

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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October 18, 2010

John C. Trent, Esq.
Putbrese Hunsaker & Trent, P.C.
200 South Church Street
Woodstock, Virginia 22664

Re: Buddy Tucker Association, Inc.
WMOB (AM), Mobile, Alabama
Facility Identification Number: 7740
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed October 14, 2010, on behalf of Buddy Tucker Association, Inc. ("BTA"). BTA requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WMOB with an emergency nondirectional antenna and reduced power from a site other than the licensed site.¹ In support of the request, BTA states that the construction of several large warehouses on property adjacent to the WMOB antenna system has made it impossible to maintain licensed parameters, and that one of its towers was accidentally knocked down during the construction. BTA states that it has located a new site for the station and has filed Construction Permit Application BP-20101012AEM. BTA requests STA for operation from the new site with a temporary nondirectional antenna and reduced power.

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 using an emergency nondirectional antenna in lieu of authorized directional facilities shall operate with power reduced to 25 percent or less of the nominal licensed power, or a higher power, not exceeding licensed power, while insuring that the radiated field strength does not exceed that authorized in any given azimuth.

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service² to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as

¹ WMOB is licensed for operation on 1360 kHz with 5 kilowatts daytime and 0.212 kilowatt nighttime, employing different directional antenna patterns daytime and nighttime (DA-2-U). Application BP-20101012AEM proposes relocation of the transmitter, an increase in daytime power to 9 kW, a reduction in nighttime power to 0.2 kW and changes to the daytime and nighttime directional patterns.

² For AM - 5 mV/m; for commercial FM - 3.16 mV/m; for noncommercial educational FM - 1.0 mV/m.

practicable, the licensed service area³ without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation complies with Section 73.1680, and that the extension of the daytime 0.5 mV/m contour beyond the licensed contour is not significantly different from that which would be produced by an emergency nondirectional antenna at the licensed site.

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

Transmitter site:	Former WLTV site, 2018 U.S. 90, Mobile, Alabama
Coordinates:	30° 40' 54" NL 88° 00' 02" WL (NAD 1927)
Frequency:	1360 kHz
Operating hours:	Unlimited
Operating power:	Not to exceed 1.25 kW daytime, 0.05 kW nighttime
Antenna:	Existing WLTV south tower (north tower to be floated)
Overall height	59.9 meters
Radiator height	93.6° (57.3 meters)
Antenna efficiency:	298 mV/m/km/kW ⁴

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. BTA 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. The authority granted herein is without prejudice as to the Commission's action on Application BP-20101012AEM. Any construction undertaken pursuant to this authority is entirely at BTA's own risk.

This authority expires on **April 18, 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

³ For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

⁴ millivolts per meter at one kilometer for one kilowatt input power

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: Buddy Tucker Association, Inc.