# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
## 445 TWELFTH STREET SW
## WASHINGTON DC 20554

**MEDIA BUREAU**
**AUDIO DIVISION**
**APPLICATION STATUS:** (202) 418-2730
**HOME PAGE:** www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/

**ENGINEER:** CHARLES N. (NORM) MILLER
**TELEPHONE:** (202) 418-2767
**FACSIMILE:** (202) 418-1410
**E-MAIL:** charles.miller@fcc.gov

October 27, 2009

John W. Zucker, Esq.
ABC, Inc.
77 West 66th Street, 16th Floor
New York, NY 10023

Re: KMIC(AM), Houston, Texas
Facility Identification Number: 20491
Radio Disney Group, LLC
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed October 26, 2009, on behalf of Radio Disney Group, LLC ("RDG"). RDG requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station KMIC during nighttime hours with an emergency nondirectionial antenna and reduced power.[1] In support of the request, RDG states that the station's nighttime directional antenna system in inoperable due to the burning of cables at Tower #2. RDG states that its leading field engineer currently is undergoing surgery, which has delayed the process of analysis and correction of the problem.

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.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station KMIC may operate during nighttime hours with an emergency nondirectional 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. RDG must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.[2] RDG 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.

---

[1] KMIC is licensed for operation on 1590 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)

This authority expires on **April 27, 2010**.

**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