderdale.

The attached response to a listener letter should be self explanatory.

The important fact is the FCC Monitoring Station would actually function better in an area with less "radio frequency" clutter.

Another advantage would be to allow South Florida AM stations to better serve the people and communities we are licensed to do.

We are quickly running out of time and we need your assistance. I will be happy to meet with you or any of your representatives of the FCC to discuss this further. But please time is of the essence.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Edwards
Director of Engineering

RLE/rh

cc: R. L. Gilbertson
C. R. Sanford
S. J. Cohen

GUY GANNETT BROADCASTING SERVICES

NORTHPORT PLAZA, PO BOX 1731, PORTLAND, MAINE 04104 207-797-9330

Richard L. Edwards
Director of Engineering

P.O. Box 2168
Miami, Florida 33055
(305) 624-0101

April 26, 1984

Mrs. Lucy Elwurtz
Westbury L
Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

Dear Mrs. Elwurtz:

I am in receipt of the letter from John Theimer of the FCC district office in Miami. I couldn't agree with him more. The FCC Monitoring Station in Ft. Lauderdale functions as a tremendous service to not only the United States but also to satisfy international needs worldwide. The Monitoring Station serves many important functions, some of which Mr. Theimer listed, such as ships at sea and aircrafts in distress.

There have been many instances where the Monitoring Station has been of great assistance to this radio station (WINZ and our sister station WINZ-FM), especially in the area of Cuban interference along with other statewide stations.

As you can tell I personally and professionally have the highest respect for the people at the Ft. Lauderdale Monitoring Station and the purpose it serves.

I believe, though, that Mr. Theimer has missed the point we are trying to emphasize. The monitoring station does not have to be located in Broward County to fulfill its purpose. Actually the idea to move the Monitoring Station was suggested to me by three of the FCC personnel that operate and supervise the facility. They even recommended that an area near Vero Beach (presently owned by the Federal Government) would be a much better location than the existing site in Ft. Lauderdale.

Mr. Theimer is correct that this Monitoring Station was constructed in 1947. But this was back when our entire region was a sleepy little subtropical village. This area has become the eleventh most populated area of the United States, and the Monitoring Station is located in the center of this area.

Mrs. Elwurtz

Page 2

To keep up with this tremendous growth, the communications industry of South Florida needed to grow also in order to serve our communities. WINZ is proud to be a part of South Florida and would like very much to be allowed to expand our coverage to include all of our communities of South Florida. But, we cannot because of the location of the Monitoring Station in Ft. Lauderdale. WINZ is not alone. Service from many other AM stations could be improved, including WGBS, WVCG, WNWS, WAVS, WBSS, WCMQ, along with other stations. It is not logical to move these radio stations away from the people we serve, but the Monitoring Station could actually function better in a less cluttered "RF" environment; therefore it is very logical for the FCC to move their facility.

Even more important is the fact that the government is going to move the Ft. Lauderdale Monitoring Station within the next few months. Room is needed for construction of a new interstate highway. Unfortunately they plan to move the entire operation only a few hundred feet.

This would be the most opportune time to create a better operating FCC Monitoring Station along with allowing the South Florida AM radio stations to better serve the people we are licensed to serve. It could also allow the Federal Government to sell the property the Monitoring Station presently occupies, which must be valuable because of its location on State Road 84 near Pine Island Road.

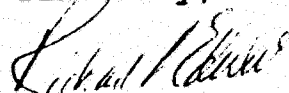
The FCC has advised us it will require congressional action at this time to succeed in moving them. Unfortunately the time is running out. Once they move a few hundred feet it will become virtually impossible to convince the government to move again.

Some of our broadcast community has been working on this since 1971. WINZ has been inquiring into a possible Monitoring Station move since 1974 or 1975 as my records show.

We have appreciated the thousands of letters over the years from concerned listeners such as yourself. We very much would like to serve you better, but our hands are tied. With your help and others like you, we can succeed. We must make our representatives in Congress aware of the problem and ask their help to resolve it.

Thank you for responding. I hope I have clarified the subject for you. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

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Director of Engineering

RLE/rh

cc: Mr. John Theimer, FCC



Date: (305) 624-9490 • Broward: (305) 764-8288

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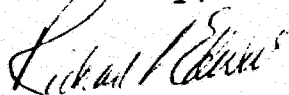
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