

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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WASHINGTON DC 20554**

**MEDIA BUREAU  
AUDIO DIVISION  
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**HOME PAGE:** [www.fcc.gov/media/radio/audio-division](http://www.fcc.gov/media/radio/audio-division)

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September 23, 2020

Townsquare Media Duluth License, LLC  
1 Manhattanville Road  
Suite 202  
Purchase, NY 10577

Re: Townsquare Media Duluth License, LLC  
WEBC(AM), Duluth, MN  
Facility Identification Number: 49689  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed August 13, 2020, on behalf of Townsquare Media Duluth License, LLC ("Townsquare"). Townsquare requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WEBC(AM) with parameters at variance from its licensed facilities and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within license limits.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, Townsquare requests that station WEBC(AM) be permitted to operate during daytime hours using the nighttime antenna system.

In support of the request, Townsquare states that it is currently operating at licensed power but with its nighttime antenna pattern during daytime hours, due to damage from either a lightning strike or a significant electrical surge. Thus, until the necessary repairs can be made, the station requests daytime and nighttime operation using the nighttime directional antenna system. No changes are proposed to the nighttime operation.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. WEBC(AM) may operate using its nighttime directional antenna system during daytime and nighttime hours. No changes are proposed to the nighttime operation. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WEBC(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.<sup>2</sup> WEBC(AM) must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the

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<sup>1</sup> WEBC(AM) is licensed for operation on 560 kHz with a daytime and nighttime power of 5 kilowatts, employing different directional antenna patterns (DA2-U).

<sup>2</sup> See 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.61(b).

Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **March 22, 2021**.

**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: Howard Liberman, Esq. (via email only)