

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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July 7, 2008

Christopher J. Sova, Esq.
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2000 K Street NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006-1809

Re: Citadel Broadcasting Company
WRIE (AM), Erie, Pennsylvania
Facility Identification Number: 32982
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed July 3, 2008, on behalf of Citadel Broadcasting Company ("CBC"). CBC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WRIE with temporary facilities.¹ In support of the request, CBC states that one of the station's towers is being replaced. CBC states that a previous STA was granted for this purpose, but that the replacement work was delayed by adverse weather conditions.

Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation complies with the technical provisions of Section 73.1615, which governs operation during modification of facilities.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WRIE may operate with an emergency nondirectional antenna and reduced power not to exceed 1.25 kilowatts, only as necessary to facilitate the tower replacement work. Operation with parameters at variance and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits also is authorized. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. CBC must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.² CBC 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 7, 2008**.

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 WRIE is licensed for operation on 1260 kHz with 5 kilowatts daytime and 5 kilowatts nighttime, employing different directional antenna patterns daytime and nighttime (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,



Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Citadel Broadcasting Company