

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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June 28, 2017

Bristol Broadcasting Company, Inc.
901 East Valley Drive
P.O. Box 1389
Bristol, VA 24201

Re: Bristol Broadcasting Company, Inc.
WITM(AM), Marion, VA
Facility Identification Number: 19478
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed May 26, 2017, on behalf of Bristol Broadcasting Company, Inc. ("BBC"). BBC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WITM(AM) from an existing tower at an alternate site location.¹

In support of the request, BBC states that WITM(AM) is currently authorized by STA (BSTA-20170206AAE) to operate from an alternate site due to the loss of the licensed transmitter site. However, it is requested that the current STA be superseded and that the station be granted an STA to operate daytime only from the existing WUKZ(AM) tower (ASRN: 1043029) with a power of 1 kilowatt. BBC states that the proposed STA facility will provide much greater coverage to the station's community of license than the current STA facility. Station WITM(AM) also has a pending application (BP-20170525AMX) to operate permanently from the WUKZ(AM) site location.

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 to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area² without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

¹ WITM(AM) is licensed for operation on 1330 kHz with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.031 kilowatt, employing a non-directional antenna pattern (ND2-U).

² For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

Accordingly, the request for STA is GRANTED and BSTA-20170206AAE is SUPERSEDED. Station WITM(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	36° 51' 22" N, 81° 30' 18" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	1330 KHz
Hours of operation	Daytime only
Operating power	1 kilowatt
Antenna type	Existing WUKZ(AM) tower
ASRN	1043029
Antenna radiator height	122°
Antenna efficiency	327.2 mV/m per kW at 1 km

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WITM(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WITM(AM) 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.

This authority expires on **December 25, 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: Clifford M. Harrington, Esq. (via email only)