

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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October 13, 2009

Ronnie L. Boothe, President
E&R Broadcasting, Inc.
1101 Cameron Road
Opp, Alabama 36467

Re: E&R Broadcasting, Inc.
WOPP (AM), Opp, Alabama
Facility Identification Number: 17829
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Mr. Boothe:

This is in reference to the request filed October 8, 2009, on behalf of E&R Broadcasting, Inc. ("E&R"). E&R requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WOPP with temporary facilities.¹ In support of the request, E&R states that the control circuitry which switches between daytime and nighttime directional antenna patterns is defective and must be repaired. In the interim, E&R requests STA for operation during daytime hours with the licensed nighttime directional pattern and power.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WOPP may operate during daytime hours with the licensed nighttime directional pattern and power, as necessary to maintain operation pending restoration of full licensed facilities. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. E&R must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.² E&R 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 13, 2010**.

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

¹ WOPP is licensed for operation on 1290 kHz with 2.5 kilowatts daytime and 0.5 kilowatt nighttime, employing different directional antenna patterns daytime and nighttime (DA-2-U).

² *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.61(b).

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 blue ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Miller".

Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: E&R Broadcasting, Inc.