

Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authorization

Radio License Holding CBC, LLC (“RLH”), pursuant to Section 73.1635 of the FCC’s rules, hereby requests that the initial special temporary authorization (“STA”) for radio station WRIE(AM), Erie, Pennsylvania (Facility ID 32982) (File No. BSTA-20101124AH), as extended, *inter alia*, by File No. BESTA-20150707ADN), be extended for an additional 180 days.

Station WRIE is licensed to operate on 1260 kHz with a daytime and nighttime power of 5 kW with a directional antenna pattern. As RLH has previously informed the Commission, due to problems with its antenna system WRIE has been operating in the directional mode during daytime hours with its licensed power of 5 kW, and during the nighttime hours with its daytime pattern at 25% of its licensed power with parameters at variance while maintaining the station’s monitor points within licensed limits.

Cumulus Media Inc. (“Cumulus”) is the ultimate parent entity of RLH, the licensee of WRIE. In September 2011, Cumulus acquired Citadel Broadcasting Corporation (“Citadel”), which was the former parent of RLH. Shortly after acquiring control of WRIE, Cumulus discovered that the phasor for the station dated back to the 1940s and had been retrofitted and modified over the years. As a result, some of the controls of the phasor are broken and/or missing. At some point prior to Cumulus’s acquisition of Citadel it was determined that WRIE’s directional system was not functioning properly and needed to be rebuilt. The process of reconstructing the system, as planned by Citadel, involved the tuning houses but not the phasor itself. Most of the reconstruction work on the directional system has been completed since the time that Cumulus acquired control of WRIE. Thus, Cumulus has made substantial progress toward returning the station to full-time licensed operation.

As RLH has previously informed the Commission, Cumulus’s engineers have been able to restore WRIE’s daytime array so that it now operates within its licensed parameters, and the day/night switching matrix is now functioning properly. The nighttime array, however, has proved to be more problematic. Over the course of the last two years, Cumulus’s engineering staff has found several broken ground connections and several other components which are no longer operable. Cumulus’s engineers initially believed there might also be a problem with the antenna monitor. However, tests were conducted using another antenna monitor and the engineers were able to rule out the monitor as a source of any problem.

Another factor which has hampered Cumulus’s effort to repair the phasor throughout this process is that – for reasons unknown to Cumulus – prior to its acquisition of WRIE, a closet was built around the entire phasor. The closet significantly restricts access to only one side of the phasor and provides a clearance of approximately only 18", including to the front of the phasor. The phasor is located in such a confined area that any repair work can be conducted only when the station is off the air.

Cumulus’s engineers will continue to conduct additional testing (winter weather permitting) in an effort to identify the problems with the WRIE nighttime antenna system in an

effort to diagnose and resolve those problems. In the event they are unable to determine the cause and resolve all of the remaining problems, Cumulus now plans to take a phasor that currently is utilized in one of its other existing stations and move it to Erie so that it can serve as a replacement phasor for WRIE. Unfortunately, Cumulus is precluded from implementing this plan at the present time because the other station has not vacated its existing property and moved to a new site.

For the reasons stated herein, RLH respectfully requests a further extension of the existing STA for a period of 180 days pursuant to Section 73.1625 of the Commission's rules to operate WRIE in the directional mode (i) during daytime hours with its licensed power of 5 kW, and (ii) during nighttime hours with its daytime pattern at 25% of its licensed power with parameters at variance while maintaining the station's monitor points within licensed limits. The requested extension will serve the public interest because it will enable WRIE to continue to serve the residents of Erie and the immediate surrounding area until RLH can return the station to full licensed power both day and night.