

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

March 8, 2024

Washington DC FCC License Sub, LLC 3415 University Avenue West St. Paul, MN 55114

> Re: Washington DC FCC License Sub, LLC WBQH(AM), Silver Spring, MD Fac. ID No.: 8673 Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed March 6, 2024, on behalf of Washington DC FCC License Sub, LLC ("WDF"). WDF requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WBQH(AM) from its authorized construction permit.¹

In support of the request, WDF states that in January 2024, Hubbard received an FCC construction permit to relocate the WBQH(AM) facility to its co-owned WFED(AM) site using existing diplexing circuitry constructed for a prior STA test operation. It is herein respectfully requested to temporarily operate WBQH(AM) at 1 kilowatt daytime and 0.04 kilowatt nighttime, non-directionally, using one of the existing towers of WFED(AM) in the same fashion as was permitted in a previously granted STA for measurement tests. The STA is needed for the purpose of completing the equipment installation necessary to fulfill the CP, which requires the deconstruction of the present licensed facility to accomplish.

Specifically, WBQH(AM) requests non-directional operation from the "Central Tower" of the WFED(AM) three tower directional array. The FCC Antenna Structure Registration Number ("ASRN") for the "Central Tower" is 1053550. It is proposed to operate temporarily with a daytime power of 1 kilowatt and a nighttime power of 0.04 kilowatt. The WFED(AM) site is located 3.4 kilometers (2.1 miles) from the licensed WBQH(AM).

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

Geographic coordinates	39° 02′ 31″ N, 77° 02′ 46″ W (NAD 1983)
Frequency	1050 KHz
Hours of operation	Unlimited
Operating power	1 kilowatt (Daytime), 0.04 kilowatt (Nighttime)
Antenna type	Existing tower
ASRN	1053550
Antenna efficiency	331.61 mV/m/kW at 1 km

¹ WBQH(AM) is licensed for operation on 1050 kHz with a daytime power of 10 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.044 kilowatt, employing a non-directional antenna pattern (ND2-U). The station is also authorized by construction permit to operate on 1050 kHz from a different site location with a daytime power of 2 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.041 kilowatt, employing a non-directional antenna pattern (ND2-U).

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WBQH(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WBQH(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 September 4, 2024.

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,

Jecome J. Manarehud

Jerome J. Manarchuck Audio Division Media Bureau

cc: David A. O'Connor, Esq. (via email only)