

## Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

July 8, 2022

Puerto Rico Public Broadcasting Corporation P.O. Box 190909 San Juan, PR 00919-0909

> Re: Puerto Rico Public Broadcasting Corporation WIPR(AM), San Juan, PR Fac. ID No.: 53861 Special Temporary Authority

## Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed May 25, 2022, on behalf of Puerto Rico Public Broadcasting Corporation ("PRPBC"). PRPBC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WIPR(AM) from its authorized construction permit site. In support of the request, PRPBC states that the station has been operating under a series of STAs from the transmitter site associated with station WKAQ(AM), San Juan, PR since 1998. However, the station is now requesting operation from its authorized construction permit site.

Specifically, WIPR(AM) requests STA to operate non-directionally from its authorized construction permit site which is located 9.2 kilometers (5.7 miles) from the licensed WIPR(AM) site. It is proposed to operate from an existing 79.2 meters (260 foot) tower with a daytime power of 3 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 1.8 kilowatts. The antenna structure registration number (ASRN) for the existing tower is 1025613.

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 however the <u>daytime power must not exceed 1.5 kilowatts</u> and <u>the nighttime power must not exceed 0.95 kilowatt</u>. Station WIPR(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

<sup>1</sup> WIPR(AM) is licensed for operation on 940 kHz with a daytime and nighttime power of 10 kilowatts, employing different directional antenna patterns (DA2-U). WIPR(AM) is also authorized by construction permit on 940 kHz from an alternate site with a daytime power of 3 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 1.9 kilowatts, employing a non-directional antenna pattern.

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

Geographic coordinates 18° 23′ 00″ N, 66° 04′ 01″ W (NAD 1927)

Frequency 940 KHz

Hours of operation Daytime and Nighttime

Operating power 1.5 kilowatts (Daytime), 0.95 kilowatt (Nighttime)

Antenna type Existing 79.2 meter (260 foot) tower

Antenna radiator height 79.2 meters ASRN 1025613

Antenna efficiency 273.16 mV/m/kW at 1 kilometer

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WIPR(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WIPR(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 January 4, 2023.

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,

Jerome J. Manarchuck

Audio Division Media Bureau

cc: Mark B. Denbo, Esq. (via email only)