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December 31, 2013

John C. Trent, Esq.
Putbrese Hunsaker & Trent, P.C.
200 South Church St.
Woodstock, VA 22664

Re: Birach Broadcasting Corporation
WWCS(AM), Canonsburg, PA
Facility Identification Number: 5349
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed December 23, 2013, on behalf of Birach Broadcasting Corporation ("BBC"). BBC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WWCS(AM) with parameters at variance from license values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within license limits.¹

In support of the request, BBC states that WWCS(AM) has pulled its antenna monitor and dropped it off at Potomac Instruments to have the unit repaired and recalibrated. Therefore, in accordance with 73.69(d)(1) of the Commission's Rules, STA is requested to operate the WWCS(AM) directional antenna system with parameters at variance while the antenna monitor is being repaired.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WWCS(AM) may operate with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. Immediately prior to modification or replacement of components of the sampling system, and after a verification that all monitoring point values and operating parameters are within the limits or tolerances specified in the rules, the following indications must be recorded for each radiation pattern: Final plate current and plate voltage, common point current, antenna monitor phase and current indications, and the field strength at each monitoring point. Subsequent to these modifications or changes the procedure must be repeated. If monitoring point field strengths or antenna monitor parameters exceed allowable limits following the replacement or modification of that portion of the sampling system above the base of the towers, a partial proof of performance shall be executed in accordance with § 73.154. The partial proof of performance shall be accompanied by common point impedance measurements made in accordance with § 73.54.

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are

¹ WWCS(AM) is licensed for operation on 540 kHz with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.5 kilowatt, employing different directional antenna patterns (DA2-U).

received. An informal letter request for modification of license shall be submitted to the FCC, within 30 days of the date of monitor replacement.² BBC 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 **March 31, 2014**.


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 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: Birach Broadcasting Corporation

² *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.69(d)