

limitation? If yes, what time period? Should shippers be required to attach these written responses to the waiver request?

(7) Should MARAD be required to canvas all U.S.-flag operators on each waiver request, and establish a reasonable procedure for response by carriers? Should each carrier designate a specific office or individual as a point of contact for shippers regarding cargo movements resulting from EXIMBANK projects?

(8) Should MARAD alter its procedure for considering a waiver for shippers to move oversize parcels on foreign-flag vessels that cannot be carried on U.S.-flag carriers? Should MARAD prohibit shippers from "bundling" other parcels of cargo with the oversize parcel? If not, under what circumstances, if any, should shippers be allowed to "bundle" their cargoes, so long as this is not done merely to avoid using U.S.-flag carriers?

(9) Should MARAD allow a "To Be Named" (TBN) vessel on the initial waiver request form to facilitate early (45 days or more) notice providing, however, that no waiver is granted without a specific vessel being named?

(10) In addition to the current publicly-published sailing schedules, should U.S.-flag vessel operators be required to provide MARAD, on a regular basis, the particulars of their U.S.-flag vessels or equipment, indicating maximum dimensions, weights and types of cargo they can handle? Should U.S.-flag carriers be required to furnish MARAD, on a regular basis, a forward projection of their U.S.-flag fleet anticipated service areas? If yes, how far projected?

(11) Would the implementation of any changes that would substantially relax waiver requirements discourage operators from bringing vessels under or keeping vessels under the U.S. flag by shrinking the U.S.-flag cargo base? Would such relaxation also deter the possibility of the bringing in of new breakbulk or roll-on/roll-off tonnage under the U.S.-flag?

(12) What system could best ensure that the actual shipment (as reflected in the bill of lading) conforms to the terms, conditions, and specifications of the waiver granted?

By order of the Maritime Administrator,  
Edmund T. Sommer, Jr.,  
*Acting Secretary, Maritime Administration.*  
[FR Doc. 96-32656 Filed 12-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 96-255; RM-8960]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Laramie, WY

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission requests comments on a petition jointly filed by Rule Communications and Mount Rushmore Broadcasting, Inc., proposing the allotment of Channel 254A at Laramie, Wyoming, as the community's sixth local commercial FM transmission service. The proposed allotment would eliminate the mutual exclusivity of the two pending applications for Channel 244A at Laramie. If the channel is allotted, petitioners also request that Mount Rushmore Broadcasting, Inc., be allowed to amend its application to specify operation on the new channel, with cut-off protection. Channel 254A can be allotted to Laramie in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements at city reference coordinates. The coordinates for Channel 254A at Laramie are North Latitude 41-18-42 and West Longitude 105-35-06.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before February 10, 1997, and reply comments on or before February 25, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: John F. Garziglia, Esq., Pepper & Corazzini, L.L.P., 1776 K Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20006 (Counsel for Rule Communications); and Thomas J. Hutton, Esq., Dow, Lohnes & Albertson, P.L.L.C., 1200 New Hampshire Ave., N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20006 (Counsel for Mount Rushmore Broadcasting, Inc.)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sharon P. McDonald, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 96-255, adopted December 13, 1996, and released December 20, 1996. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919

M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contacts.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

#### List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

*Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 96-32555 Filed 12-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 96-253, RM-8962]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Bainbridge, GA

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission requests comments on a petition filed by Chattahoochee Broadcast Associates seeking the allotment of Channel 270A to Bainbridge, GA, as the community's second local FM service. Channel 270A can be allotted to Bainbridge in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements without the imposition of a site restriction, at coordinates 30-54-30 NL; 84-34-30 WL. We note that the allotment is short-spaced to the present operations of Stations WXHR, Channel 268C2, Quincy, FL, and WJPH, Channel 270C3, Monticello, FL. However, pursuant to the *Report and Order* in MM Docket 95-82, Station WXHR's license has been modified to specify Channel 268C1, at a new transmitter site at coordinates 30-10-22 NL and 84-26-52 WL, and Station WJPH's license has been modified to specify operation on Channel 289C3. See, 61 FR 42189,