

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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January 25, 2011

Ernest T. Sanchez, Esq.
2300 M Street NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20037

Re: Marfa Public Radio
KRTS(FM), Marfa, Texas
Facility Identification Number: 164217
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed January 18, 2011, on behalf of Marfa Public Radio ("MPR"). MPR requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KRTS with temporary facilities. For reasons which are discussed below, the request is denied.

Station KRTS is licensed for operation with effective radiated power ("ERP") of 5.35 kW, and antenna height above average terrain of 435 meters. MPR holds Construction Permit BPED-2008092AFM, which authorizes an increase in ERP to 39 kW, employing a directional antenna, with no change in antenna location or height. MPR states that the existing tower will not support the directional antenna authorized by the permit, and requests STA for operation from the licensed site with increased ERP of 19 kW, nondirectional, until a new directional pattern can be designed and an application for modification of the permit can be filed and processed. MPR states that it would then immediately build the directional facilities.

Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation would result in substantial extension of the 60 dBu contour beyond the currently licensed contour, in contravention of our STA policies and the provisions of Section 73.1615, which governs operation during modification of facilities. The power increase which MPR seeks should be considered within the context of an application for construction permit. Our review further indicates that nothing prevents Station KRTS from continuing to operate with its licensed facilities.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS DENIED. This action is taken pursuant to 47 CFR Section 0.283. The action taken herein does not preclude MPR from filing an application for modification of its construction permit to specify operation with the facilities requested.

Sincerely,



Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Marfa Public Radio