

EXHIBIT 32
Request for Extension of STA

The Board of Trustees of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (“WUNC”), licensee and permittee of non-commercial educational FM translator station W216BE, Buxton, North Carolina (hereinafter the “Buxton Translator” or “W216BE”), hereby requests extension of special temporary authority (“STA”) to operate at parameters slightly different from those authorized by the Station’s license (BLFT-19990420TB) or construction permit (the “CP”) (File No. BPFT-20070807ABN). This extension request proposes operation consistent with the STA granted in FCC File No. BSTA-20090309AAM and extended in File No. BESTA-20090909ABI. WUNC’s engineering staff has been performing regularly scheduled maintenance visits to the Buxton Translator during the past six months to ensure that operation of the STA facility has conformed to technical expectations.

In its continuing effort to construct the facility authorized in the CP, WUNC, during the past six months, has been actively vetting the proposed location for the Buxton Translator. Unfortunately, through its analysis, WUNC has determined that the initial location it expected to use, a local power company’s tower (the company is receptive to the co-location), will not be sufficient, as tower loading issues would either require WUNC to use an antenna other than its preferred (and approved) antenna or to make extensive modifications to the tower.

Recently, WUNC has become aware of the US Coast Guard’s proposal to construct a new tower in Buxton on National Park Service land. WUNC has made a preliminary analysis of the site and has concluded that this new tower will likely prove to be the best choice for the relocation of W216BE, and the Park Service has invited WUNC to apply for a special use permit for that purpose. WUNC has drafted the special use permit application, which, pursuant to University policy, is now in the process of being reviewed internally at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Moving the Buxton Translator to this proposed tower site will require a modified or, more likely, new construction permit, but the re-location would allow the Buxton Translator to continue to provide EAS service and other life safety programming to the communities of the barrier island. In the meantime, however, during the period in which the tower is going through its approval and construction process, it is important to the community that the Buxton Translator remain on the air. Hence the instant STA extension request.

Absent a grant of the instant STA extension request, WUNC would likely have to take W216BE off the air again.¹ The loss of the Station’s service by going silent would be a

¹ As WUNC has previously notified the Commission, W216BE has been experiencing technical issues for some time. *See, e.g.*, BSTA-20090309AAM; BESTA-20090909ABI; BLSTA-20071106AAD (silent STA request, granted Nov. 8, 2007). Those technical issues appear to have been abated by WUNC’s use of a two bay full wave spaced Shively antenna

significant loss to the public, as the Station is a critical source of emergency information and the only source of the kind of radio programming offered by WUNC; the value to the community cannot be overstated during the Atlantic Hurricane Season, which will begin June 1, 2010, and run through November 30, 2010. While the 2009 Atlantic Hurricane Season was, by some accounts a relatively “slow” one (*see* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, *Slow Atlantic Hurricane Season Comes to a Close, available at* www.noaa.gov/stories2009/20091130_endhurricanesession.html), at least two named storms (Bill and Danny) passed close by North Carolina’s Outer Banks. Such conditions reinforce the importance of the service provided by W216BE to Buxton, which is a geographically isolated and remote community where no other station provides the degree or nature of news and informational programming that is provided by the Buxton Translator. Particularly in light of WUNC’s good faith efforts to maintain service to this community in the face of ongoing technical and operational challenges—including the remoteness of the community and the strained financial and technical resources of this public, non-commercial public broadcaster—loss of this Station’s service would be a substantial detriment to the public interest.

Moreover, as we have previously described, the Buxton Translator is part of the WUNC’s statewide, public non-commercial radio network, which also consists of a main production facility at WUNC(FM), Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and four other full-power analog and digital satellite radio stations. These stations comprise the North Carolina Public Radio network, whose educational public affairs, news, music, and arts programming originates from the WUNC studios in Chapel Hill. The Buxton Translator plays an important role in this network by rebroadcasting WUNC(FM) to the Buxton, North Carolina community. As such, the Buxton Translator brings thousands of hours of local, state, and national public radio broadcast programming to Buxton area residents and visitors every year. Programs such as National Public Radio’s *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*, WUNC’s own *The Story with Dick Gordon* and *The State of Things with Frank Stasio*, and BBC’s *World Service* are a few examples of the unique news and information programming provided by the Buxton Translator to listeners who have come to rely on the Station’s service. (A complete schedule of North Carolina Public Radio’s programming is available at <http://wunc.org/schedule/schedule.pdf>.)

WUNC, a public, non-commercial educational broadcaster has been working towards fulfillment of its CP while also endeavoring to diagnose, restore, and maintain operation of the Buxton Translator at its present site. These twin goals that affect the same facility present a unique circumstance, and this public, non-commercial educational broadcaster has been carefully balancing achievement of these twin objectives while also attempting to maintain the status quo.

installed at the licensed transmitter site, at a distance of approximately 5-6 meters from the licensed antenna. The antenna that is subject to the instant request is the same make/model antenna permitted by the Buxton Translator’s current CP.

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The operation contemplated by the instant request allows WUNC to continue to provide service to Buxton, North Carolina, and surrounding areas on North Carolina's Outer Banks. This region is particularly vulnerable, given its location, to hurricanes and other severe weather. As an important source of news and information programming, including emergency information, it is important to Buxton residents and visitors that the Buxton Translator remains on the air under the requested parameters, while WUNC continues to work towards fulfillment of the CP.

In light of the foregoing, grant of the instant extension request would serve the public interest.

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