

AMENDMENT TO REQUEST FOR ENGINEERING STA  
(BESTA-20180521AAV)

Aerco Broadcasting, Inc., licensee of WQBS (AM), San Juan, Puerto Rico, amends its pending application for extension of its engineering request for special temporary authority in response to an informal request of the Commission's engineering staff.

(1) The station went off the air in September 2017 as a result of hurricane damage. One of its two towers collapsed and the remaining tower was damaged. Because its standing tower could be used, temporarily with reduced non-directional power, the Station requested the engineering STA, that was granted on September 28, 2018.

In addition to the damage specific to the station's facilities, the area where the towers are located suffered extensive infra structure damage, especially to the electrical grid supplying power to the station. This island-wide electrical grid problem has been widely reported in the press.

(2) Since the September 2107 STA was granted the station has been working to return to normal operation. The biggest impediment has been the unstable power grid servicing the tower site area. The damage in the area has been extensive and the power grid problem remains a major problem.

The one tower needs to be rebuilt and erected and the station has been working to accomplish that, but qualified contractors are difficult to schedule. The one tower that is to be used temporarily needs to have the top section rebuilt, but it can be used, temporarily.

(3) The station intends to complete repairs and rebuild to its currently licensed facilities. A minor change application is not contemplated.

(4) The public power grid has been partially restored. By that we mean that power is sporadically supplied to the transmitter site. It seems that every day the power is interrupted and remains so for anywhere from a few hours to several days. When the power grid fails, the station must operate using an auxiliary power supply.

The station can resume temporary service using a combination of electricity from the public power grid and its auxiliary power generator.

If the station is off the air for more than 10 days, the FCC will be notified.

May 25, 2018

  
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Angel O. Roman-Lopez