

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
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**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

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September 23, 2008

Jeffrey D. Southmayd, Esq.  
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1220 19th Street NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Houston Christian Broadcasters, Inc.  
KHCB (AM), Galveston, Texas  
Facility Identification Number: 27703  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to two requests filed September 22, 2008, on behalf of Houston Christian Broadcasters, Inc. ("HCB"). HCB requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KHCB pursuant to Section 73.1615.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, HCB states that it is in the process of completing construction of modified KHCB facilities as authorized by Construction Permit BMJP-20050118ACX, and that the licensed site was damaged by Hurricane Ike and is no longer available for use.

Section 73.1615, which governs operation during modification of facilities, provides that AM licensees holding construction permits which involve directional facilities may discontinue operation, may operate with reduced power or with parameters at variance from licensed tolerances while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits, may operate in nondirectional mode during presently licensed hours of directional operation with power reduced to 25% of licensed directional power, may operate during daytime hours only in nondirectional mode with power reduced to 25% of construction permit directional power only as necessary to conduct nondirectional proof measurements, may operate during daytime hours with the substantially adjusted daytime or nighttime directional facilities authorized by the permit and with the power authorized by the permit only as necessary to take proof of performance measurements. Operating power shall be reduced to currently licensed levels when proof measurements are not being taken.

Our review indicates that the request complies with Section 73.1615.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station KHCB may operate pursuant to Section 73.1615 and the terms and conditions of Construction Permit BMJP-20050118ACX. In particular, the following modes of operation are authorized:

- 1) With the substantially adjusted directional pattern and power authorized by the permit.
- 2) With a nondirectional antenna and reduced power not to exceed 0.25 kilowatt.

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<sup>1</sup> KHCB is licensed for operation at Galveston, Texas, on 1400 kHz with 1 kilowatt daytime and 1 kilowatt nighttime, employing a nondirectional antenna (ND-2-U). Construction Permit BMJP-20050118ACX authorizes relocation of the station to League City, relocation of the transmitter, and operation with a directional antenna (DA-1-U).

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. HCB must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **March 23, 2009**.

**STA Advisory:** Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest." However, Section 309(f) is not a means by which a licensee/permittee may circumvent established processing procedures which require the filing of an application, nor is it a means by which a broadcaster may enhance his facility or make operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. Any request for extension of special temporary authorities carries an increased burden with each subsequent request.

Therefore, requests for extension of STA will be granted only where the licensee can show that one or more of the following criteria have been met:

- Restoration of licensed facilities is complete and testing is underway;
- Substantial progress has been made during the most recent STA period toward restoration of licensed operation; or
- No progress has been made during the most recent STA period for reasons clearly beyond the licensee's control, and the licensee has taken all possible steps to expeditiously resolve the problem.

Sincerely,



Charles N. Miller, Engineer  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Houston Christian Broadcasters, Inc.