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March 26, 2009

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5425 Tree Line Drive
Centreville, VA 20120

Re: Radio Fargo-Moorhead, Inc.
KFGO (AM), Fargo, North Dakota
Facility Identification Number: 34421
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed March 24, 2009, on behalf of Radio Fargo-Moorhead, Inc. ("RFM"). RFM requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KFGO with emergency antenna facilities pursuant to Section 73.1680.[1] In support of the request, RFM states that, due to severe flooding in the area, it is unable to protect its nighttime directional array from flooding; however, it is taking measures to protect the licensed daytime antenna. RFM requests STA to operate during nighttime hours with its licensed daytime antenna and power.

Section 73.1680 of the Commission's rules provides 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. In particular, Section 73.1680(b)(1) provides that AM stations using an emergency nondirectional antenna in lieu of authorized directional facilities shall operate with power reduced to 25 percent 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.

Our review indicates that the request fails to comply with Section 73.1680. however, if the operating power is reduced to 1.25 kilowatts or less, it would comply with Section 73.1680. STA will be granted with a power reduction to 1.25 kilowatts.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED, with a power reduction as discussed above. Station KFGO may operate during nighttime hours with an emergency nondirectionl antenna and **reduced power not to exceed 1.25 kilowatts**. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. RFM must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.[2] RFM 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. The request to operate during

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[1] KFGO is licensed for operation on 790 kHz with 5 kilowatts daytime and 5 kilowatts nighttime, employing a directional antenna during nighttime hours only (DA-N-U).

[2] *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.54, 73.61(b).

nighttime hours with a nondirectional antenna and operating power of 5 kilowatts IS DENIED. **The action taken herein does not preclude Station KFGO from operating with its licensed daytime facilities during nighttime hours to transmit emergency information on a noncommercial basis in compliance with Section 73.1250(f).**

This authority expires on **June 26, 2009**.

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,

Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Radio Fargo-Moorhead, Inc.