

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

**445 12th STREET, S.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20554**

September 3, 2009

In Reply Refer to:
1800B3

Mr. James Honeycutt, Faculty Advisor
Staples High School
70 North Avenue
Westport, CT 06880

In re: WWPT(FM), Westport, CT
Facility ID No. 72035
Request for Special Temporary
Authorization

Dear Mr. Honeycutt:

This letter refers to the August 26, 2009, request for Special Temporary Authorization (“STA”) filed on behalf of the Westport Board of Education (“Westport”), licensee of expired Station WWPT(FM), Westport, Connecticut.

An application for renewal of WWPT(FM)’s license should have been filed by December 1, 2005. No such application was filed, and the station’s license expired on April 1, 2006. Westport explains the failure to file a license renewal application for WWPT(FM) was inadvertent and, when it realized this oversight, contacted Commission staff to assist it in preparing a renewal application for WWPT(FM).¹ Westport requests permission to continue WWPT(FM) operations pending consideration of its ostensibly untimely license renewal application.

Under Section 309(f) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. Section 309(f), when an appropriate application has been filed, the Commission may grant special temporary authorization if it finds that there are extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary operations in the public interest and that delay in the institution of such temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest. In this case, we believe that the public interest in continuing WWPT(FM)’s noncommercial educational broadcast service to Westport, Connecticut, warrants resumed operation of the station pending consideration and disposition of the (untimely) renewal application.

Accordingly, the August 26, 2009, request for Special Temporary Authorization filed by the Westport Board of Education IS GRANTED, and it may continue operation of WWPT(FM), Westport, Connecticut, with the facilities for which the license expired on April 1, 2006. This authorization will expire (1) 180 days from the date of this letter; or (2) upon action on the

¹ File No. BRED-20090826ABA.

pending WWPT(FM) license renewal application, whichever is sooner. Grant of this authorization is without prejudice to whatever action, if any, the staff deems appropriate in light of the failure to file a timely license renewal application for WWPT(FM).

Sincerely,

Peter H. Doyle
Chief, Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Westport Board of Education