

**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)

March 24, 2014

Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc.  
c/o Wolfgang Kurtz  
35035 Ansel Street S  
Soldotna, AK 99669

Re: KABN-FM, Kasilof, AK  
Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc.  
Facility Identification Number: 93588  
Special Temporary Authority  
BSTA-20140321AEB

Dear Mr. Kurtz:

This is in reference to the request filed March 21, 2014, by Alaska Educational Radio System, Inc. ("AERS"). AERS requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station KABN-FM with its licensed facility, but at reduced power. This station went silent on March 25, 2013 for financial reasons. AERS must return KABN-FM to operating status **no later than March 24, 2014** to avoid automatic cancellation of the station's license pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act.

Under the circumstances, we conclude that an STA for the reduced power operation requested is warranted, and the STA IS GRANTED. We expect that KABN-FM shall continue the temporary operation authorized herein, through the term of this STA period or until the licensee restores licensed operation.

**On the same date that KABN-FM commences 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). This date will be entered into the Commission's CDBS database to indicate that the station is broadcasting. In addition, once licensed operations are restored, please notify the Commission via a letter through the Office of the Secretary, FCC.

KABN-FM 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 September 20, 2014.**

We remind the licensee that the station's license will expire as a matter of law upon twelve consecutive months of silence [ending **March 24, 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.

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**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