

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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February 12, 2021

Alamance Media Partners, Inc.
2509 Elon Ossipee Road
Elon, NC 27244

Re: Alamance Media Partners, Inc.
WSML(AM), Graham, North Carolina
Facility Identification Number: 740
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant

This is in reference to the request filed February 8, 2021, on behalf of Alamance Media Partners, Inc. ("AMP"). AMP requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WSML(AM) during daytime hours with parameters at variance from license values and/or reduced power and with no nighttime operation.¹

In support of the request, AMP states that due to several ongoing issues with the station's antenna system, daytime power has been reduced to 5 kilowatts and nighttime operations are non-existent. AMP also states that a technical consultant has been retained to investigate and determine what steps are necessary to repair the antenna system. Until the directional antenna issue can be resolved, the station requests STA to continue to operate with a reduced daytime power of 5 kilowatts and with no nighttime operation.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WSML(AM) may operate during daytime hours only and with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced. The station will not operate with nighttime facilities until the antenna system issue is resolved. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. AMP 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*

¹ WSML(AM) is licensed for operation on 1200 kHz with a daytime power of 10 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 1 kilowatt, employing a directional antenna pattern at night (DAN-U).

CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **August 11, 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 dark ink, appearing to read "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerome" and last name "Manarchuck" clearly distinguishable.

Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Coe W. Ramsey, Esq. (via email only)