



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

May 5, 2022

Saga Communications of New England, LLC  
73 Kercheval Ave.  
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Re: Saga Communications of New  
England, LLC  
WIZZ(AM), Greenfield, MA  
Fac. ID No.: 54799  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed April 27, 2022 on behalf of Saga Communications of New England, LLC ("Saga"). Saga requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WIZZ(AM) from an alternate site location with a temporary antenna.<sup>1</sup>

In support of the request, Saga states that the existing licensed two tower array is being decommissioned and the station is being forced to vacate the property. Therefore, the station is requesting STA to resume operation from its authorized construction permit (BP-20210723AAI) site. The construction permit authorizes the diplexing of WIZZ(AM) into the existing WHMQ(AM) non-directional tower.

Specifically, WIZZ(AM) proposes STA operation during daytime hours only, using a temporary HPR0990 AM antenna (center-loaded, bottom fed, vertical whip antenna) installed on the WIZZ(AM) transmitter building. Non-directional operation is proposed with a reduced power of 0.15 kilowatt.

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area<sup>2</sup> without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

Accordingly, the request for STA is GRANTED. Station WIZZ(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

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<sup>1</sup> WIZZ(AM) is licensed for operation on 1520 kHz with a daytime-only power of 10 kilowatts, employing a directional antenna pattern (DAD-D). The station is also authorized by construction permit to operate from an alternate site location with a daytime power of 1 kilowatt and a critical hours power of 0.16 kilowatt, employing a non-directional antenna pattern.

<sup>2</sup> For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

Geographic coordinates	42° 35' 21" N, 72° 37' 06" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	1520 KHz
Hours of operation	Daytime
Operating power	0.15 kilowatt (Daytime)
Antenna type	HPR0990 center-loaded, bottom fed, vertical whip
Radiator height	31 feet (9.5 meters)
Electrical height of radiator	16.6 degrees
Theoretical RMS	155.5 mV/m/kW at 1 km

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WIZZ(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WIZZ(AM) 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 **November 1, 2022**.

**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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "J" and a long, sweeping tail.

Jerome J. Manarchuck  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Gary S. Smithwick, Esq. (via email only)