FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20554

August 10, 2011

IN REPLY REFER TO: 1800B3-VM

Dr. Ishmail A. Conway Virginia State University P.O. Box 9067 Petersburg, VA 23806

In re: WVST-FM, Petersburg, VA

Facility ID No. 70377 Silent since July 6, 2011

Request for Special Temporary Authority to Remain Silent

Dear Dr. Conway:

This letter concerns the request you filed on July 15, 2011, on behalf of Virginia State University ("VSU"), for Special Temporary Authority to permit Radio Station WVST-FM to remain silent.

VSU's request states that Station WVST-FM went silent on July 6, 2011, because of storm damage to its transmitter. VSU's request includes the appropriate certification regarding Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.¹

VSU's request will be granted. Accordingly, Special Temporary Authority is granted to permit Station WVST-FM to remain silent not to exceed 180 days from the date of this letter. Notwithstanding the grant of this Special Temporary Authority, the broadcast license for Station WVST-FM will automatically expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not commence by 12:01 a.m., July 7, 2012.² See Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 312(g).

¹ In the event extension of special temporary authority is sought, please renew the certification in this matter.

² In addition to filing electronically with the Commission on the date operations resume, notification of resumption of broadcast operations must be emailed to <u>Denise.Williams@FCC.gov</u>.

The station's silent status does not suspend the licensee's obligation to comply with all other relevant Commission rules, including the filing, when appropriate, of applications for renewal of broadcast license. Finally, we note that it is imperative to the safety of air navigation that any prescribed painting and illumination of the station's tower shall be maintained until removed. *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 17.6 and 73.1740(a)(4).

Sincerely,

H. Taft Snowdon Supervisory Attorney Audio Division Media Bureau