



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

June 8, 2021

Smile Broadcasting, LLC
40 Village Spring Drive
Suite 25
Hardy, VA 24101

Re: Smile Broadcasting, LLC
WSLK(AM), Moneta, VA
Fac. ID No.: 31212
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed June 2, 2021, on behalf of Smile Broadcasting, LLC ("SBL"). SBL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WSLK(AM) with a temporary long-wire antenna near its licensed site.¹ In support of the request, SBL states that it lost its tower site and therefore in order to return to the air prior to its one year silent status, an STA is requested for daytime only operation with emergency long-wire antenna system. WSLK(AM) went silent on June 24, 2020 and thus the station's license will automatically expire if broadcast operations do not commence by 12:01 a.m., June 25, 2021.

Specifically, WSLK(AM) requests an STA to operate daytime only with a 138 foot long-wire antenna near its licensed transmitter site. The wire will be supported by two 35 foot poles. A reduced power of 150 watts is proposed.

Accordingly, the request for STA is GRANTED. Station WSLK(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	37° 10' 01" N, 79° 37' 49" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	880 kHz
Hours of operation	Daytime only
Operating power	0.150 kilowatt (daytime)
Antenna type	138 foot (42.1 meters) long-wire antenna

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WSLK(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WSLK(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 **December 5, 2021**.

¹ WSLK(AM) is licensed for daytime-only operation on 880 kHz with a power of 0.9 kilowatt, employing a non-directional antenna pattern (NDD-D).

Notwithstanding the grant of this STA or the expiration date specified herein, the station's license will expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not commence by 12:01 a.m., June 25, 2021. *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,



Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: John C. Trent, Esq. (via email)