

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
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May 3, 2011

Bessie P. Hammond  
North Alabama Public Service Broadcasters  
830 Hillsdale Road  
Jasper, Alabama 35504

Re: North Alabama Public Service Broadcasters  
WQJJ-LP, Jasper, Alabama  
Facility Identification Number: 135721  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Ms. Hammond:

This is in reference to the request filed May 3, 2011, on behalf of North Alabama Public Service Broadcasters ("NAPSB"). NAPSB requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Low Power FM Station WQJJ-LP with increased power.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, NAPSB states that recent tornado activity in the vicinity of Jasper, Alabama has resulted in approximately 70% destruction of several nearby towns. NAPSB states that WQJJ-LP is the only radio station currently on the air in Walker County, Alabama, which is broadcasting emergency information to the Public and that it is cooperating with local emergency management officials regarding efforts to locate survivors, maintain food and water supplies and whatever other information the Walker County Emergency Management deems appropriate. NAPSB states that its licensed power does not provide adequate service to the area of devastation, and requests STA for operation with increased effective radiated power ("ERP").

Requests for operation with increased power in excess of licensed power are not ordinarily granted, however, the particular circumstances of this case persuade us that grant of the requested STA is in the Public Interest. The violent storms which recently struck the Southeastern United States, Particularly in the state of Alabama, resulted in widespread death and destruction. It is critical that communications be maintained to survivors within the devastated areas and, in the particular case of Walker County, Station WQJJ-LP is uniquely situated to provide such communications. However, it is our policy that emergency communications must not cause interference to licensed service in nearby communities. Our engineering review indicates that the proposed STA operation with ERP of 250 watts would result in predicted interference to Station WKXM-FM, Winfield, Alabama. However, if the ERP is reduced to 150 watts, the interference would be eliminated. STA will be granted with a reduction in ERP to 150 watts.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED, with a power reduction as discussed above. Station WQJJ-LP may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates: 33° 52' 42" N, 87° 17' 02" W (NAD 1927)  
Channel 249 (97.7 MHz)  
Effective radiated power: **Not to exceed 0.15 kilowatt (H&V)**

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<sup>1</sup> WQJJ-LP is licensed for operation on Channel 249L1 (97.7 MHz) with effective radiated power of 0.053 kilowatt (H&V) and antenna height above average terrain of 41 meters.

Antenna height:

above ground:	32 meters
above mean sea level:	184 meters
above average terrain:	41 meters

NAPSB must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. NAPSB 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 will terminate at the conclusion of the emergency conditions described above and, if not so terminated earlier, expires on **August 3, 2011**. No extension of this authority is contemplated.

**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: North Alabama Public Service Broadcasters