

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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MEDIA BUREAU
AUDIO DIVISION
APPLICATION STATUS: (202) 418-2730
HOME PAGE: www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/

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May 7, 2012

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

Re: KWMD(FM), Sterling, Alaska
Facility Identification Number: 93589
Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc.
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Mr. Kurtz:

This is in reference to the request filed May 1, 2012, on behalf of Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc. ("AERS"). AERS requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KWMD with temporary facilities.¹ For reasons which are set forth herein, the request is denied.

The STA request proposed operation on the channel and at the site specified by Construction Permit BPED-20111014ADA. However, Special Operating Conditions #2 and #3 of the permit preclude program test authority ("PTA") operation with the specified facilities until PTA is granted by the Commission, following submission of the results of measurements which indicate compliance with the Commission's radio frequency exposure limits. To date no such measurements have been submitted, nor has PTA been granted.² For these reasons, STA cannot be granted as requested.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS DENIED. This action is taken pursuant to 47 CFR Section 0.283.

¹ KWMD is licensed for operation on Channel 211A (90.1 MHz) with effective radiated power ("ERP") of 1.2 kilowatts (H only) and antenna height above average terrain ("HAAT") of 6 meters. Construction Permit BPED-20111014ADA authorizes a change in frequency and class upgrade to Channel 209C3 (89.7 MHz) relocation of the transmitter, an increase in ERP to 8 kW (V only) and an increase in HAAT to 61 meters.

² License Application BLED-20110516ABX indicated that an engineering exhibit with RFR measurements was attached; however, the referenced exhibit was not submitted with the application. Also, the application was dismissed by the staff at the applicant's request on February 24, 2012.

The station's license will expire as a matter of law upon twelve consecutive months of silence. See Pub. Law No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, Section 403(1) (1996) and *Order, Silent Station Authorizations*, FCC 96-218 (released May 17, 1996). See also *Public Notice, Expedited Processing of Applications Filed by Silent Stations*, DA 96-818 (May 22, 1996). The licensee must notify the Audio Division immediately upon resumption of broadcasting.³

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Miller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc.

³ The request indicates that operation with the permit facilities was terminated on January 9, 2012, when a windstorm overturned the transmitter building. However, as discussed above, operation with the permit facilities was unauthorized and therefore did not break the station's silence. Therefore, contrary to the representations made in the request, our records indicate that Station KWMD has been silent since it ceased operation with its licensed facilities. Our records do not show the precise date that operation with the licensed facilities ceased; however they indicate that this date falls between May 10 and May 12, 2011. It is therefore strongly recommended that the station be brought back into operation with its licensed facilities prior to the anniversary date of its silence, and that the Commission be immediately notified of the resumption of operation. The notification should include evidence such as copies of the station's log for the pertinent dates to support both the date it ceased operation with licensed facilities and the date it resumed such operation.