

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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November 6, 2012

Peter Gutmann, Esq.  
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP  
1200 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Fifth Floor  
Washington, DC 20036

Re: WASG(AM), Daphne, Alabama  
Facility Identification Number: 51141  
Alabama Radio Corporation  
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed November 2, 2012, on behalf of Alabama Radio Corporation ("ARC"). ARC requests special temporary authority ("STA") for operation of Station WASG with temporary facilities.<sup>1</sup>

In support of the request, ARC states that the licensed tower became structurally unsound and was dismantled, and that the station has been silent since October 19, 2012. ARC requests STA for operation from the licensed site with a temporary, trailer-mounted, telescoping tower and reduced power.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WASG may operate from its licensed site with a temporary tower and reduced power. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. ARC 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 **May 6, 2013**.

Notwithstanding the grant of this STA or the expiration date specified herein, 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.

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<sup>1</sup> WASG is licensed for operation on 550 kHz with 2.5 kilowatts daytime and 0.19 kilowatt nighttime, employing a nondirectional antenna (ND-1-U).

**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: Alabama Radio Corporation