

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20554**

December 29, 2011

**IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1800B3-VM**

Audrey P. Rasmussen, Esq.  
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Washington, DC 20036-3046

**In re: WEGA(AM), Vega Baja, PR**  
Facility ID No. 69853  
Silent since September 10, 2011

Request for Special Temporary  
Authority to Remain Silent

Dear Ms. Rasmussen:

This letter concerns the request you filed on November 15, 2011, on behalf of A Radio Company, Inc. ("ARC"), for Special Temporary Authority to permit AM Radio Station WEGA to remain silent.

ARC's request states that Station WEGA(AM) went silent on September 10, 2011, because of hurricane damage to its transmitter. The request includes the appropriate certification regarding Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.<sup>1</sup>

ARC's request is granted. Accordingly, Special Temporary Authority is granted to permit Station WEGA(AM) 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 WEGA(AM) will automatically expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not commence by 12:01 a.m., September 11, 2012.**<sup>2</sup> See Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 312(g).

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. Additionally, 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).

Finally, Section 73.1740(a)(4) of the Commission's Rules permits licensees to discontinue operations for good cause, and for a period not to exceed 30 days without further authority. See 47 C.F.R. §73.1740(a)(4). This rule requires that the licensee notify the Commission by letter "not later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of limited or discontinued operations," and if operations are not able to commence by the 10<sup>th</sup> day, "informal written request shall be made to the FCC no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> day for such additional time as may be deemed necessary." ARC failed to submit a timely request for an STA to permit Station

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

<sup>2</sup> In addition to filing electronically with the Commission on the date operations resume, notification of resumption of broadcast operations must be emailed to [Denise.Williams@FCC.gov](mailto:Denise.Williams@FCC.gov).

WEGA(AM) to remain silent beyond October 10, 2011, and the action taken herein shall not be construed as authorizing the station to remain silent between October 10, 2011 and November 15, 2011.<sup>3</sup>

Sincerely,



Lisa A. Scanlan  
Assistant Chief, Audio Division  
Media Bureau

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<sup>3</sup> ARC notes that on October 2, 2011, it attempted to notify the Commission of its silent status by sending a letter to the FCC Bank Lockbox in St. Louis, and attaches a copy to its application. That letter was not properly filed and was not forwarded to the Audio Division. Since no fee is required, such requests must be filed with the Office of the Secretary, or with the Audio Division directly. Accordingly, we consider the STA request to be late filed.