

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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May 30, 2008

David D. Oxenford, Esq.
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
1919 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 200
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Re: Family Radio, Inc.
WIZM (AM), La Crosse, Wisconsin
Facility Identification Number: 20667
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed May 29, 2008, on behalf of Family Radio, Inc. ("FRI"). FRI requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WIZM during nighttime hours with parameters at variance and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits.¹ In support of the request, FRI states that the nighttime antenna sampling system is damaged and must be replaced. FRI states that replacement of the sampling system is being done in connection with a planned refurbishment of the nighttime directional antenna system and that, upon completion of the work, it will prepare an application for direct measurement of operating power accompanied by a partial proof of performance.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WIZM may operate with parameters at variance and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. FRI must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.² FRI 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 **November 30, 2008**.

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

¹ WIZM is licensed for operation on 1410 kHz with 5 kilowatts daytime and 5 kilowatts nighttime, employing a directional antenna during nighttime hours only (DA-N-U).

² *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.54, 73.61(b).

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,



Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Family Radio, Inc.