

Subj: **Re: Silent status STA expires August 14th for WFTU-AM**
Date: 8/8/2017 3:52:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: thomas.calandrillo@ftc.edu
To: Tepperlaw@aol.com, david.cohen@ftc.edu

Hi Cary,

We would like to extend the Special Temporary Authority. We had a Transmitter Site Inspection done (see below) to determine which way to proceed. We are currently getting pricing on new towers.

Please advise if you need anything else from me

ThANKS

Tom



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WFTU TRANSMITTER SITE INSPECTION

As you know, we recently inspected the WFTU Transmitter site out at Riverhead. This brief report serves to establish the 'state of the facility' with an eye towards FCC Compliance, maximum functionality and maintenance.

WFTU is licensed to operate on 1570 kHz with a nominal power of 1,000 watts during daytime operation, and 500 watts at night utilizing a two tower directional antenna system.

On the date of inspection, the facility was not in compliance with FCC rules. Specifically, the Potomac Instruments Antenna Monitor indicate readings at substantial variance with licensed values. Either the Directional Pattern is out of adjustment, or the Antenna Monitor requires repair. The antenna phasing equipment consists of a phasor in the transmitter building, and tuning networks in the buildings at each tower. The towers and tower buildings were not accessible since there were no keys for these locks on site. The phasor, albeit old, is a passive device and requires cleaning and routine maintenance.

The sole transmitter, a Broadcast Electronics AM1A, was not operating at the proper power level when

inspected. The station appeared to be operating underpower, but considering the irregularities noted with the phase monitor and the antenna base current, the cause of the power issue is uncertain at this time. The transmitter shows signs of modification and poorly performed repairs and is dirty. This will result in poor performance as well. The transmitter should be thoroughly cleaned and restored to factory condition. There is no backup transmitter.

The audio processor is a high quality Wheatstone VP8plus. Audio is fed to the site via a Barix unit configured to a cable modem. The configuration was not investigated.

Remote control is handled by an ARC Plus SL system. Programming and setup was not investigated. It is unconfirmed as to whether the station is switching to night power as required.

The transmitter building is in rough condition, requiring a good amount of maintenance to restore it to acceptable condition. There are many signs of rodents, water leaks and condensation. Additionally, it appears the building is being used to store a large selection of broadcast equipment, FM transmitters and other old gear. (It is assumed some of this equipment is owned by the present engineer – otherwise there may be some value to WFTU in the equipment!)

The towers are old, rusted and in need of service. They appear to be a non standard square towers that are guyed in four directions. The towers are angle stock, but not galvanized. The paint is faded and the unused tower lights remain on the towers. The guy wires show considerable rust and require replacement. The towers should have maintenance performed to remove rust and be treat with a galvanizing paint. It is suggested a reputable tower service provider (read: Northeast Towers of Farmington, CT) perform a top to bottom inspection of each tower to ascertain the true condition of the towers.

The land on which the towers and building are located should be cleared of trees and other growth. The trees will affect the pattern and signal, and have likely disrupted the ground system.

Simply put, this facility has been void of any true maintenance and efforts towards FCC compliance. There was no Transmitter Maintenance Logbook located, nor any FCC required NRSC measurement reports. A complete FCC license was not located and so monitor points were not measured. It is believed the ownership of the station desires to operate in compliance with FCC rules and to maximize the functionality and quality of the existing facility. In the event of an FCC inspection, the inspector would have a field day writing up the FCC rule violations that would certainly result in a significant monetary fine. Regrettably, your present engineer appears to be collecting a check monthly with no real value provided.

I trust this brief outline sufficiently follows up our on site discussion and meeting with David Cohen. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,
Bud

From: "Tepperlaw@aol.com" <Tepperlaw@aol.com>

Date: Monday, August 7, 2017 at 8:01 AM

To: "Cohen, David" <david.cohen@ftc.edu>, "tomcal@me.com" <tomcal@me.com>, "Calandrillo, Thomas" <thomas.calandrillo@ftc.edu>

Subject: Silent status STA expires August 14th for WFTU-AM

Good morning --

The Special Temporary Authority for Radio Station WFTU-AM to remain silent expires on **August 14, 2017**. Before August 14 we need to advise the FCC whether WFTU has resumed broadcast operations, or not.

We can apply for an extension of the Special Temporary Authority but in doing that we need to provide a progress report of the steps that have been taken since January to restore broadcast operations.

Please advise on how you wish to proceed.

Thank you.

Cary

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