FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION 445 TWELFTH STREET SW WASHINGTON DC 20554

MEDIA BUREAU AUDIO DIVISION

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November 27, 2013

Barry D. Wood Wood, Martin & Hardy, PC 3300 Fairfax Drive, Suite 202 Arlington, VA 22201

Re: WQJJ-LP (FL), Jasper, AL

North Alabama Public Service Broadcasters Facility Identification Number: 135721

Special Temporary Authority

BSTA-20131121ATB

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to your request filed November 21, 2013, on behalf of North Alabama Public Service Broadcasters ("NAPSB"). NAPSB requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WQJJ-LP with temporary facilities. WQJJ-LP was advised that it had to vacate its transmitter site by August 31, 2013. The licensee filed a minor change application for a new site and channel on August 13, 2013 (BPL-20130813AAV), but processing on that application has been delayed due to an informal objection filed against it.

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 service² to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area³ without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA. Our review finds that, at the requested effective radiated power (ERP) of 30 watts (0.030 kW), the 60 dBu service contour of the STA facility would extend beyond the 60 dBu contour of the licensed facility. However, at 10 watts ERP (0.010 kW), the STA service contour would be within the licensed service contour, with the exception of a very small area to the south-southwest. This is acceptable.

¹ WQJJ-LP is licensed for operation on Channel 261L1 (100.1 MHz) with effective radiated power of 0.053 kilowatts (H&V) and an antenna height above average terrain of 41 meters.

² For AM - 5 mV/m; for commercial FM - 3.16 mV/m; for noncommercial educational FM - 1.0 mV/m (60 dBu).

 $^{^3}$ For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m (60 dBu) contour.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED, with an **effective radiated power** (ERP) limited to 0.010 kW. Station WQJJ-LP may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates: 33° 50′ 50″ N, 87° 17′ 07″ W (NAD 1927)

409 9th Avenue, Jasper, AL 35501

Channel: 261 (100.1 MHz)

Effective radiated power: 0.010 kW (H only) -- ERP IS LIMITED TO THIS VALUE

Antenna height:

above ground: 31.5 meters
above mean sea level: 150.5 meters
above average terrain: 15 meters
Existing structure height: 31.5 meters

NAPSB must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from radiofrequency exposure in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on May 26, 2014. This authority does not cover any operations prior to this date from this or any other location, nor does it imply any decision on the pending minor change application or any pleadings.

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: North Alabama Public Service Broadcasters