

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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MEDIA BUREAU
AUDIO DIVISION
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July 18, 2017

Marshfield Broadcasting Co., Inc.
130 Enterprise Drive
Marshfield, MA 02050

Re: Marshfield Broadcasting Co., Inc.
WATD(AM), Brockton, MA
Facility Identification Number: 19631
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed July 12, 2017, on behalf of Marshfield Broadcasting Co., Inc. ("MBC"). MBC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WATD(AM) from an alternate site location.¹ In support of the request, MBC states that the station previously lost its transmitter site and had an application for a new tower (BP-20160607AAH) which was just granted on June 7, 2017 due to a very lengthy E-106 review. However, local zoning authorities will not be having a meeting until, at the earliest, late August, 2017 or, if there is no room on the agenda, early Fall to approve the new single tower authorized in the construction permit. The station must resume broadcast operations by 12:01 a.m., August 7, 2017 or its broadcast license will expire as a matter of law. Therefore, MBC requests an STA to operate with an emergency wire antenna from an alternate site location.

Specifically, WATD(AM) requests an STA to operate daytime only with a long wire emergency antenna at a site located 0.5 kilometer from the licensed WATD(AM) site. A ¼ wave, 168 foot, dipole antenna is proposed, with a daytime power of 1 kilowatt.

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

¹ WATD(AM) is licensed for operation on 1460 kHz with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 1 kilowatt, employing a directional antenna pattern (DAN-U). The station changed its callsign from WXBR to WATD, effective April 28, 2016.

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

construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA. Accordingly, the request for STA is GRANTED. Station WATD(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	42° 02' 50" N, 71° 03' 41" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	1460 KHz
Hours of operation	Daytime
Operating power	1 kilowatt
Antenna type	168 foot, 1/4 wave dipole antenna
Antenna height	30 feet above the ground

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WATD(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WATD(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 **January 14, 2018**.

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 7, 2017. 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.

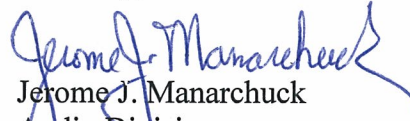
STA Advisory: Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice 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 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: Allan G. Moskowitz, Esq. (via email)