

Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authorization

Cumulus Licensing LLC (“Cumulus”), pursuant to Section 73.1635 of the FCC’s rules, hereby requests an extension of its special temporary authorization (“STA”) to permit station WXQW(AM), Fairhope, Alabama (Facility ID 2541) (“WXQW”), to operate with parameters at variance and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits for an additional 180 days.

Station WXQW is licensed to operate on 660 kHz with 10 kW of power non-directionally during the day and 0.85 kW of power in the directional mode at night. Cumulus previously informed the FCC that one of the towers in WXQW’s nighttime directional antenna system sustained significant damage when it was hit by a truck. As a result of that damage, the FCC granted Cumulus authority to operate WXQW with parameters at variance and/or reduced power at night while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. BSTA-20100604AFU.

Cumulus determined that the damaged tower must be replaced. In discussing reimbursement of the replacement costs with its insurance company, its proposal was denied. Although Cumulus also considered other, less costly options, it was not able to come up with an economically practical solution. Now, however, that the FCC has instituted MB Docket No. 13-249, *Revitalization of the AM Radio Service*, Cumulus believes that it may be in a better position to determine the best course of action for restoring an improved nighttime service for WXQW once that proceeding has concluded.

In the meantime, Cumulus has filed an application for a construction permit to modify WXQW’s nighttime facilities to operate directionally with 0.18 kW effective radiated power, while maintaining the existing daytime operation and power of 10 kW. The modification proposal would change WXQW’s station class from a Class B to a Class D facility. See BP-20150821AAF, Exhibit 13 at 1.

For the reasons stated herein, Cumulus respectfully requests a further extension of the existing STA for a period of 180 days so that WXQW can continue to provide service to the residents of Fairhope, Alabama and the surrounding area. Cumulus will continue to operate WXQW with parameters at variance and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits pending the grant of its modification application. Cumulus also will continue to use the indirect method to monitor the station’s power.