



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

September 16, 2021

Dupage Radio, LLC
PO Box 3162
Oak Brook, IL 60522

Re: Dupage Radio, LLC
WCKG(AM), Elmhurst, IL
Fac. ID No.: 32227
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed June 17, 2021, on behalf of Dupage Radio, LLC ("DRL"). DRL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WCKG(AM) with temporary non-directional facilities.¹

In support of the request, DRL states that tower #1 from the former two tower array has been removed leaving tower #2 still standing. The station currently has an STA to operate with an emergency wire antenna, however the licensee has determined that a better course of action is to operate WCKG(AM) non-directionally from the remaining tower at 25% of licensed power.

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provide for operation with emergency antenna facilities. 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, shall operate with power reduced to 25% or less of the nominal licensed power, or, a higher power, not exceeding licensed power, while ensuring 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Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED and BSTA-20210316AAG IS SUPERSEDED. Station WCKG(AM) may operate non-directionally from tower #2 of its former directional array with a power not to exceed 190 watts. It will be necessary to further reduce or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WCKG(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 **March 15, 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

¹ WCKG(AM) is licensed for operation on 1530 kHz with a daytime-only power of 0.76 kilowatt, employing a directional antenna pattern (DAD-U). The station is also authorized by construction permit (BP-20190604AAV) to operate on 1530 kHz with a daytime-only power of 4 kilowatts.

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, reading "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerome" and last name "Manarchuck" clearly legible.

Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Dennis J. Kelly, Esq. (via email only)