



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

December 15, 2021

Estrella Radio License of Houston LLC
1845 Empire Ave.
Burbank, CA 91504

Re: Estrella Radio License of Houston LLC
KEYH(AM), Houston, TX
Fac. ID No.: 2911
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed December 7, 2021, on behalf of Estrella Radio License of Houston LLC ("ERL"). ERL requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station KEYH(AM) from an alternate site location with a temporary long-wire antenna.¹

In support of the request, ERL states that for almost 50 years KEYH(AM) has operated from a complex directional antenna array. However, due to a loss of site lease and demolition of the antenna array, the licensee has been forced silent while conducting a search for an alternate site. The station went silent on December 31, 2020 and therefore its license will automatically expire if broadcast operations do not commence by 12:01 a.m., January 1, 2022. Thus, an STA is requested to relocate KEYH(AM) to an alternate location and operate with a temporary long-wire antenna.

Specifically, KEYH(AM) proposes to operate daytime only from a site located 34.2 kilometers (21.3 miles) from its currently licensed site. Operation is proposed with a reduced power of 100 watts using a 241 feet (73.5 meters) long-wire antenna supported by an existing tower.

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 KEYH(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

¹ KEYH(AM) is licensed for operation on 850 kHz with a daytime power of 10 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.185 kilowatt, employing the same directional antenna pattern (DA1-U).

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

Geographic coordinates	29° 49' 33" N, 95° 22' 37" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	850 kHz
Hours of operation	Daytime only
Operating power	100 watts
Antenna type	241 feet (73.5 meters) of #6 wire strung vertically and attached to an existing tower

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. KEYH(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. KEYH(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 **June 13, 2022**.

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., January 1, 2022. *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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J" and a long, sweeping tail.

Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Kathleen A. Kirby, Esq. (via email only)