



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

July 31, 2023

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 July 5, 2023, 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.¹ 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, on July 8, 2022 the station was granted an STA from its authorized construction permit site. The STA authorized WIPR(AM) to operate non-directionally from its construction permit site with a daytime power of 1.5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.9 kilowatt.

The station has received interference complaints from Mr. Jorge G. Blanco, and therefore the station is requesting continued operation from the construction permit site but with the daytime power reduced from 1.5 kilowatts to 1 kilowatt. Mr. Blanco has claimed that due to the co-location of stations WIPR(AM) and WSKN(AM), station WMIA(AM) has been receiving intermodulation interference. PRPBC and Mr. Blanco have come to an agreement whereby WIPR(AM) would operate at 1 kW daytime (down from 1.5 kW), and 0.95 kw at night (unchanged) for a temporary period, until the station is able to make all measurements and adjustments. Thus, WIPR(AM) is requesting STA to continue to operate from its authorized construction permit site but with its daytime power reduced to 1 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

¹ 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.

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.³ Station WIPR(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	18° 23' 00" N, 66° 04' 01" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	940 KHz
Hours of operation	Daytime and Nighttime
Operating power	1 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 27, 2024**.

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.

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

³ 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.

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 dark ink, reading "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerome" and last name "Manarchuck" clearly legible.

Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

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