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

MEDIA BUREAU AUDIO DIVISION

APPLICATION STATUS: (202) 418-2730

HOME PAGE: www.fcc.gov/media/radio/audio-division

ENGINEER: Jerome J. Manarchuck TELEPHONE: (202) 418-7226 FACSIMILE: (202) 418-1410 E-MAIL: Jerome.Manarchuck@fcc.gov

October 6, 2016

Alpha Media Licensee LLC 1211 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Suite 750 Portland, OR 97204

Re:

Alpha Media Licensee LLC WIBW(AM), Topeka, Kansas

Facility Identification Number: 63169

Special Temporary Authority

## Dear Applicant

This is in reference to the request filed October 5, 2016, on behalf of Alpha Media Licensee LLC ("AML"). AML requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WIBW(AM) with parameters at variance from license values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within license limits. <sup>1</sup>

In support of its request AML states that the WIBW(AM) antenna system suffered a lightning strike late last week that destroyed an antenna monitoring sample transformer and caused other damage that has affected the station's nighttime directional pattern. Therefore, while work is being done to return the antenna monitor and nighttime pattern to service, the station requests STA to operate with parameters at variance from license values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within license limits.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WIBW(AM) may operate with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. AML 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> WIBW(AM) is licensed for operation on 580 kHz with a daytime and nighttime power of 5 kilowatts, employing a directional antenna pattern at night (DAN-U).

This authority expires on April 4, 2017.

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: Gregory L. Masters, Esq. (via email only)