

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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May 11, 2012

Troy G. Langham, FCC Engineering Supervisor
Clear Channel Technical & Capital Management
2625 South Memorial Drive, Suite A
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74129

Re: WTAG(AM), Worcester, Massachusetts
Facility Identification Number: 35230
Capstar TX LLC
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Mr. Langham:

This is in reference to the request filed May 3, 2012, on behalf of Capstar TX LLC ("Capstar"). Capstar requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WTAG with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits, or with a temporary nondirectional antenna and reduced power.¹ In support of the request, Capstar states that it plans to paint the towers in the WTAG array.

Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation complies with the technical provisions of Section 73.1615, which governs operation during modification of facilities. However, due to the greater potential for interference which results from nondirectional operation, such operation is authorized only on an "as necessary" basis.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WTAG may operate with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. Operation with a temporary nondirectional antenna and reduced power not to exceed 1.25 kilowatts also is authorized, only as necessary to facilitate the planned maintenance work. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. Capstar must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.² Capstar 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 **November 11, 2012**.

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 WTAG is licensed for operation on 580 kHz with 5 kilowatts daytime and 5 kilowatts nighttime, employing different directional antenna patterns during daytime and nighttime hours. (DA-2-U).

² *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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Miller".

Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Capstar TX LLC