

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
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**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

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August 20, 2015

Victor Camino, President  
El Camino Communications, LLC  
1606 Central Avenue SE, Suite 104  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

Re: El Camino Communications, LLC  
KKNS (AM), Corrales, New Mexico  
Facility Identification Number: 7050  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed October 16, 2014, on behalf of El Camino Communications, LLC ("ECC"). ECC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KKNS(AM) with temporary facilities from an alternate site that was authorized in BSTA-20130529AHC.<sup>1</sup>

In support of the request, ECC states it has been searching for land and a tower site that could be financially viable close to the city of license. As stated in a previous STA request (BSTA-20120918ADZ), the station can no longer broadcast from its licensed site due to the termination of its lease agreement. The station's most recently authorized STA expired on August 26, 2014 and therefore KKNS(AM) must commence broadcast operations before 12:01 a.m., August 27, 2015 or its license will automatically expire as a matter of law. Therefore, ECC requests STA for operation with the same temporary facilities that were approved in BSTA-20130529AHC.

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 service<sup>2</sup> to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area<sup>3</sup> without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

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<sup>1</sup> KKNS is licensed for operation on 1310 kHz with 5 kilowatts daytime and 0.5 kilowatt nighttime, employing a directional antenna during nighttime hours only (DA-N-U).

<sup>2</sup> For AM - 5 mV/m; for commercial FM - 3.16 mV/m; for noncommercial educational FM - 1.0 mV/m.

<sup>3</sup> For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

Our review indicates that the proposed daytime STA operation with 500 watts complies with the foregoing criteria. However, the proposed nighttime operation with 500 watts exceeds the permissible operating power specified in Section 73.1680, which governs, *inter alia*, operation with an emergency non-directional antenna in lieu of licensed directional facilities. The maximum permissible nighttime power is 25 percent of the licensed directional power; i.e., 0.125 kW. STA will be granted with a nighttime power not to exceed 0.125 kW.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED, with a nighttime power reduction as discussed above. Station KKNS(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	35° 04' 34" N, 106° 40' 46" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	1310 KHz
Hours of operation	Unlimited
Operating power	Not to exceed 0.5 kW daytime, <b>0.125 kW nighttime</b>
Antenna type	existing 60' vertical metal conduit
Antenna efficiency	less than 282 mV/m/km/kW
Overall height	18.3 meters (60')

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. ECC must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.<sup>4</sup> ECC must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310. It is noted that KKNS(AM)'s previous STA expired on August 26, 2014. Our review indicates that the circumstances presented warrant grant of STA in order to provide for service to the public. However, in light of the lapse of time between the expiration of the prior STA and the filing of the instant request, the authority granted will not cover the period between the expiration of the prior STA and the filing of the instant request.

This authority expires on **February 16, 2016**.

**Notwithstanding the grant of this STA or the expiration date specified herein, the station's license will expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not commence by 12:01 a.m., August 27, 2015.** *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). The licensee must notify the Audio Division immediately upon resumption of broadcasting.

**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

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<sup>4</sup> *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.61(b).

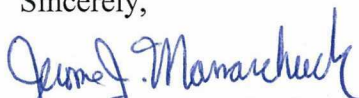
operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

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: Victor Camino (via email)