

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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AUDIO DIVISION
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January 25, 2010

David D. Burns, Esq.
Latham & Watkins, LLP
555 Eleventh Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20004-1304

Re: KHXT(FM), Erath, Louisiana
Facility Identification Number: 54650
Regent Broadcasting of Lafayette, LLC
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed January 21, 2010, on behalf of Regent Broadcasting of Lafayette, LLC ("RBL"). RBL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KHXT with an emergency antenna.¹ In support of the request, RBL states that the station experienced equipment failure and went off the air on January 16, 2010. RBL states that operation was restored on January 19, 2010, with an emergency antenna mounted on the licensed tower 268 meters above ground level and reduced effective radiated power. RBL requests STA for continued use of the emergency antenna.

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)(2) provides that FM and TV stations may erect any suitable radiator, or use operable sections of the authorized antenna(s) as an emergency antenna. Our review indicates that the request complies with Section 73.1680.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station KHXT may continue to operate with emergency antenna facilities as described above. RBL must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. RBL 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, 2010**.

¹ KHXT is licensed for operation on Channel 300C1 (107.9 MHz) with effective radiated power of 100 kilowatts (H&V) and antenna height above average terrain of 263 meters.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue 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: Regent Broadcasting of Lafayette, LLC