

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

In reply refer to: 1800B3-DW

JAN 1 11 2018

John S. Neely, Esq.
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Suite 203
3750 University Boulevard, West
Kensington, MD 20895

In re: **W223AA, Big Stone Gap, VA**
Facility ID No. 69690
Silent since June 4, 2017

Request for Extension of Special Temporary
Authority to Remain Silent

Dear Mr. Neely:

This letter concerns the request you filed on December 15, 2017, on behalf of Valley Broadcasting and Communications, Inc. (VBC), for extension of Special Temporary Authority (STA) to permit FM Translator Station W223AA to remain silent.

Commission records reflect that VBC stated that Station W223AA went silent on June 4, 2017, for technical reasons. The previous STA was granted on July 10, 2017, and expired on January 6, 2018. VBC requests extension of its STA for continuing technical reasons. The request includes the appropriate certification regarding Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.

VBC's request is granted. Accordingly, Special Temporary Authority is granted to permit Station W223AA to remain silent until June 4, 2018. **Notwithstanding the grant of this Special Temporary Authority, the broadcast license for Station W223AA will automatically expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not resume by 12:01 a.m., June 5, 2018.**¹

VBC is required to notify the Commission when broadcast operations resume. If VBC does not file the notification of resumption of operations in a timely manner, the license may be subject to cancellation pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, as amended.²

The station's silent status does not suspend the licensee's obligation to comply with all other relevant Commission rules, including the filing, when appropriate, of applications for renewal of broadcast license. It is imperative to the safety of air navigation that any prescribed painting and illumination of the station's tower shall be maintained until removed.³

Sincerely,



Lisa Scanlan
Deputy Chief, Audio Division
Media Bureau

¹ See 47 U.S.C. § 312(g).

² *Id.* In addition to filing a notification of resumption of operations electronically on the date operations resume, notification of resumption must also be emailed to Denise.Williams@FCC.gov.

³ See 47 C.F.R. §§ 17.6 and 73.1740(a)(4).