

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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September 25, 2017

Omni Broadcasting, Inc.
4300 Legendary Drive, Suite 280
Destin, FL 32451

Re: WTKP (FM), Port St. Joe, FL
Omni Broadcasting, Inc.
Facility Identification Number: 67579
Special Temporary Authority
BSTA-20170913AAV

Dear Licensee:

This is in reference to your request filed September 13, 2017. You request special temporary authority ("STA") to operate WTKP with temporary facilities, due to damage to the licensed antenna caused by Hurricane Irma. The proposed STA site is the same as that authorized in construction permit BPH-20160829ACO, with the antenna mounted at the construction permit heights and the effective radiated power (ERP) limited to 11.5 kW.

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area¹ without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

The STA operation proposed here would extend the STA 60 dBu service contour far outside the location of the licensed 60 dBu service contour of WTKP, in areas toward the north and northwest. While under normal circumstances this would render the STA request unacceptable, we take note of the widespread damage caused by Hurricane Irma and the need for reliable communications in that region. **We will approve the requested STA operation only for a limited time period, specifically two months from the date of this letter.**

The licensee 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 November 27, 2017. We do not anticipate any extensions of this STA authority.

¹ For FM, the 60 dBu (1.0 mV/m) contour.

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,



Dale Bickel
Senior Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Mr. Ron Hale, Sr. (via e-mail only)