

FM Class C4 and its Impact on Translators

- * The 12,000-Watts / 100M “FM Class C4” allocation will be limited to stations within Zone II of the United States, largely rural states consisting of “flyover country.”
- * Class A FM stations in Zones I and I-A (Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, most of California, New York, and Virginia, and parts of Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Wisconsin) will not be eligible to upgrade to the new classification.
- * There are a total of 217 Zone II Class A FM stations that could upgrade to the full C4 allocation from their current tower locations. Of these stations, which are the most likely to take advantage of the new classification, only 25 (11.5%) would have an impact on licensed or permitted FM translators.
- * Of the 25 total translators impacted by these Class C4 station upgrades, 24 of them could relocate to *at least two alternate FM frequencies*. The average affected translator has *nineteen possible alternate FM channels* to which it could relocate.
- * The lone FM translator construction permit subject to complete displacement, BPFT-20160321ABM, associated with K281CE 99.5 FM in Shivwits, Utah, has a valid license on its current frequency of 104.1 FM on its permitted tower site. If K281CE were to remain on its current channel, then it could stay on the air as well.
- * All in all, there is NO NET IMPACT observed on FM Translators as a result of the recent FM Class C4 initiative.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION on the FM Class C4 allocation and how it may benefit your station, or if you would like a copy of the study described herein, then please contact IdeaBank member Matt Wesolowski of WYAB 103.9 FM:

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