

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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August 9, 2019

Salem Communications Holding Corporation
4880 Santa Rosa Rd.
Camarillo, CA 93012

Re: Salem Communications Holding Corporation
WNTP(AM), Philadelphia, PA
Facility Identification Number: 52194
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed August 1, 2019, on behalf of Salem Communications Holding Corporation ("Salem"). Salem requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WNTP(AM) with parameters at variance from its licensed facilities.¹ Specifically, Salem requests that station WNTP(AM) be permitted to operate with its nighttime directional pattern during daytime hours; or to operate with its daytime directional pattern at reduced power and with parameters at variance; and/or to operate non-directionally with a power no greater than 25% of the daytime licensed power as necessary until the repairs to the daytime antenna system have been completed.

In support of the request, Salem states that a component failure in the daytime directional antenna system has prevented the station from operating with its daytime directional pattern. The station is currently operating with its 10 kilowatt nighttime directional antenna system during both daytime and nighttime hours. Therefore, until the necessary parts are delivered and installed, the station requests STA to continue operating with its 10 kilowatt nighttime directional antenna system during daytime hours and to also have the option to operate daytime with its licensed directional antenna with reduced power or non-directionally with reduced power.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WNTP(AM) may operate full time with the station's currently licensed nighttime parameters. In addition, the station has the option to operate daytime with its licensed directional pattern but with power reduced or non-directionally with a power not to exceed 12.5 kilowatts. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WNTP(AM) must notify the

¹ WNTP(AM) is licensed for operation on 990 kHz with a daytime power of 50 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 10 kilowatts, employing different directional antenna patterns (DA2-U).

Commission when licensed operation is restored.² WNTP(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 **February 5, 2020**.

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: Kathleen Kirby, Esq. (via email only)

² *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.61(b).