



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

November 5, 2021

Flathead Valley Wireless Association LLC
P.O. Box 1596
Kalispell, MT 59903

Re: Flathead Valley Wireless Association LLC
KGEZ(AM), Kalispell, MT
Fac. ID No.: 60575
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed October 26, 2021, on behalf of Flathead Valley Wireless Association LLC ("FVW"). FVW requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station KGEZ(AM) from an alternate site location.¹ In support of the request, FVW states that the station has lost the use of its licensed antenna system, as the land owner wishes to develop the property. Thus, the station is requesting an STA to operate from an alternate site with reduced power.

Specifically, KGEZ(AM) requests STA to operate non-directionally from a site located 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) from the licensed KGEZ(AM). The station proposes to temporarily employ an Information Station Specialists HPR.0990 antenna with a reduced daytime and nighttime power of 0.14 kilowatt. The antenna will be mounted on a utility pole with the bottom of the antenna 17 feet (5.2 meters) above ground level.

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 area² 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 KGEZ(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	48° 09' 43" N, 114° 07' 59" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	600 KHz
Hours of operation	Daytime and Nighttime
Operating power	0.14 kilowatt (Daytime and Nighttime)
Antenna type	Information Station Specialists Model HPR.0990
Antenna efficiency	60 mV/m/kW at 1 kilometer

¹ KGEZ(AM) is licensed for operation on 600 kHz with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 1 kilowatt, employing different directional antenna patterns (DA2-U).

² For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. KGEZ(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. KGEZ(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 **May 4, 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: John C. Trent, Esq. (via email only)