

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

March 24, 2023

Riverside Communications, LLC 708 E. Cedar St. Lamar, CO 81052

Re: Riverside Communications, LLC

KLMR(AM), Lamar, CO

Fac. ID No.: 174

Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed March 23, 2023, on behalf of Riverside Communications, LLC ("RCL"). RCL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station KLMR(AM) with temporary non-directional facilities.¹

In support of the request, RCL states that the studio building and transmission facilities of KLMR(AM) took significant damage during a storm in late July 2022, and KLMR(AM) has been silent ever since. Earlier this month, RCL acquired the licenses of KLMR(AM) and KLMR-FM and is working diligently to return both stations to service. In connection with the acquisition of the station license, RCL has secured the right to broadcast from the smaller of the two towers that make up the nighttime licensed array. Thus, in order to get back on the air, the station is requesting non-directional operation during daytime and nighttime hours from KLMR(AM)'s shorter tower. An STA is requested for non-directional operation with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.125 kilowatt in accordance with Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules.

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provide for operation with emergency antenna facilities provided that an informal request for continued used of an emergency antenna is filed with the Commission within 24 hours. In particular, Section 73.1680(b)(1) states that AM stations may use a horizontal or vertical wire or a nondirectional vertical element of a directional antenna as an emergency antenna. AM stations using an emergency nondirectional antenna or a horizontal or vertical wire pursuant to this section, in lieu of authorized directional facilities, shall operate with power reduced to 25% or less of the nominal licensed power, or, a higher power, not exceeding licensed power, while insuring that the radiated field strength does not exceed that authorized in any given azimuth for the corresponding hours of directional operation.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. 2 Station KLMR(AM) may operate

¹ KLMR(AM) is licensed for operation on 920 kHz with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.5 kilowatt, employing a directional antenna pattern at night (DAN-U).

² Periods of operation pursuant to this STA shall be recorded in the station's records (see 47 CFR § 73.1820). The records shall include start/stop dates and times of such operation. These log entries must be maintained for a minimum of two years as specified in 47 CFR § 73.1840(a), unless a longer retention period is requested by the staff. Periods of operation may be subject to independent verification that they in fact occurred.

non-directionally from tower #1 of its licensed nighttime directional array with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.125 kilowatt. The tower that will be used has an electrical height of 88°. It will be necessary to further reduce or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. KLMR(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 September 20, 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: Derek Teslik, Esq. (via email only)