

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
**445 TWELFTH STREET SW**  
**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

**MEDIA BUREAU**  
**AUDIO DIVISION**  
**APPLICATION STATUS:** (202) 418-2730  
**HOME PAGE:** www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/

**ENGINEER:** Dale Bickel  
**TELEPHONE:** (202) 418-2706  
**FACSIMILE:** (202) 418-1410  
**E-MAIL:** dale.bickel@fcc.gov

March 17, 2015

Saga Communications of North Carolina, LLC  
73 Kercheval Avenue  
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Re: W288CQ (FX), Waynesville, NC  
Saga Communications of North Carolina, LLC  
Facility Identification Number: 155786  
Special Temporary Authority ("STA")  
BSTA-20150310AIP

Dear Licensee:

This is in reference to your request filed March 10, 2015, on behalf of Saga Communications of North Carolina, LLC ("Saga-NC"). Saga-NC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate FM translator W288CQ with temporary facilities, until the licensee can complete construction of or modify construction permit BMPFT-20130909AAM. This station most recently went silent on April 5, 2014. Saga-NC must return W288CQ to operating status **no later than April 4, 2015** to avoid automatic cancellation of the station's license pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act.

Under the circumstances, we conclude that an STA for the temporary facilities requested is warranted, and the STA IS GRANTED. Saga-NC has demonstrated that the 60 dBu service from the STA facility will remain within the 60 dBu contour of the licensed translator facility. Accordingly, W288CQ may operate from the licensed transmitter site and antenna system with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates: 35° 23' 38" N, 83° 11' 39" W (NAD 27)  
Channel: 288D (105.5 MHz)  
Effective radiated power: 0.0005 kilowatts (H) directional, main lobe oriented at 140° T  
Antenna height:  
    above ground: 9 meters      Mounted on a mast atop a building  
    above mean sea level: 658 meters  
    above average terrain: -322 meters

**On the same date that W288CQ commences operations pursuant to this STA, the licensee (or its representative) shall confirm the start of STA operations via an e-mail to Dale Bickel, dale.bickel@fcc.gov.** This date will be entered into the Commission's CDBS database to indicate that the station has resumed broadcasting. Saga-NC must also file a Notice of Resumption of Operations in the CDBS electronic filing system.

Saga-NC must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from radiofrequency exposure in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. See 47 CFR § 1.1310.

**This authority expires on September 13, 2015.**

We remind the licensee that the station's license will expire as a matter of law upon twelve consecutive months of silence [**ending April 4, 2015**], notwithstanding the grant of the present STA. See Pub. Law No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, Section 403(1) (1996) and Order, Silent Station Authorizations, FCC 96-218 (released May 17, 1996). See also Public Notice, *Expedited Processing of Applications Filed by Silent Stations*, DA 96-818 (May 22, 1996). Please be aware that unauthorized operations – operations with facilities not authorized by a current STA or license – do not count as a resumption of operations within one year for the purposes of Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, and cannot be used to avoid the consequences of Section 312(g). See *A-O Broadcasting Corporation*, FCC 08-10, 23 FCC Rcd 603, released January 8, 2008.

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**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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Bickel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "D" and "B".

Dale Bickel  
Senior Engineer  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Gary S. Smithwick (via e-mail only)