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

MEDIA BUREAU AUDIO DIVISION

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November 27, 2013

Gary S. Smithwick, Esq. Smithwick & Belendiuk, P.C. 5028 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. Suite 301 Washington, DC 20016

Re: Flagler Broadcasting, LLC

WNZF(AM), Bunnell, Florida

Facility Identification Number: 134066

Special Temporary Authority

## Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed November 25, 2013, on behalf of Flagler Broadcasting, LLC ("FBL"). FBL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WNZF(AM) with reduced power.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, FBL states the WNZF(AM) transmitter suffered a loss of a power module. As a result, the station cannot operate with the full licensed daytime power of 11 kilowatts, but rather can only make 7 kilowatts during daytime and critical hours.

Section 1560(d), which governs reduced power operation, states:

In the event it becomes technically impossible to operate at authorized power, a broadcast station may operate at reduced power for a period of not more than 30 days without specific authority from the FCC. If operation at reduced power will exceed 10 consecutive days, notification must be made to the FCC in Washington, DC, Attention: Audio Division (radio) or Video Division (television), Media Bureau, not later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the lower power operation. In the event that normal power is restored within the 30 day period, the licensee must notify the FCC of the date that normal operation was restored. If causes beyond the control of the licensee prevent restoration of the authorized power within 30 days, a request for Special Temporay Authority (see Section 73.1635) must be made to the FCC in Washington, DC for additional time as may be necessary.

Our review indicates that the request complies with Section 73.1560(d).

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WNZF(AM) may continue to operate with reduced power during daytime and critical hours. FBL must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. FBL must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> WNZF(AM) is licensed for operation on 1550 kHz with 11 kilowatts daytime, 9.5 kilowatts during critical hours and 0.25 kilowatt at night, employing a directional antenna pattern during nighttime hours only (DAN-U).

Commission's exposure guidelines. See 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on May 26, 2014.

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,

Jerome J. Manarchuck Audio Division

Media Bureau

cc: Flagler Broadcasting, LLC