

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
45 L STREET NE
WASHINGTON DC 20554

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

ENGINEER: Jerome J. Manarchuck
TELEPHONE: (202) 418-7226
FACSIMILE: (202) 418-1410
E-MAIL: Jerome.Manarchuck@fcc.gov

January 19, 2021

Four Rivers Community Broadcasting Corporation
P.O. Box 17
Harleysville, PA 19438

Re: Four Rivers Community Broadcasting Corporation
WNPV(AM), Lansdale, Pennsylvania
Facility Identification Number: 73347
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed January 12, 2021, on behalf of Four Rivers Community Broadcasting Corporation ("FRC"). FRC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WNPV(AM) with temporary non-directional facilities.¹

In support of the request, FRC states that the former station owner has gone out of business and donated the station to them. The five radio towers used by the former licensee remain standing. The towers and the land on which they are on, are owned by the local school district and the school district plans on removing at least four of the radio towers. However, WNPV(AM) has made an arrangement with the school district to temporarily allow non-directional operation from one of the towers.

Specifically, WNPV(AM) requests STA to operate non-directionally from one of the towers in the array. Operation is proposed with a reduced daytime power of 0.124 kilowatt and a reduced nighttime power of 0.022 kilowatt.

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provide for operation with emergency antenna facilities 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) states that AM stations may use a horizontal or vertical wire or a nondirectional vertical element of a directional antenna as an emergency antenna. AM stations using an emergency nondirectional antenna or a horizontal or vertical wire pursuant to this section, in lieu of authorized directional facilities,

¹ WNPV(AM) is licensed for operation on 1440 kHz with a daytime power of 2.5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.5 kilowatt, employing different directional antenna patterns (DA2-U).

shall operate with power reduced to 25% 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 for the corresponding hours of directional operation.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WNPV(AM) may operate non-directionally from one of the towers in the WNPV(AM) directional array. The station may operate with a reduced daytime power of 0.124 kilowatt and a reduced nighttime power of 0.022 kilowatt. It will be necessary to further reduce or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WNPV(AM) 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 **July 18, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Brad C. Deutsch, Esq. (via email only)