

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

October 3, 2006

Mark N. Lipp, Esq.
Wiley, Rein & Fielding
1776 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20006

Re: WGLD(AM), Red Lion, Pennsylvania
Facility Identification Number: 55352
Susquehanna License Co., LLC
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed September 13, 2006, on behalf of Susquehanna License Co., LLC ("Susquehanna"). Susquehanna requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WGLD with emergency antenna facilities, pursuant to Section 73.1680.¹ In support of the request, Susquehanna states that the licensed tower was in poor condition and had to be dismantled, and that the station has been off the air since November 2, 2005. Susquehanna requests STA for operation from the licensed site with an emergency, long wire antenna.

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 may use a horizontal or vertical wire as an emergency antenna. Our review indicates that the proposed operation meets the provisions of Section 73.1680.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WGLD may continue to operate with an emergency, long wire antenna. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. Susquehanna must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.² Susquehanna 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 **April 3, 2007**.

¹ WGLD is licensed for operation on 1440 kHz with 1 kilowatt daytime and 0.056 kilowatt nighttime, employing a nondirectional antenna (ND-1-U).

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

Notwithstanding the grant of this STA or the expiration date specified herein, the station's license will expire as a matter of law if it does not resume broadcasting on or before November 2, 2006. 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,



Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Susquehanna License Co., LLC