

18<sup>th</sup> February, 2008

RE: WESTPOINT RADIO 94.3 FM

This letter is in response to the below email and subsequent meeting (held with myself, Mr. David Laliberte and Mr. David Archbold) on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

I have copied the contents of the email for ease of reference below:

*We have received the attached report from David Maxson about your transmission facilities in West Bay. As you can see, the report identifies a number of interference and blanketing issues. It was reviewed by the ICTA Board of Directors last week, and the Board was concerned about these interference and blanketing issues. However, instead of denying your application, the Board decided to postpone a decision on your application until a determination has been made on the move out policy, which will affect all FM broadcasters in Grand Cayman. This will give you a chance to modify your application to address the interference and blanketing concerns outlined in David Maxson's report.*

*Once you've had a chance to review the report, perhaps we should meet to talk about the next steps.*

We have had the opportunity to review the report submitted by Mr. Maxson on behalf of the ICTA and would like to thank him for the report. We also appreciate the fact that the Board has not denied our application and have given us an opportunity to respond to the report.

We beg the indulgence of the Board as we put forward our concerns and ask that these concerns be taken into consideration as this venture is of great importance to us hence our persistence in seeking approval since our first application was made in 1996 at the Government Administration Building.

I must first say that I have over thirty years of experience working in broadcasting in Cayman. I started working with my uncle, Winston (Vincent) Sinclair for many years, assisting him in building probably the very first TV and radio here from a kit. During those days, I also had to go on the boats to fix and repair all transmitters and receivers when they broke down. Then I went on to work in live broadcasting with Radio Cayman as their radio technician for over 20 years. I can say that I have the experience and knowledge and a very good understanding of how transmitters and receivers work.

With that said, we would like to address the point in your email where the report identifies a number of interference and blanketing issues. I would like to insert here that in previous meetings with the ICTA we were told that we would be a part of the blanketing problem (which was not substantiated) even before a test was carried out in West Bay.

I was very happy to have been at the location while Mr. Maxson was doing his thing. I watched him battle with the weak signals which is below broadcast quality, below the standards just breaking the squelch with a signal that cannot make it every place in the area especially where the testing was done. At the same time he was battling with some very strong possible interference from C U C transmission lines which were in the immediate vicinity where he told us that he think he had found a couple of small foot prints. That's what he said to me in is own words as my wife and I were both present in his car. I was waiting for him to say shut down the transmitter to confirm that our radio transmitter was the cause of the presented blanketing issue – he never requested it to be shut down. So I must say that that report is not conclusive in its findings. One of the spots identified was by the little dock near the turtle farm and if you move out of that spot which is about three feet and full of interference from C U C transmission line there would be no foot print. The next spot is by the turtle farm where thousands of turtles live. What was very disappointing was the fact that no test was done in the highly populated areas of West Bay where the majority of the people live. This makes me question the validity of this test that was carried out. I am not questioning the expertise or the professionalism in which Mr. Maxson carried out his duties, but it does make me wonder about the results of the test itself. The various low signal and blackout (foot prints) represented by the very colourful bar graphs and charts showed that our transmitter was causing blanketing in the West Bay area, when in fact during the time of the short blackout spot(s) the transmitter was not even powered up.

Mr. Maxson also stated that he did several surveys here in Cayman since Hurricane Ivan but I am not aware of any being done for West Point Radio 94.3 FM.

We have cited above several concerns that we have with the actual report on the blanketing and interference issues submitted by Mr. Maxson. And please understand that this is no bad reflection on Mr. Maxson himself – he was very descent and honourable in his dealing with us and

has carried out his duties in the most professional manner and for this we are very grateful.

In closing:

We don't know if you can appreciate the frustrations we feel in experiencing all the set backs and lost applications and request to submit and re-submit information due to various reasons. But it has been a very long struggle from 1996 until now. We have submitted everything that we were asked to submit, paid the applications fees and were given an *approval in principle* and to date cannot understand why we are being held back. My wife and I have sacrificed our time and monetary resources to this project and many individuals along with us are anxiously waiting to hear some good word.

We have watched for many many years, other stations coming up and getting approval with frequencies right beside ours even while our application was still pending. Now we are being told that we are a part of the blanketing problem that other stations are causing in the George Town area and are being linked to the role out policy. This is the precise reason why we opted to position our tower/antennae in West Bay – six miles out of Town. A study was conducted (as requested by the ICTA) by an overseas consultant to show where our transmission would not pose a problem and subsequently it did not at the time of the study nor do we perceive it to be a problem presently.

I do not present myself as any expert, but I do know a little about radio transmissions and I feel very strongly that we have not been given a fair chance to operate our radio station 94.3 FM. We have had our ad in the telephone directory for several years now and obtained telephone numbers for the station with the first 3 digits of 943 since receiving the *approval in principle* and would like for our dream to become a reality.

We, Locksley and Carol Gould, are saying that this has taken too many years, too many setbacks and costing a lot of valuable time and finances and we therefore humbly beg that the Board allow us to move forward like the others so we can bring valuable programming and health messages to our Beloved Cayman Islands.

In Jesus name, we thank you and God bless you all!

Respectfully submitted,

Locksley and Carol Gould  
WestPoint Radio 94.3 FM