Justification for STA to operate at reduced power

A recent wildfire at the Mt. Wilson electronic site has damaged the KFLA transmitter such that it will only stay on the air at 50% power.

During the fire an over temp fault shut down the KFLA transmitter. When the transmitter was returned to the air the PA temperature values were extremely high. The default over temp alarm value was set at 128 degrees but after only a few minutes the PA temp would exceed this value and shut down the transmitter.

The transmitter has been inspected by the manufacturer and it was determined the transmitter will have to be returned to properly diagnose and repair the problem and it is possible the damage to the transmitter may be beyond repair.

The factory raised the over temp fault value to 149 degrees and reduce power out to 400 watts power and the transmitter will stay on the air at these settings.

An additional element is that the station has been displaced by a recent grant of a power increase application by a co-channel full power station in San Diego (KFMB-DT). As a result of this the station has filed a displacement application seeking a new channel.

The applicant has decided to operate the station at reduced power until such time as the displacement application is granted and it can build a new transmitter facility in place of the present damaged one.

Out of an abundance of caution the applicant seek authority to operate at 50% power for the full 6 month period allowed by the rules.