

## Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

August 6, 2021

Mobile Radio Partners, Inc. 6573 Glenshaw Drive Glen Allen, VA 23059

Re: Mobile Radio Partners, Inc. WVNZ(AM), Richmond, VA

Fac. ID No.: 52050

Special Temporary Authority

## Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed July 27, 2021, on behalf of Mobile Radio Partners, Inc. ("MRP"). MRP requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WVNZ(AM) with temporary facilities. In support of the request, MRP states that WVNZ(AM) has been evicted from its licensed tower site and has a pending application (BP-20210617AAA) for a new permanent facility. However, in order to avoid going silent while the station awaits grant of the construction permit application, MRP seeks STA to operate WVNZ(AM) from the site of co-owned station WTOX(AM).

Specifically, WVNZ(AM) requests STA to operate from the WTOX(AM) site which is located 25.9 kilometers (16.1 miles) from the licensed WVNZ(AM) site. It is proposed to operate non-directionally from the #4 tower of the WTOX(AM) array with a daytime power of 300 watts. No nighttime operation is proposed. The existing tower has an overall height above ground level of 51.6 meters and an electrical height of 80.4 degrees at a frequency of 1320 kHz.

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area<sup>2</sup> without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

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

Geographic coordinates 37° 40′ 56″ N, 77° 33′ 50″ W (NAD 1927)

Frequency 1320 KHz Hours of operation Daytime

<sup>1</sup> WVNZ(AM) is licensed for operation on 1320 kHz with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.008 kilowatt, employing different directional antenna patterns during daytime and nighttime hours (DA2-U).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

Operating power 0.3 kilowatt (daytime)

Antenna type Existing tower

Overall height of tower (AGL) 51.6 m Electrical height of radiator 80.4 degrees

Antenna efficiency 293.05 mV/m/kW at 1 kilometer

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WVNZ(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WVNZ(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 February 2, 2022.

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: Anthony T. Lepore, Esq. (via email only)