

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
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July 19, 2010

Lee J. Peltzman, Esq.  
Shainis & Peltzman  
1850 M Street NW, Suite 240  
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Hatfield McCoy Communications, Inc.  
WVKM(FM), Matewan, West Virginia  
Facility Identification Number: 67039  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed July 16, 2010, on behalf of Hatfield McCoy Communications, Inc. ("HMC"). HMC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WVKM with emergency antenna facilities pursuant to Section 73.1680.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, HMC states that the station's transmitter and antenna have been damaged by lightning. HMC requests STA for operation from the licensed site with reduced power and antenna height, using a temporary transmitter and an 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.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WVKM may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates:	37° 36' 49" N, 82° 11' 22" W (NAD 1927)
Channel	294 (106.7 MHz)
Effective radiated power:	1.0 kilowatt (H&V)
Antenna height:	
above ground:	17 meters
above mean sea level:	590 meters
Above average terrain:	217 meters

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<sup>1</sup> WVKM is licensed for operation on Channel 294C3 (106.7 MHz) with effective radiated power of 4.3 kilowatts (H&V) and antenna height above average terrain of 229 meters.

HMC must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. HMC 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 19, 2011**.

**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,



Charles N. Miller, Engineer  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Hatfield McCoy Communications, Inc.