

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
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**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

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July 3, 2013

Elizabeth Spainhour, Esq.  
Brooks, Pierce, Et. Al.  
PO Box 1800  
Raleigh, NC 27602

Re: Vilcom Interactive Media, LLC  
WCHL(AM), Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
Facility Identification Number: 70191  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed July 1, 2013, on behalf of Vilcom Interactive Media, LLC ("Vilcom"). Vilcom requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WCHL(AM) with parameters at variance from license values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within license limits.<sup>1</sup>

In support of the request, Vilcom states that the WCHL(AM) antenna system was damaged by flooding in the Chapel Hill area on June 30, 2013. Thus, Vilcom requests STA to operate during the day at reduced power using its authorized daytime antenna and at night using the non-directional daytime antenna at a power not to exceed 250 watts. In addition, Vilcom requests operation with parameters at variance using the nighttime antenna during repairs.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WCHL(AM) may operate with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. Vilcom must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.<sup>2</sup> Vilcom 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 **October 1, 2013**.

**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

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<sup>1</sup> WCHL(AM) is licensed for operation on 1360 kHz with 5 kilowatts daytime, 1 kilowatt nighttime, employing a directional antenna pattern at night (DAN-U).

<sup>2</sup> See 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.54, 73.61(b)


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: Vilcom Interactive Media, LLC