

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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**MEDIA BUREAU
AUDIO DIVISION
APPLICATION STATUS:** (202) 418-2730
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October 4, 2017

Bruce L. Merchant, President
Merchant Broadcasting, Inc.
208 S. Huntington St.
Sulphur, LA 70663-3334

Re: Merchant Broadcasting, Inc. (MBI)
KEZM (AM), Sulphur, LA
Facility Identification Number: 36210
Special Temporary Authority (STA)
BESTA-20170911ACZ

Dear Mr. Merchant:

This is in reference to the request filed on September 11, 2017. MBI requests a further extension of the STA granted on July 19, 2011, to continue to operate with a temporary ND antenna at an alternate site (due to loss of the licensed site in 2011).¹ In support of the request, MBI stated that additional time is needed to file the required FCC Form 301 minor change application to propose a permanent facility based upon the proposed rules mentioned in the AM Revitalization proceeding MB Docket 13-249.

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.

Accordingly, the request for extension of STA IS HEREBY GRANTED, and MBI may continue to operate with the following facilities:

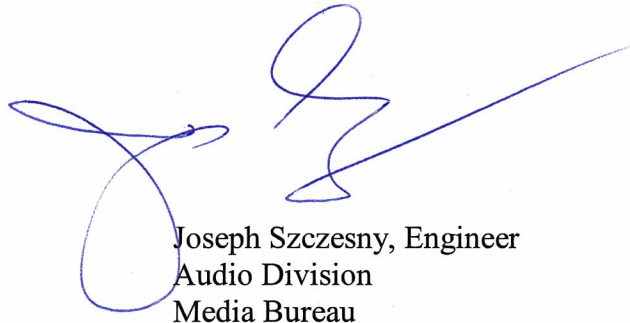
¹ KEZM is licensed for DA operation on 1310 kHz with 0.5 kW day and 0.05 kW night.

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|------------------------|--|
| Geographic coordinates | 30° 14' 11" N, 93° 20' 47" W (NAD 1927) |
| Frequency | 1310 KHz |
| Hours of operation | Unlimited |
| Operating power | Not to exceed 0.125 kW day/0.0125 kW night |
| Antenna type | Existing ND tower with skirt feed |
| Antenna efficiency | 201.0 mV/m/km/kW |
| Overall height | 42.6 meters |

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. MBI 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. MBI must file the required application before or immediately after the proposed rules mentioned in the AM Revitalization proceeding MB Docket 13-249 become effective.

This authority expires on **April 4, 2018**.

Sincerely,



Joseph Szczesny, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau