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

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March 13, 2014

Lewis J. Paper Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP 2300 N Street NW Washington, DC 20037-1122

Re: K214CR (FX), Twentynine Palms, CA

Santa Monica Community College District Facility Identification Number: 83662 Special Temporary Authority (STA)

BSTA-20140310ACI

## Dear Permittee:

This is in reference to the request filed March 10, 2014, on behalf of Santa Monica Community College District ("SMCCD"). SMCCD explains that its translator's licensed operation on Channel 214 will be forced off the air by the imminent start of program tests of KNLM (FM), Yucca Valley, CA at the same transmitter site. SMCCD holds construction permit BPFT-20130709AAF (granted February 6, 2014) for operation on Channel 207 from a nearby site. However, to avoid ceasing operation until the construction permit facility can be built, SMCCD requests a short term STA for K214CR to operate with slightly-less-than-licensed parameters, but on Channel 207. SMCCD has operated K214CR for more than 15 years, and relays National Public Radio programming to this remote area.

Generally, the staff will not issue an STA for translator operation on a new channel absent compelling circumstances. A granted construction permit for operation on a new channel, in and of itself, does not qualify as a compelling circumstance, nor does received interference on the old channel. In the present instance, however, an STA would allow SMCCD to maintain its longstanding service to this desert area. SMCCD clearly desires to implement its construction permit in the shortest possible time. These factors, coupled with the limited duration of the STA, persuade us that the public interest is better served by grant of the requested STA.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station K214CR may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates: 34° 09′ 18″ N, 116° 12′ 06″ W (NAD 1927)

Channel 207D (89.3 MHz) Effective radiated power: 0.010 kilowatt (H&V)

Antenna height:

above ground: 7 meters
above mean sea level: 941 meters
above average terrain: 63 meters
Call Sign: K207FA

This STA operation shall identify itself using the call letters in the granted construction permit: K207FA.

SMCCD 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 June 13, 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.

We encourage SMCCD to focus on implementing the facilities authorized by construction permit BPFT-20130709AAF at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,

Dale Bickel Senior Engineer Audio Division

Media Bureau

cc: Santa Monica Community College District