

Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authorization

Cumulus Licensing LLC (“Cumulus”), pursuant to Section 73.1635 of the FCC’s rules, hereby requests that the initial special temporary authorization (“STA”) for radio station WXQW(AM), Fairhope, Alabama (Facility ID 2541) (File No. BSTA-20100604AFU, as extended, *inter alia*, by File No. BESTA-20160420ADN), be extended for an additional 180 days.

Station WXQW is licensed to operate on 660 kHz with 10 kW daytime nondirectional, and 0.85 kW at night, employing a directional antenna. Cumulus previously informed the Commission that one of the towers in WXQW’s nighttime directional antenna system sustained significant damage when it was struck by a truck and would need to be replaced. As a result, 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 subsequently 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 changed WXQW’s station class from a Class B to a Class D facility. BP-20150821AAF, granted January 20, 2016. Cumulus initiated the process of designing the phasing networks necessary to construct the Class D facility.

Cumulus has discovered, however, that it will not be economically practical to implement the facilities authorized in its existing construction permit. Accordingly, Cumulus has decided to remove one of WXQW’s existing towers and operate with a nondirectional pattern at night as well as during the daytime.

For the reasons stated herein, Cumulus respectfully requests a further extension of the existing STA for a period of 180 days pursuant to Section 73.1635 of the Commission’s rules to operate WXQW with parameters at variance and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. The requested extension will serve the public interest because it will enable WXQW to continue to serve the residents of Fairhope, Alabama and the immediate surrounding area until it can file a construction permit application to propose the nondirectional nighttime operation and remove one of the station’s existing towers.