

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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November 19, 2012

John Crigler, Esq.
Garvey Schubert Barer
1000 Potomac Street NW, Fifth Floor
Washington, DC 20007

Re: Town of Monroe, Connecticut
WGRS(FM), Guilford, Connecticut
Facility Identification Number: 43527
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed November 16, 2012, on behalf of Town of Monroe, Connecticut ("TMC"). TMC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WGRS with temporary facilities.¹ In support of the request, TMC states that it holds Construction Permit BPED-20120521ABE, to relocate the station's transmitter to a new, nearby tower, but that the new directional antenna specified in the permit is not yet available. TMC states that it has been advised that the old tower must be removed immediately, and requests STA for operation from the new tower with increased antenna elevation and reduced power, until the new antenna is delivered and installed.

Section 73.1615, which governs operation during modification of facilities, provides that licensees holding construction permits for modification of directional or nondirectional FM and TV or nondirectional AM facilities may discontinue operation or may operate with temporary facilities to maintain, as nearly as possible, but not exceed, the size of the currently licensed coverage area. Such operation may commence upon notification to the FCC, and may continue for a period not exceeding 30 days. Should it be necessary to continue such operation beyond 30 days, a request for STA must be filed prior to the 30th day. Our review indicates that the proposed operation complies with Section 73.1615.

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

Geographic coordinates:	41° 17' 19" N, 72° 39' 32" W (NAD 1927)
Channel	218 (91.5 MHz)
Effective radiated power:	0.46 kilowatt (H&V)
Antenna height:	

¹ WGRS is licensed for operation on Channel 218A (91.5 MHz) with effective radiated power ("ERP") of 3.1 kilowatts (H&V) and antenna height above average terrain ("HAAT") of 25 meters. Construction Permit BPED-20120521ABE authorizes slight relocation of the transmitter, installation of a directional antenna, an increase in ERP to 6 kilowatts (Max-DA, H&V) and an increase in HAAT to 30 meters.

above ground:	46 meters
above mean sea level:	71 meters
above average terrain:	36 meters

TMC 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 19, 2013**.

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: Town of Monroe, Connecticut