## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION 445 TWELFTH STREET SW WASHINGTON DC 20554

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March 26, 2013

Lawrence Bernstein, Esq, 3510 Springland Lane NW Washington, D.C. 20008

Re: KPSC(FM), Palm Springs, California

University of Southern California Facility Identification Number: 69394

Special Temporary Authority

BSTA-20130319ACZ

## Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed March 19, 2013, on behalf of University of Southern California ("USC"). USC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KPSC with emergency antenna facilities pursuant to Section 73.1680. In support of the request, USC states that, on May 23, 2012, the station's tower suddenly collapsed, taking the station off the air. USC states that it continues to operate with an emergency antenna installed on a wooden pole at the licensed site.<sup>2</sup>

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provides for operation with emergency antenna facilities following damage to authorized antenna systems, provided that an informal request for continued use of an emergency antenna is filed with the Commission within 24 hours. In particular, Section 73.1680(b)(2) provides that FM and TV stations may erect any suitable radiator, or use operable sections of the authorized antenna(s) as an emergency antenna.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> KPSC is licensed for operation on Channel 203A (88.5 MHz) with effective radiated power of 1.25 kilowatts (H&V) and antenna height above average terrain of 179 meters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> KPSC was previously granted an STA to operate with these same facilities by letter dated May 31, 2012. That STA expired December 31, 2012. USC's counsel contacted the staff in mid-March and explained that the licensee inadvertently did not timely file an extension request for that STA and asked for the best manner to proceed. The staff requested that the instant request to replace the previous STA be filed as a new STA request rather than an extension request.

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

Geographic coordinates: 33° 51′ 56″ N, 116° 26′ 04″ W (NAD 1927)

Channel 203 (88.5 MHz)

Effective radiated power: 1.25 kilowatts (V only)

Antenna manufacturer and type: Scala, FMV-2, nondirectional

Antenna height:

above ground: 9 meters above mean sea level: 466 meters above average terrain: 161 meters

USC must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. USC 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 September 22, 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,

Dale Bickel Senior Engineer Audio Division Media Bureau

cc: University of Southern California