



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

February 13, 2023

Southern Broadcasting, LLC
414 Wilson Dam Rd.
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

Re: Southern Broadcasting, LLC
WTKI(AM), Huntsville, AL
Fac. ID No.: 30965
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed February 6, 2023, on behalf of Southern Broadcasting, LLC ("SBL"). SBL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WTKI(AM) from an alternate site location with an Information Station Specialists HPR.0990 antenna.¹ In support of the request, SBL states that station WTKI(AM) has lost its STA site and is requesting an STA to operate temporarily from a new site location while construction on its new authorized facility (BP-20200811AAA) continues.

Specifically, WTKI(AM) requests daytime and nighttime operation from the proposed site which is located 0.3 mile away from the licensed WTKI(AM) site. The station proposes to operate using an HPR.0990 antenna mounted 15 feet above ground and bolted to a pole. Operation is proposed with a reduced power of 250 watts.

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 area² 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 WTKI(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	34° 43' 38" N, 86° 35' 58" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	1450 kHz
Hours of operation	Unlimited
Operating power	0.25 kilowatt (Unlimited hours)
Antenna type	Information Station Specialists HPR.0990 antenna

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are

¹ WTKI(AM) is licensed for operation on 1450 kHz with an unlimited-hours power of 1 kilowatt, employing a non-directional antenna pattern (ND1-U).

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

received. WTKI(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WTKI(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 **August 12, 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: Dan J. Alpert, Esq. (via email)