

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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October 1, 2018

Lewis Broadcasting, LLC
133 West Main Street
Peru, IN 46970

Re: Lewis Broadcasting, LLC
WJZI(AM), Decatur, Indiana
Facility Identification Number: 71465
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed September 24, 2018, on behalf of Lewis Broadcasting, LLC ("LBL"). LBL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WJZI(AM) with emergency antenna facilities pursuant to Section 73.1680.¹ In support of the request, LBL states that WJZI(AM) went off the air on September 14, 2014, due to a lightning strike, damaging the station's equipment. The licensee was nearing being able to return the station to the air when on April 9, 2015, high winds caused the collapse of the station's tower. Most recently, the station has been silent since October 26, 2017 and therefore must resume broadcast operations by 12:01 a.m. on October 27, 2018 or the station's license will expire as a matter of law. Therefore, the station is requesting an STA for operation with emergency antenna facilities

Specifically, WJZI(AM) requests STA to operate at its current license site with a 151 foot long-wire antenna stretched between two poles. The antenna will be 10 feet above the ground. An operating power of 62.5 watts is requested.

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provides for operation with emergency antenna facilities following damage to authorized antenna systems, provided that an informal request for continued use of an emergency antenna is filed with the Commission within 24 hours. In particular, Section 73.1680(b)(1) provides that AM stations using an emergency nondirectional antenna in lieu of authorized directional facilities shall operate with power reduced to 25 percent or less of the nominal license power, or a higher power, not exceeding licensed power, while insuring that the radiated field strength does not exceed that authorized in any given azimuth.

¹ WJZI(AM) is a daytime only station licensed for operation on 1540 kHz, with a power of 0.25 kilowatt, and employing a nondirectional antenna pattern (NDD-D).

Our review indicates that station WJZI(AM) has been silent since October 26, 2017, and therefore grant of the STA is necessary as the station needs to resume broadcast operations.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WJZI(AM) may operate daytime only from its licensed site, with a long-wire antenna and with a power of 62.5 watts. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. LBL 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 **March 30, 2019**.

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., October 27, 2018. *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.

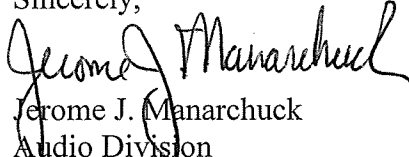
Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. 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: Matthew H. McCormick, Esq. (via email only)