

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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January 25, 2007

Harry C. Martin, Esq.
Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, P.L.C.
1300 North 17th Street, 11th Floor
Arlington, Virginia 22209-3801

Re: WHOW (AM), Clinton, Illinois
Facility Identification Number: 13900
WHOW Radio, LLC
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed January 16, 2007, on behalf of WHOW Radio, LLC ("WRL"). WRL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WHOW (AM) with emergency antenna facilities pursuant to Section 73.1680.¹ In support of the request, WRL states that the station's tower collapsed due to adverse weather conditions.² WRL requests STA for continued operation with an emergency long wire antenna which has been installed at the licensed site.

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provides for operation with emergency antenna facilities following damage to authorized antenna systems, provided that an informal request for continued use of an emergency antenna is filed with the Commission within 24 hours. In particular, Section 73.1680(b)(1) provides that AM stations may use a horizontal or vertical wire as an emergency antenna.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WHOW may continue to operate from its licensed site with an emergency long wire antenna. It will be necessary to reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WRL must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WRL 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 **July 25, 2007**.

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

¹ WHOW is licensed for operation on 1520 kHz with 5 kilowatts (1 kilowatt critical hours), daytime hours only, employing a nondirectional antenna (ND-D-D).

² A similar request was filed on January 10, 2007, and granted on January 18, 2007, for co-located and commonly owned Station WHOW-FM.


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 dark ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Miller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: WHOW Radio, LLC