

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 TWELFTH STREET SW
WASHINGTON DC 20554

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

ENGINEER: Dale Bickel
TELEPHONE: (202) 418-2707
FACSIMILE: (202) 418-1410
E-MAIL: dale.bickel@fcc.gov

April 9, 2013

Frank R. Jazzo
Fletcher, Heald and Hildreth, PLC
1300 North 17th Street, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 55744

Re: Northern Community Radio, Inc.
K287AD (FX), Bemidji, Minnesota
Facility Identification Number: 49582
Special Temporary Authority
BSTA-20130401AJZ

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed April 1, 2013, on behalf of Northern Community Radio, Inc. ("NCR"). NCR requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate FM Translator K287AD with temporary facilities.¹ NCR requests STA for operation with temporary facilities while repairs are made to the licensed antenna structure.²

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service³ to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area⁴ without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation would result in a substantial extension of the 60 dBu contour toward the southeast; however, if the effective radiated power is reduced to 50 watts, the extension would be eliminated. STA will be granted with a power reduction to 50 watts.

¹ K287AD is licensed for operation on Channel 287D (105.3 MHz) with effective radiated power of 0.25 kilowatt (H&V) and antenna height above average terrain of 23 meters.

² This STA request essentially mirrors the STA BSTA-20101108AAW, granted November 9, 2010, expired May 9, 2011. It is not clear whether the licensee resumed operation with licensed parameters prior to May 9, 2011, or continued to operate with the parameters in the expired STA. For the record, today's STA operation does not cover any operations between May 10, 2011 and April 8, 2013.

³ For AM - 5 mV/m; for commercial FM - 3.16 mV/m; for noncommercial educational FM - 1.0 mV/m.

⁴ For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED, with a power reduction as discussed above. Station K287AD may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates:	47° 27' 38" N, 94° 51' 31" W (NAD 1927)
Channel	287 (105.3 MHz)
Effective radiated power:	Not to exceed 0.05 kilowatt (H&V) (50 watts)⁵
Antenna height:	
above ground:	33 meters
above mean sea level:	445 meters
above average terrain:	23 meters

NCR must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. NCR 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 **October 6, 2013**. NCR is cautioned that it must seek extension of this STA if temporary operation with these facilities needs to continue beyond October 6, 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

⁵ The CDBS database will be modified to show this limitation to 0.050 kW.

- 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dale E. Bickel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Dale Bickel
Senior Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Northern Community Radio, Inc.