

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
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**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

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October 21, 2011

Wolfgang Kurtz  
Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc.  
33282 Brown's Lake Road  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Re: Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc.  
KIBH-FM, Seward, Alaska  
Facility Identification Number: 176521  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Mr. Kurtz:

This is in reference to the request filed October 20, 2011, on behalf of Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc. ("AERS"). AERS requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KIBH-FM with temporary facilities.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, AERS states that Station KIBH-FM was required to relocate its antenna supporting structure at the request of the landlord, and that it has relocated its antenna to a higher elevation in order to accommodate the need of Station KSEW(FM) to use the tower space formerly used by KIBH-FM. AERS states that it has filed a minor change application for the foregoing changes. AERS further states that its transmitter requires servicing, and that it is operating with alternative equipment until its transmitter is returned to operation.

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 service<sup>2</sup> to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area<sup>3</sup> 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 the foregoing criteria.

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

Geographic coordinates:	60° 09' 42" N, 149° 23' 30" W (NAD 1927)
Channel	219 (91.7 MHz)
Effective radiated power:	0.4 kilowatt (H only)

<sup>1</sup> KIBH-FM is licensed for operation on Channel 219A (91.7 MHz) with effective radiated power of 1 kilowatt (H only) and antenna height above average terrain of -475 meters.

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

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

Antenna height:  
above ground: 33 meters  
above mean sea level: 118 meters  
above average terrain: -501 meters

AERS must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. AERS 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 **April 21, 2012**.

**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.

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Sincerely,



Charles N. Miller, Engineer  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc.