

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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June 28, 2016

WXXI Public Broadcasting Council  
P.O. Box 30021  
280 State Street  
Rochester, NY 14603-3021

Re: WXXI Public Broadcasting Council  
WXXI(AM), Rochester, New York  
Facility Identification Number: 74220  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed June 27, 2016, on behalf of WXXI Public Broadcasting Council ("WPB"). WPB requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WXXI(AM) during nighttime hours with emergency antenna facilities.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, WPB states that WXXI(AM) has experienced a phasor failure in its nighttime antenna phasing system. Therefore, until the issue is resolved, WXXI(AM) requests STA to operate non-directionally during nighttime hours from its daytime non-directional tower with a reduced power of 1.25 kilowatts.

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provide for operation with emergency antenna facilities following damage to authorized antenna systems, provided that an informal request for continued use of an emergency antenna is filled with the Commission within 24 hours. In particular, Section 73.1680(b)(1) states that AM stations may use a horizontal or vertical wire or a nondirectional vertical element of a directional antenna as an emergency antenna. AM stations using an emergency nondirectional antenna or a horizontal or vertical wire pursuant to this section, in lieu of authorized directional facilities, shall operate with power reduced to 25% or less of the nominal licensed power, or, a higher power, not exceeding licensed power, while insuring that the radiated field strength does not exceed that authorized in any given azimuth for the corresponding hours of directional operation.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED and BSTA-20160107AAI is SUPERSEDED. Station WXXI(AM) may operate during nighttime hours with an emergency non-directional antenna and with a nighttime power not to exceed 1.25 kilowatts. No changes are proposed to the station's daytime facility. It will be necessary to further reduce or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WPB must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's

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<sup>1</sup> WXXI(AM) is licensed for operation on 1370 kHz with a daytime and nighttime power of 5 kilowatts, employing a directional antenna pattern (DAN-U).

exposure guidelines. See 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **December 25, 2016**.


**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,

  
Jerome J. Manarchuck  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Malcolm G. Stevenson (via email only)