

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20554**

December 8, 2020

*In reply refer to: 1800B3-DW*

Gabriel McHale  
Willams College  
59 Driscoll Hall Drive  
Williamstown, MA 01267

In re: **WCFM(FM), Williamstown, MA**  
Facility ID No. 66277  
Silent since October 4, 2020  
  
Request for Special Temporary  
Authority to Remain Silent

Dear Mr. McHale:

This letter concerns the request you filed on October 4, 2020, on behalf of The President and Trustees of Williams College (WC), for Special Temporary Authority (STA) to permit FM Radio Station WCFM to remain silent.

WC's request states that Station WCFM(FM) went silent on October 4, 2020, due to the COVID-19 emergency. The request includes the appropriate certification regarding Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.<sup>1</sup>

WC's request is granted. Accordingly, Special Temporary Authority is granted to permit Station WCFM(FM) to remain silent not to exceed 180 days from the date of this letter. **Notwithstanding the grant of this Special Temporary Authority, the broadcast license for Station WCFM(FM) will automatically expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not resume by 12:01 a.m., October 5, 2021.**<sup>2</sup>

WC is required to notify the Commission when broadcast operations resume. If WC does not file the notification of resumption of operations in a timely manner, the license may be subject to cancellation pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, as amended.<sup>3</sup>

The station's silent status does not suspend the licensee's obligation to comply with all other relevant Commission rules, including the filing, when appropriate, of applications for renewal of broadcast license. It is imperative to the safety of air navigation that any prescribed painting and illumination of the station's tower shall be maintained until removed.<sup>4</sup>

Sincerely,



Victoria McCauley  
Attorney, Audio Division  
Media Bureau

Sent via email only to:GMCHALE@WILLIAMS.EDU

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<sup>1</sup> In the event extension of special temporary authority is sought, please renew the certification in this matter.

<sup>2</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 312(g).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* In addition to filing a notification of resumption of operations electronically on the date operations resume, notification of resumption must also be emailed to Denise.Williams@FCC.gov.

<sup>4</sup> See 47 C.F.R. §§ 17.6 and 73.1740(a)(4).