

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 TWELFTH STREET SW
WASHINGTON DC 20554

MEDIA BUREAU
AUDIO DIVISION
APPLICATION STATUS: (202) 418-2730
HOME PAGE: www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/

ENGINEER: CHARLES N. (NORM) MILLER
TELEPHONE: (202) 418-2767
FACSIMILE: (202) 418-1410
E-MAIL: charles.miller@fcc.gov

June 26, 2008

John S. Neely, Esq.
Miller & Miller, PC
1990 M Street NW, Suite 760
Washington, DC 20036

Re: WGNZ(AM), Fairborn, Ohio
Facility Identification Number: 36075
L&D Broadcasters, Inc.
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Mr. Neely:

This is in reference to the request filed June 16, 2008, on behalf of L&D Broadcasters, Inc. ("L&D"). L&D requests special temporary authority (STA) for continued operation with emergency antenna facilities pursuant to Section 73.1680.¹

In support of the request, L&D states that a severe storm damaged the station's antenna system, and that it has restored operation with an emergency nondirectional antenna and reduced power. L&D requests STA for continued use of the emergency antenna pending restoration of licensed operation or operation with the facilities authorized by Construction Permit BP-20060620ABF.

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 licensed 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. Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation would comply with the technical provisions of Section 73.1680, and that critical hours radiation toward Stations WBT and KFAB would not be exceeded.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WGNZ may continue to operate with an emergency nondirectional antenna with reduced power not to exceed 625 watts. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are

¹ WGNZ is licensed for operation on 1110 kHz with 2.5 kW (1.7 kW critical hours), daytime hours only, employing a directional antenna (DA-D-D). Construction Permit BP-20060620ABF authorizes relocation of the transmitter and an increase in the daytime operating power to 5 kW.

received. L&D must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.² L&D 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 **December 26, 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 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Miller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: L&D Broadcasters, Inc.

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