



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

January 29, 2024

Maryland Media One LLC
331 N. Union Ave.
Havre De Grace, MD 21078

Re: Maryland Media One LLC
WHGM(AM), Havre De Grace, MD
Fac. ID No.: 35120
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed on behalf of Maryland Media One LLC ("MMO"). MMO requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WHGM(AM) from an alternate site location with a whip antenna mounted on the roof of the WHGM(AM) transmitter building.¹ In support of the request, MMO states that it received a construction permit (BP-20210412AAC) to construct new facilities, which it has been working on. However, during the construction period the tuning cabinet had items that were removed/stolen so the cabinet will need to be rebuilt and configured with the correct coils for the 1 kilowatt operation of WHGM(AM). Therefore, the station is requesting an STA to operate with a whip antenna from an alternate site location.

WHGM(AM) requests STA to operate with the same STA facilities that were last extended in BESTA-20220726AAB. Specifically, WHGM(AM) proposes to employ an ANXX center-loaded, vertical, whip antenna mounted on the top of its transmitter building. A daytime only operation with a power of 10 watts is proposed.

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area² without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation complies with the foregoing criteria.

Accordingly, the request for STA is GRANTED.³ Station WHGM(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	39° 33' 02.4" N, 76° 05' 29.3" W (NAD 1983)
Frequency	1330 KHz
Hours of operation	Daytime only
Operating power	0.01 kW
Antenna type	ANXX center-loaded, vertical, whip antenna
Electrical height of radiator	4.8°
Antenna efficiency	50 mV/m per kW at 1 km

¹ WHGM(AM) is licensed for operation on 1330 kHz with a daytime power of 5 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.5 kilowatt, employing a directional antenna pattern at night (DAN-U).

² For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

³ Periods of operation pursuant to this STA shall be recorded in the station's records (see 47 CFR § 73.1820). The records shall include start/stop dates and times of such operation. These log entries must be maintained for a minimum of two years as specified in 47 CFR § 73.1840(a), unless a longer retention period is requested by the staff. Periods of operation may be subject to independent verification that they in fact occurred.

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WHGM(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WHGM(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. In light of the lapse of time between the expiration of the prior STA (BESTA-20220726AAB) and the filing of the instant request, the authority granted will not cover the period between the expiration of the prior STA and the filing of the instant request.

This authority expires on **July 29, 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,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerome" and last name "Manarchuck" clearly legible.

Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Anthony T. Lepore, Esq. (via email only)