

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
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**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

**MEDIA BUREAU**  
**AUDIO DIVISION**  
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December 20, 2017

Wilfredo G. Blanco-Pi  
Ext San Agustin, 1210 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
San Juan, PR 00926

Re: Wilfredo G. Blanco-Pi  
WMIA(AM), Arecibo, PR  
Facility Identification Number: 254  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed May 10, 2017, on behalf of Wilfredo G. Blanco-Pi ("Mr. Blanco-Pi"). Mr. Blanco-Pi requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WMIA(AM) with temporary facilities.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, Mr. Blanco-Pi states that in November of 2016, WMIA(AM)'s tower collapsed. Since then, the 2.5 acre site has been completely cleaned up using heavy machinery, new anchors were made, the tower concrete base was repaired, and a new 196 foot tower with 7 degrees of top-loading has been installed.

Therefore, the station now requests STA to operate WMIA(AM) non-directionally with the new tower and with a daytime power of 0.5 kilowatt and a nighttime power of 2.5 kilowatts. The STA facility proposes to operate with an elevated ground system as specified in the station's application for construction permit (BP-20170428AAB).

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provide for operation with emergency antenna facilities following damage to authorized antenna systems, provided that an informal request for continued use of an emergency antenna is filed with the Commission within 24 hours. AM stations using an emergency non-directional antenna or a horizontal or vertical wire pursuant to this section, in lieu of authorized directional facilities, shall operate with power reduced to 25% or less of the nominal licensed power, or, a higher power, not exceeding licensed power, while insuring that the radiated field strength does not exceed that authorized in any given azimuth for the corresponding hours of directional operation.

Accordingly, the request for STA is GRANTED. Station WMIA(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

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<sup>1</sup> WMIA(AM) is licensed for operation on 1070 kHz with a daytime power of 0.5 kilowatt and a nighttime power of 2.5 kilowatts, employing a non-directional antenna pattern (ND1-U).

Geographic coordinates	18° 27' 32" N, 66° 45' 20" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	1070 kHz
Hours of operation	Daytime and Nighttime
Operating power	0.5 kilowatt (daytime), 2.5 kilowatts (nighttime)
Antenna type	196 foot tower with 7° of top-loading

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WMIA(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WMIA(AM) must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **June 18, 2018**.

**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,

  
Jerome J. Manarchuck  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Wifredo G. Blanco-Pi (via email only)