

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20554**

October 15, 2020

In reply refer to: 1800B3-DW

Donald E. Martin, Esq.
P.O. Box 8433
Falls Church, VA 22041

In re: **KEZM(AM), Sulphur, LA**
Facility ID No. 36210
Silent since August 27, 2020

Request for Special Temporary
Authority to Remain Silent

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter concerns the request you filed on August 28, 2020, on behalf of Merchant Broadcasting, Inc. (MB), for Special Temporary Authority (STA) to permit AM Radio Station KEZM to remain silent.

MB's request states that Station KEZM(AM) went silent on August 27, 2020, for technical reasons. The request includes the appropriate certification regarding Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.¹

MB's request is granted. Accordingly, Special Temporary Authority is granted to permit Station KEZM(AM) to remain silent not to exceed 180 days from the date of this letter. **Notwithstanding the grant of this Special Temporary Authority, the broadcast license for Station KEZM(AM) will automatically expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not resume by 12:01 a.m., August 28, 2021.**²

MB is required to notify the Commission when broadcast operations resume. If MB does not file the notification of resumption of operations in a timely manner, the license may be subject to cancellation pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, as amended.³

The station's silent status does not suspend the licensee's obligation to comply with all other relevant Commission rules, including the filing, when appropriate, of applications for renewal of broadcast license. It is imperative to the safety of air navigation that any prescribed painting and illumination of the station's tower shall be maintained until removed.⁴

Sincerely,



Victoria McCauley
Attorney, Audio Division
Media Bureau

Sent via email only to DEMPC@PRODIGY.NET

¹ In the event extension of special temporary authority is sought, please renew the certification in this matter.

² See 47 U.S.C. § 312(g).

³ *Id.* In addition to filing a notification of resumption of operations electronically on the date operations resume, notification of resumption must also be emailed to Denise.Williams@FCC.gov.

⁴ See 47 C.F.R. §§ 17.6 and 73.1740(a)(4).