

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

November 2, 2021

In reply refer to: 1800B3-DW

Sent via electronic mail

David D. Oxenford, Esq. Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP 1800 M Street, N.W. Suite 800N Washington, DC 20036 doxenford@wbklaw.com

> RE: WEXP(FM), Brandon, VT Facility ID No. 65961 Silent since July 8, 2021 Request for Special Temporary Authority to Remain Silent

Dear Mr. Oxenford:

This letter concerns the request you filed on September 2, 2021, on behalf of Music Guild International, Inc (MGI), for Special Temporary Authority (STA) to permit FM Radio Station WEXP to remain silent.

MGI's request states that Station WEXP(FM) went silent on July 8, 2021, for technical reasons.

MGI's request is granted. Accordingly, Special Temporary Authority is granted to permit Station WEXP(FM) to remain silent not to exceed 180 days from the date of this letter. Notwithstanding the grant of this Special Temporary Authority, the broadcast license for Station WEXP(FM) will automatically expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not resume by 12:01 a.m., July 9, 2022.<sup>1</sup>

MGI is required to notify the Commission when broadcast operations resume. If MGI does not file the notification of resumption of operations in a timely manner, the license may be subject to cancellation pursuant to section 312(g) of the Communications Act, as amended.<sup>2</sup>

The station's silent status does not suspend the licensee's obligation to comply with all other relevant Commission rules, including the filing, when appropriate, of applications for renewal of broadcast license. It is imperative to the safety of air navigation that any prescribed painting and illumination of the station's tower shall be maintained until removed.<sup>3</sup>

Finally, section 73.1740(a)(4) of the Commission's Rules permits licensees to temporarily discontinue operations for good cause, and for a period not to exceed 30 days without further authority.<sup>4</sup> This rule requires that the licensee notify the Commission by letter not later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of limited or discontinued operations, and requires a licensee to seek Commission authorization for any period of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 312(g).

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  Id. In addition to filing a notification of resumption of operations electronically on the date operations resume, notification of resumption must also be emailed to Denise.Williams@FCC.gov.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See 47 C.F.R. §§ 17.6 and 73.1740(a)(4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 73.1740(a)(4).

limited or discontinued operations exceeding 30 days. MGI failed to submit a timely request for an STA to permit Station WEXP(FM) to remain silent beyond August 8, 2021, and the action taken herein shall not be construed as authorizing the station to remain silent between August 8, 2021, and September 2, 2021.

Sincerely, Vitona Milanleg

Victoria McCauley Attorney, Audio Division Media Bureau