

**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/](http://www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/)

**ENGINEER:** Dale Bickel  
**TELEPHONE:** (202) 418-2706  
**FACSIMILE:** (202) 418-1410  
**E-MAIL:** [dale.bickel@fcc.gov](mailto:dale.bickel@fcc.gov)

January 16, 2014

Southeast Alabama Broadcasters, LLC  
152 Shoreline Drive  
Mary Esther, FL 32569-1391

Re: WLDA, Fort Rucker, AL  
Southeast Alabama Broadcasters, LLC  
Facility Identification Number: 63945  
Special Temporary Authority  
BSTA-20140108ABE

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed January 8, 2014, on behalf of Southeast Alabama Broadcasters, LLC ("SAB"). SAB requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WLDA at reduced power. This station went silent on January 20, 2013. SAB must return WLDA to operating status **no later than January 20, 2014** to avoid automatic cancellation of the station's license pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act. The reduced power STA will provide 60 dBu coverage over the community of license. An application for construction permit (BPH-20121119ANF) is currently under review at the Commission.

Under the circumstances, we conclude that an STA for reduced power operation with the licensed facilities (see license BLH-20090414AEA) is warranted, and the STA IS GRANTED. We expect that SAB shall continue the temporary operation authorized herein, through the term of this STA period, or until the licensee commences program test operations subsequent to grant of a construction permit, or licensed operation resumes. Extension requests for this STA may be granted by the staff if circumstances warrant.

**On the same date that WLDA commences reduced power operations pursuant to this STA**, the licensee (or its representative) shall confirm the start of STA operations via an e-mail to Dale Bickel, [dale.bickel@fcc.gov](mailto:dale.bickel@fcc.gov). The resumption of operations will be noted in the CDBS database. In addition, once licensed operations resume, or program test operation commences pursuant to a construction permit, please notify the Commission via a letter through the Office of the Secretary, FCC.

SAB 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 July 15, 2014.**

We remind the licensee that the station's license will expire as a matter of law upon twelve consecutive months of silence [ending **January 20, 2014**], notwithstanding the grant of the

present STA. See Pub. Law No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, Section 403(1) (1996) and Order, *Silent Station Authorizations*, FCC 96-218 (released May 17, 1996). See also Public Notice, *Expedited Processing of Applications Filed by Silent Stations*, DA 96-818 (May 22, 1996). Please be aware that unauthorized operations – operations with facilities not authorized by a current STA or license – do not count as a resumption of operations within one year for the purposes of Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, and cannot be used to avoid the consequences of Section 312(g). See *A-O Broadcasting Corporation*, FCC 08-10, 23 FCC Rcd 603, released January 8, 2008.

-----

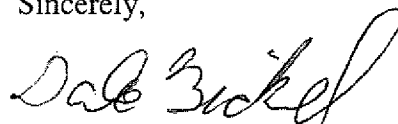
**STA Advisory:** Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice 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